June 30, 2016

To: David A. Dowell  
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Praveen Soni  
Chair, Academic Senate

From: Cecile Lindsay  
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Subject: Annual Report of the Academic Integrity Committee for 2015-16

The Academic Integrity Committee received one case this year, in December 2015. Committee members were: Connie Ireland (Criminology and Criminal Justice), Amy Heyse (Communication Studies), Alan Shockley (Music) and Birane Ndiaye (ASI representative). I served as the non-voting convening chair.

The case was brought by a student. The student had received a course grade of F for alleged plagiarism and cheating in respect to the essay portion of an examination.

Based on its review of evidence provided by both the student and the instructor, the committee did not come to consensus on whether plagiarism had taken place. On the matter of cheating, the committee consensus was that cheating did not occur. It was the committee’s consensus that the student instead demonstrated poor academic performance.

The opinion of the Academic Integrity Committee was that a failing grade on the essay portion of the exam or on the entire exam was merited, but that a failing grade in the course was excessive.

In accordance with CSULB Policy Statement 08-02, Cheating and Plagiarism, the opinion of the Academic Integrity Committee is advisory only. Final determination of cheating and plagiarism and final determination of the assignment or course grade are the purview of the instructor. Both student and instructor were notified of the opinion of the Academic Integrity Committee on December 10, 2015.

copy: Connie Ireland, Amy Heyse, Alan Shockley, Birane Ndiaye