



## Misconduct and Academic Appeal Cases July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024

### 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:

135 allegations involving 132 students

(Previous year: 104 allegations involving 98 students)

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

Plagiarism: 104

Using unpermitted services of a commercial website (such as Chegg): 6

Unpermitted use of generative AI: 54

Other types of academic misconduct: 29

Number of students found to have committed academic misconduct:

126 students

(Previous year: 89 students)

Breakdown of students found guilty:

Plagiarism: 98

Using unpermitted services of a commercial website (such as Chegg): 5

Unpermitted use of generative AI: 53

Other types of academic misconduct: 26

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

Penalties:

Expulsions: 2

Suspensions: 9

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 zero on the final exam and was prevented from earning more than 49% 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 or scholarly paper on plagiarism or academic misconduct
- A number of instances where a student was required to retake the course in which the misconduct occurred
- A number of instances where a student was invited to revise and resubmit the assignment or examination, at times with additional supervision/scrutiny
- 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 312 informal resolutions to incidents of academic misconduct. Of these, 248 were related to instances of plagiarism, seven were related to cheating on an assessment using a banned website, 84 were related to unauthorized use of generative AI, and were other forms of cheating.

### **Academic misconduct appeals**

Thirteen (13) 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, 2023 – June 30, 2024. Of the thirteen applications received, all but one were denied as the applicant did not present valid grounds of appeal or the appeal was filed outside of the 30-day appeal period. One appeal went forward to an appeal board and was dismissed.

### **Non-academic misconduct**

Formal complaints of non-academic misconduct were filed with the Governance Office against six (6) student between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 (compared to six four (4) the previous year).

The six complaints that were handled addressed through processes under the *Standard of Student Conduct in Non-Academic Matters* involved the following allegations:

- verbal and non-verbal aggression
- intimidation
- bullying
- sexual assault
- sexual harassment/unwanted sexualized touching
- significant disruption or interference with University activities or living and learning environments
- proffering false identification
- physical abuse
- non-verbal aggression

- violation of the Discrimination and Harassment Prevention Policy
- Stalking

One complaint was resolved through an Alternative Dispute Resolution process. The remaining complaints proceeded to a formal hearing of the Senate Hearing Board. One complaint was dismissed as the hearing board determined it did not have jurisdiction to hear the case. One complaint was dismissed. One hearing resulted in prohibition on the respondent accessing Fit Centre facilities. Two complaints remain outstanding at the time of this report.

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.

### **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 Office received one appeal between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. The appeal proceeded to a hearing board and the appeal was successful and the college involved was ordered to take steps to correct the error.