

## **Abstract of the Honor Council**

**Case #11, Fall 2022**

**December 1, 2022**

### **Members Present:**

Max Slotnik (presiding), Andrew Barber (clerk), McKenzie Jameson, Connor Hughes, Naidhruv Anath Iyer, Diego Palos Rodriguez

**Ombuds:** Vinay Joshi

### **Letter of Accusation:**

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of using unauthorized aid on a test for a lower level COMP course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

### **Evidence Submitted:**

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Student A's test 1
- Student A's test 2
- Student A's test 3
- Lecture Slides 1
- Lecture Slides 2
- Test Reference sheet
- Course syllabus
- Email exchange between professor and Student A
- Professor Clarification
- Folder of random samples
- Canvas logs
- Worksheets
- MATH TA Statement

### **Plea:**

Student A pled "Not in Violation."

### **Testimony:**

Student A starts by talking about their conversation with the teacher right as they were going to hand in their exam. Student A stated that when the professor asked about whether or not Student

A accessed canvas or accessed unauthorized aid, they said no because they were in a rush and was just nodding to get turning it in over with. Prior to this, the student went to their MATH class (One they were not registered for but still attend occasionally) after taking the exam. While in the MATH class, the student checked their answers on canvas to see how they had performed on the test but was unaware that the test was still in their possession. According to the student, they unknowingly put their test into their notebook after the test. As for the similarities on the exam, the student claims that they memorized all the definitions on the worksheets and slides and was able to regurgitate them on the exam. Because they were pressed for time, they did not have time to rephrase what they had memorized. The student goes on to say that they have a lot of memorization practice because in their home country, they are trained to do memorization tests. The student argues that the textures and styles of writing on the test would have changed if their location switched. Additionally, the student stated that this is a lot of work and during a part of the semester with a high workload, they don't think it is even worth it to do this kind of cheating.

### **Verdict Deliberations:**

Council members were split between a preponderance of the evidence supporting that a violation occurred and abstaining from voting. The half of the Council that abstained from voting did so because after examination of the second test, the student's answers were written word for word from the professor's slideshow when they did not have access to outside resources during the test. The half of the Council that believed a preponderance of the evidence did exist believed that this level of memory is incredibly rare, and also took note of clearly erased lines on the second test, believing that if the student had perfect memory to recall from slides, there would be no need to erase anything. Additionally, these erase marks were only on the questions that were written word for word which brought about the possibility of evidence tampering before images of the second test were sent as evidence. Ultimately, the Council found the student not in violation of the honor code.

Vote #1: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that a violation occurred?

Yes: 3

No: 0

Abstentions: 3

### **Decision:**

The Honor Council thus finds Student A "Not In Violation" of the Honor Code.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 1 hour and 57 minutes

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Barber  
Clerk