

Memorandum

To: Academic Affairs

From: David Shaerf & Shawn McCann
Academic Conduct Committee Co-Chairs (2019-2020)

Date: Feb 10th, 2021

As co-chairs of the University Academic Conduct Committee (UACC), we are submitting the 2019-2020 annual report of the committee's activity, compiled by the Dean of Students, Michael Wadsworth.

As a result of the COVID 19 Pandemic, there has been a significant uptick in cases of academic misconduct reviewed by the committee during the Winter and Summer semesters of the 2019-2020 academic year. To provide a comparison, in the Winter and Summer semesters the previous academic year, the number of UACC cases totaled at 50 whereas in the 2019-2020 academic year, that number virtually doubled to 102 cases.

Throughout the entirety of the 2019-2020 academic year, there were 129 cases involving 208 students. This caseload represents an increase from the previous year, with 97 cases involving 156 students.

What is most telling about this year's report is the disparity in misconduct charges by comparison to previous years. This is almost certainly as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic and the remote learning situation that the student population has weathered over the course of the academic year. The conduct cases in 2018-2019 were evenly split between cheating and plagiarism with 66 cases each whereas 2019-2020 there were a mere 28 instances of plagiarism and 154 cases of cheating. This substantial increase in cheating cases can be attributed to the rise of problematic websites such as Chegg.com that will, in essence, enable cheating on assignments and exams in STEM courses.

Obviously, due to the conditions brought on by the COVID 19 pandemic, this is a strange time in academia and by extension an irregular time for academic misconduct. Coupling with these extraordinary circumstances, the rise of popularity of websites that facilitate cheating such as Chegg has made the workload of the UACC significantly higher. Thank you to the committee members for their diligent work and thank you to the Dean of Students office for their guidance and support.

Please feel free to contact either of us if you have any further questions or concerns.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE Suite 150, Oakland Center

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 1/11/21

TO: David Shaerf
Academic Conduct Committee Co-Chair

Shawn McCann
Academic Conduct Committee Co-Chair

FROM: Michael Wadsworth
Dean of Students

RE: 2019-2020 Annual Report

Attached is the statistical data for use in the 2019-2020 academic conduct committee annual report. There were 119 males and 89 females charged with academic conduct infractions.

The role of Academic Conduct Committee Chair continues to be challenging, demanding, and time consuming. We extend our thanks to you for your leadership, flexibility, and cooperation.

It has been a pleasure working with you and the entire Academic Conduct Committee for the 2019-2020 academic year. If you need additional information, please contact me at ext. 3352.

mw
attachment

**Annual Report for Academic Conduct Committee
Fall 2019 - Summer 2020**

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Cases</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>
2019-2020	127	208

During this reporting period, 127 cases were submitted involving 208 students (6 students had 2 cases and 2 students had 3 cases). There were 85 transfer students compared to 49 for the 2018-2019 academic year. Of the 127 cases, 180 students were found responsible and 16 were found not responsible. After fact-findings, cases were withdrawn for 22 students. There were 129 Academic Administrative Hearings and 65 full Academic Conduct Committee Hearings.

Appeal data was not available at the time of the report. Appeal considerations are based on two criteria: significant procedural error or new evidence not available at the time of the hearing.

Caseload Distribution by Semester/Department/School

Fall 2019	25 cases
Winter 2020	54 cases
<u>Summer 2020</u>	<u>48 cases</u>
TOTAL	127 cases

<u>Department/School</u>	<u>No. of Cases</u>	<u>No. of Students</u>
Art & Art History	1	1
Chemistry	1	1
Communication & Journalism	3	3
Computer Science & Engineering	8	41
Economics	10	18
Electrical & Computer Engineering	2	6
English	6	5
Health Sciences	16	21
History	2	2
Human Resources & Development	1	2
Interdisciplinary Health Department	1	1
Management and Marketing	1	1
Mathematics and Statistics	42	56
Mechanical Engineering	9	21
Modern Languages & Literature	2	2
Music, Theatre & Dance	1	1
Nursing	6	10
Philosophy	4	4
Psychology	3	4
Public & Environmental Wellness	2	2
Registrar	1	1
Sociology	3	3
Women & Gender Studies	1	1
<u>Writing and Rhetoric</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	127	208

Misconduct Charges

Plagiarism	28
Cheating	154
Cheating on Lab Reports	1
Falsification of Records	2
Unauthorized collaboration	66
TOTAL	251

Sanctions Given

Reprimand	24
Probation	143
Cite Right	11
Expulsion	1
Suspension	23
TOTAL	202

Class Status**Number of Students**

Freshman	14
Sophomore	35
Junior	47
Senior	87
Post Baccalaureate	1
2 nd Undergrad	2
Graduate	15
PhD	7
TOTAL	208

Grade Point Average (GPA) Range by Academic Status

<u>Class</u>	<u>GPA Range</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
Freshman	N/A	4
	0.0 – 1.9	0
	2.0 – 2.9	2
	3.0 – 4.0	8
Sophomore	N/A	8
	0.0 – 1.9	6
	2.0 – 2.9	13
	3.0 – 4.0	8
Junior	N/A	6
	0.0 – 1.9	2
	2.0 – 2.9	8
	3.0 – 4.0	31
Senior	N/A	12
	0.0 – 1.9	3
	2.0 – 2.9	28
	3.0 – 4.0	44

2 nd Undergrad	N/A	0
	0.0 – 1.9	0
	2.0 – 2.9	0
	3.0 – 4.0	2
Post Baccalaureate	N/A	1
	0.0 – 1.9	0
	2.0 – 2.9	0
	3.0 – 4.0	0
Graduate	N/A	4
	0.0 – 1.9	0
	2.0 – 2.9	2
	3.0 – 4.0	9
PhD	N/A	4
	0.0 – 1.9	0
	2.0 – 2.9	0
	3.0 – 4.0	3
Guest Student	N/A	0
	0.0 – 1.9	0
	2.0 – 2.9	0
	3.0 – 4.0	0
TOTAL		208