

Report to the Senate Academic Standards and Misconduct Committee (SASMC)

Submitted to the Office of the Corporate Secretary and General Counsel

University of Winnipeg May 5 2018

As Chair of the Senate Academic Standards and Misconduct Committee (SASMC), I submit the following Report to Senate for the 2017-18 academic year.

Academic Misconduct: The Senate Academic Standards and Misconduct Committee normally meets twice a month throughout the three academic terms to deal with cases of student academic misconduct from PACE, the Faculties of Arts, of Business and Economics, of Education, of Kinesiology, of Science, and of Graduate Studies.

In the year under review (May 1, 2017- April 25, 2018), the SASMC dealt with 25 **cases**. There were seventeen (17) cases of plagiarism, six (6) of cheating and 2 of improper research/academic practices. Of the twenty-five (25) cases, eight (8) were exonerated, one was exonerated with a notation for internal records, and one was asked to revise and resubmit the essay in question.

Students found guilty of misconduct received notations in their academic files that will be removed at graduation. Eight (8) received F on the assignment; four (4) received F in the course; two (2) received zero on the test. One (1) case resulted in suspension.

The case load of this Committee dropped off from last year yet continues steady. Chairs of SASMC have successfully engaged in discussions with representatives from PACE to enable a better process of discriminating cases of actual misconduct from those offering learning opportunities best be handled by student and instructor. At the time of the report, nine (9) cases are pending`—with others reported as immanent.

The SASMC is aware of the need to make fair decisions that take account of documented evidence as well as other pertinent principles such as intent and extent. The Committee is concerned that many who face misconduct allegations are relative newcomers either to academic discourse or to its practice in a North American context, or to both. The Committee believes that many students could benefit from further instruction in integrity practices, and to this end continues to explore a systemic approach to delivering integrity instructions, such as an online tutorial.

The Committee also plans to explore a renaming of its activities, updating the term “academic misconduct” with “academic Integrity” in keeping with move at many institutions of higher learning to refer more positively to administering accountability practices.

The Committee had three chairs during the report period: Fiona Green (May 1- June 30, 2017); Catherine Taylor (July 1-December 31, 2017); Jaqueline McLeod Rogers (January 1- April 15, 2018).

Committee membership:

Matt Dyce, Geography

Lisa Sinclair, Psychology

Peter Melville, English

Laura Garinger; Jerico Nieves (January 2018-) (UWSA)

Laura Sokal, Education

Colin Russell, (non-voting)

Anne-Laurence Caudano, History

Doug Craig; Tabitha Wood (April 2018-) Chemistry

Sincerely,

Jaqueline McLeod Rogers,

Chair, Senate Academic Standards and Misconduct Committee