



## **Misconduct and Academic Appeal Cases 2014-15**

### **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**

#### **2014-15 statistics:**

Number of academic misconduct cases heard by colleges:

71 allegations involving 60 students

(Previous year: 56 allegations involving 56 students)

Number of students found guilty:

50 students

(Previous year: 42)

Breakdown of allegations:

Plagiarism: 42 Other types of cheating: 29

Penalties:

Expulsion: one

Suspensions: five

Other penalties:

- In most cases the student was given zero in the assignment or exam, plus an additional penalty of 2 to 15 per cent off the final grade.
- One rewrite of thesis to remove plagiarism
- One rewrite of examination
- One rewrite of comprehensive examination
- One rewrite of assignment
- One grade of fail for the relevant course

### **Non-academic misconduct**

A total of nine formal complaints were lodged with the University Secretary (compared to five cases the previous year).

Two complaints were dismissed by the University Secretary as not falling under the scope of the Standard of Student Conduct in Non-Academic Matters.

Three complaints were sent to an alternative dispute resolution team (ADR) and were successfully resolved.

Four cases went to a formal hearing of the Senate Hearing Board. In all four cases, the students were found to have violated the Standard. The outcomes were as follows:

- One instance of conduct probation
- One instance of suspension (1 year)
- One instance of suspension (5 years)
- One instance of expulsion

### **Academic appeals**

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

The Office of the University Secretary heard three appeals in between July 1, 2014- and June 30, 2015. Two were dismissed when the University Appeal Board determined that the assessment or faculty action had been based on substantive academic judgement and was not affected by unfair procedures. One appeal was upheld, with the University Appeal Board determining that the assessment of the student's work was biased and displayed differential treatment. The student was provided a passing mark in the course in question and was refunded tuition and student fees relating to a second registration in the same course.