

Report on Academic Integrity Offences (2011-2012)

To Senate – January 15, 2013

Undergraduate Academic Integrity Policy

In May of 2009 Senate enacted the current Academic Integrity policy to be administered by the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Studies) with a requirement that a report on the actions taken under the policy be provided annually to Senate and published on the Academic Integrity website (www.trentu.ca/academicintegrity). The website provides information on the policy, the process that is followed if academic dishonesty is found, and links to several sources of support for students and course instructors.

Below is a summary (Table 1) of the 2011-12 academic dishonesty offences by department, separated into the two major categories of offence – copying/cheating and plagiarism. Not included are three UOIT students (2 minor ENGL; 1 major HIST) and one student who failed to submit complete postsecondary transcript documentation to the Office of the Registrar. Of note, 31% of the offences in 2011-12 were classified as major (21% in the two previous years).

Table 1. Summary of Academic Integrity Offences from Sept. 1, 2011 – Aug. 30, 2012 with Comparisons to the Previous Two Years

Dept	Copying/ Cheating Major	Copying/ Cheating Minor	Plagiarism Major	Plagiarism Minor	Total 2011-12	Total 2010-11	Total 2009-10
ADMN		1			1	3	3
AHCL		1		3	4	3	1
ANTH							4
BIOL				1	1		
CAST				1	1		2
CHEM		4			4	2	8
CUST				1	1	4	2
EDUC	1				1		1
ECON	1	2			3	9	
ENGL		1	4	8	13	7	12
ERSC/T	1		1	1	3		
FRSC						2	
GEOG		1		1	2	1	1
HIST	2	1	6	14	23	14	15
IDST							1
MATH						3	12

Dept	Copying/ Cheating Major	Copying/ Cheating Minor	Plagiarism Major	Plagiarism Minor	Total 2011-12	Total 2010-11	Total 2009-10
MLL							1
NURS			1		1	18	16
PHIL				6	6	4	1
PHYS	9				9	1	2
POST			1	2	3	3	
PSYC		2	1	15	18	13	15
SOCI			2	1	3	3	6
UNIV 1001H						6	1
WMST						4	7
TOTAL	14	13	16	54	97	100	111

Depending on the category of the subsequent offence, the policy stipulates that a period of suspension be imposed when a second or third offence occurs. Table 2 provides summary information on number of multiple offenders and number of students who were suspended or expelled. Students have several levels of appeal open to them. First, they can appeal to the Chair of the department, although it is not known how many students take up this option. The second level of appeal is to the Assoc. Dean following the decision by the Chair. Lastly, students who are dissatisfied with the decision by the Associate Dean may petition the Special Appeals Committee. Numbers of students who launched appeals are also provided in Table 2.

Table 2. Three Year Summary of Multiple Offenders, Suspensions/Expulsions and Appeals

Category	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10
Students with 2 nd or 3 rd offence (not necessarily in same year)	14	12	8
Suspensions (one term to 2 years)	13	5	5
Expulsions	1	0	0
Appeal to Assoc. Dean successful – reduction in penalty	7	2	2
Appeal to Assoc. Dean unsuccessful	16	18	15
Special Appeal of Assoc. Dean decision successful - reduction in penalty	2	0	0
Special Appeal of Assoc. Dean decision unsuccessful	0	2	1

Associate Dean of Arts and Science (Undergraduate Studies)