



Misconduct and Academic Appeal Cases July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023

Student Misconduct

The policy on Student Discipline, approved by University Council and University Senate in 2012, provides a framework of principles for dealing with student misconduct in both academic and non-academic matters.

Academic misconduct

Number of academic misconduct cases heard by colleges:

104 allegations involving 98 students

(Previous year: 123 allegations involving 156 students)

Breakdown of allegations (an allegation could fall into more than one category below):

Plagiarism: 69

Using unpermitted services of a commercial website (such as Chegg): 41

Unpermitted use of generative AI: 13

Other types of academic misconduct: 36

Number of students found to have committed academic misconduct:

89 students

(Previous year: 145)

Breakdown of students found guilty:

Plagiarism: 60

Using unpermitted services of a commercial website (such as Chegg): 35

Unpermitted use of generative AI: 10

Other types of academic misconduct: 35

*note that one student may be guilty of more than one instance of academic misconduct

Penalties:

Expulsions: 2

Suspensions: 6

Other penalties:

- In most other cases, the student was given zero in the assignment or exam, plus an additional penalty of 5% to 30% off the final grade
- One instance where a student was assigned 50% for the course
- A number of instances where student were required to take training in ethics, communication, writing, professionalism and/or academic integrity

- A number of instances where a student was required to complete an essay on plagiarism or academic misconduct
- A number of instances where a student was required to retake the course in which the misconduct occurred
- One instance where a student had to write a letter of apology to those impacted by the misconduct
- One instance where a student was issued a formal reprimand

*note that one student may receive more than one type of sanction/penalty

Additionally, starting January 1, 2017, the *Regulations on Student Academic Misconduct* have a process for recording informal resolutions for complaints of academic misconduct. There were 318 informal resolutions to incidents of academic misconduct. Of these, 266 were related to instances of plagiarism, 80 were related to cheating on an assessment using a banned website, eight were related to unauthorized use of generative AI, and 68 were other forms of cheating.

Academic misconduct appeals

Two appeals of a college decision on academic misconduct were received by the Governance Office under the *Regulations on Student Academic Misconduct* for the period of July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. Neither appeal went forward to an appeal board.

Non-academic misconduct

Formal complaints of non-academic misconduct were filed with the Governance Office against four (4) student between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 (compared to 12 the previous year).

Of the four complaints that were handled addressed through processes under the *Standard of Student Conduct in Non-Academic Matters*, one was related to breach of confidentiality and violation of the Discrimination and Harassment policy; one was related to verbal aggression, harassment, sexual harassment, stalking and cyberstalking, as well as violations of a number of university policies; one was related to intimidation, bullying, violation of the IT communication policy, and abuse of or disrespect for the Standard, and one was related to verbal and non-verbal aggression, verbal abuse, intimidation, and bullying.

Two complaints were resolved through an Alternative Dispute Resolution process. The remaining two complaints proceeded to a formal hearing of the Senate Hearing Board. One hearing resulted in expulsion of the respondent and the other resulted in a suspension of one year with required training and an essay-writing requirement prior to re-enrolling.

There was also one appeal of a non-academic misconduct decision that went forward to an appeal board. The appeal was unsuccessful and the original decision was upheld.

There is one complaint outstanding from 2021-2022 that is still outstanding

Academic appeals

University procedures for academic appeals provide for appeals from students who believe they have been disadvantaged in their academic standing by an unfair judgment of their work or by unfair college or university processes.

The Governance received two appeals between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. Neither appeal went forward to an appeal board. In one case, the applicant did not raise valid grounds of appeal and in the other case the notice of appeal was submitted well outside the 30 day limit for filing appeals.