




CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

July 30, 2012

To: Donald Para
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Daniel O'Connor
Chair, Academic Senate

From: Cecile Lindsay 
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Subject: Annual Report of the Academic Integrity Committee for 2011-12

The Academic Integrity Committee received one case this year. It arrived after final exams in the spring, and so the committee convened in July to consider it. Committee members were: Andrew Jenks, History; Flora Banuett, Biology; and Jonathan Bolin, ASI Vice President. The third faculty seat on the committee was vacant due to a retirement. I served as the non-voting convening chair.

The case was brought by a student. The student had received a grade of F for alleged cheating in respect to a course taken in the spring. The student visited the professor during office hours in order to review a previous midterm in preparation for taking a third and final midterm. The student used her iPhone to take photographs of the exam questions. When the professor learned that the student had taken the photographs, she made the student delete them and informed the student that she would receive a failing grade for the course. The professor stated in an email to the Committee that she informs students in class that no tests or scantrons will be returned, but that they may come to her office to review and discuss past tests and take notes. The syllabus for the course cites CSULB Policy Statement 08-02 and also includes rules against using electronic devices for the purpose of cheating.

Based on evidence provided, the Committee determined that there had been an intention to cheat on the part of the student. The Committee further found that because students' actions in respect to past exams are so consequential, the professor should spell out in detail in her syllabus her policies about what is and is not permitted during office hours. Given the lack of specific guidelines in the syllabus, the opinion of the Committee was that a grade of F for the exam in question was more appropriate than a grade of F for the entire course.

C: Flora Banuett, Andrew Jenks, Jonathan Bolin