

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 22, 1980
TO: Frederick O'Bear, University Senate Steering Committee
FROM: Peter G. Evarts, Chairman, Academic Conduct Committee, 1978-1980
SUBJECT: Annual Report of the Academic Conduct Committee

I. Membership

The Academic Conduct Committee was composed of the following faculty, administrative and student representatives during the academic year, 1979-80.

Peter Evarts, Chairman (English and Learning Skills)

Manuel Pierson, ex officio (Dean of Student Services)

Jean Braun (Psychology)

Dolores Burdick (Modern Languages)

Jeff Fournier (Congress)

Robert Gaylor (Library)

Jerrold Grossman (Mathematics)

Christopher Holliday (Philosophy)

Billie Joe Minor (SHES)

Anne Pogany (Library)

Mark Smith (Congress)

Larry Tomlinson (Congress)

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II. Summary of Actions

A. Total cases:	18
B. Offenses:	
1. Cheating on examinations:	14
2. Forgery of documents:	1
3. Collaboration on reports:	2
4. Misuse of computer program:	1
C. Departments of origin	
1. CIS:	2
2. EGR:	3
3. ENR:	1
4. MTH:	6
5. NRS:	1
6. PHY:	4
7. PSY:	1
D. Verdicts	
1. Guilty:	8
2. Not-Guilty:	8
3. Dismissal of charge:	2
E. Penalties	
1. Reprimand:	2
2. Permanent disciplinary probation	3
3. Suspension:	3

III. Commentary

The Academic Conduct Committee heard the same number of cases in 1979-1980 that it did in 1978-1979, which indicates that there is no growth in the magnitude of the problem of academic honesty at Oakland.

However, at the request of the Provost, the Academic Conduct Committee sponsored a Colloquium in the annual series on November 29, 1979, to discuss problems of academic dishonesty at Oakland relative to the problem in other institutions and to explore the activity and philosophy of the Academic Conduct Committee. What the Colloquium, which consisted of a panel of the Chairman of the Committee, a member of Oakland's faculty, an Oakland student, and a representative of Wayne State University's administration, concluded was that Oakland possesses a much more centralized and legalistic model for treating cases of academic dishonesty than most institutions but also that the very concern at Oakland for "rules of evidence" and "due process" have made some faculty sensitive to being placed in an adversary role in conduct cases and uncomfortable, therefore, with the quasi-legal model.

As a result of the Colloquium, the Chairman of the Committee and Professor Carl Osthaus, who had been instrumental in the preparation of the report of a previous review of the procedures of the Academic Conduct Committee, met with the Steering Committee of the University Senate, and it was agreed that the Academic Conduct Committee would create a committee of review to submit its findings and recommendations to the Steering Committee no later than January 1, 1982.

To that end the Committee appointed a chairperson from its membership to create a committee whose composition would be ratified by the Steering Committee. Unfortunately the member of the Academic Conduct Committee appointed to chair the sub-committee is no longer a member, and a replacement will have to be appointed from the Committee membership, 1980-81. However the following members of the Oakland community have agreed to serve on the sub-committee of review:

Rebecca Bowman, student

Carl Osthaus, History

Larry Tomlinson, student

Yei-Chiang Wu, Mathematics

What remains is the appointment of the chairperson from the Committee and one other member from the faculty in order to constitute the sub-committee and charge it to begin its review, actions which I anticipate will be the first order of business for the new Academic Conduct Committee.