UC 12796 14S

TO: Lawrence Williams, Chair
Undergraduate Committee

APPROVED APR 23 2014
as amended

FROM: Richard Scamell
Academic Policies and Procedures Subcommittee

SUBJECT: UC 12787 14S: Amendments to the University of Houston Academic Honesty Policy

DATE: April 18, 2014

The Academic Policies and Procedures Subcommittee met on Wednesday, April 16 to consider amendments to two sections of the University of Houston Academic Honesty Policy. Participating in the discussion were subcommittee members Christina Gola, Ognjen Miljanic, Richard Scamell, Shishir Shah, Lesley Sisk, and Steve Soutullo. Heidi Kennedy attended the meeting as a guest.

Background
The amendments proposed in this report were reviewed and approved by an ad hoc academic honesty policy review group that included the following college hearing officers and stakeholders: Frank Kelley, Sarah Fishman, Dave Shattuck, Ian Evans, Megan Wright, Kamran Riaz, and Jennifer Bloom.

Amendment 1: Article 3.02.
Article 3.02 discusses academic dishonesty prohibited. Types of academic ~~honesty~~ dishonesty specifically mentioned in Article 3.02 include: plagiarism, cheating and unauthorized group work, fabrication, falsification, and misrepresentation, stealing and abuse of academic materials, complicity in academic dishonesty, and academic misconduct. Amendment 1 makes the following change (highlighted and bolded) to item d under Cheating and Unauthorized Group Work:

d. Using **and/or possessing** "crib notes" as unauthorized ~~user~~ use of notes or the like to aid in answering questions during an examination.

Amendment 2: Article 5.01 and Article 6.06
Article 5.01 discusses the procedures for a departmental hearing while Article 6.06 discusses the procedures for a college hearing. Amendment 2 copies the statements on legal counsel from the college hearing instructions to the departmental hearing instructions so that parallel statements on legal counsel appear in both articles. No changes in substance have been proposed.

The relevant paragraphs in Article 5.01 now read as follows with the proposed revised wording.

"Both the instructor and the student shall have the opportunity to present their cases during the above hearing. This may include the introduction of documents and/or physical evidence as well as statements from individuals who have knowledge of the circumstances. If either party intends to have individuals appear at the hearing for such statements, the departmental hearing officer must be notified at least three days before the hearing. Both parties have an opportunity to examine the documents pertaining to the alleged violations during the hearing.

If either party intends to have legal counsel attend the hearing, the department hearing officer must be notified at least three class days before the hearing. The hearing cannot be held with such counsel in attendance unless a representative from University of Houston legal counsel is also present. If either party will be advised by legal counsel, this individual may attend the hearing but shall not directly participate in the hearing or enter into discussion with the parties present."

The relevant paragraphs of Article 6.06 remain as follows:

f. "All parties shall have the right to advice of counsel of choice. If either party intends to have legal counsel attend the hearing, the college hearing officer must be notified at least three class days before the hearing. The hearing cannot be held with such counsel in attendance unless a representative from University of Houston legal counsel is also present. If either party will be advised by legal counsel, this individual may attend the hearing but shall not directly participate in the hearing or enter into discussion with the parties present.

g. The case presented to the panel must be made by the accusing individual and the accused student. The instructor or other individuals who reported the alleged misconduct shall present the relevant information." …

Recommendation
The subcommittee recommends approval of the amendments to Articles 3.02 and 5.01/6.06.