

## Shared Governance Proposal – Academic Misconduct

- I. Date: November 10, 2020
- II. Sponsoring Constituent: Chairs Council
- III. Statement of the Issue:

The Chairs Council proposes that the Academic Misconduct policy as found in the Student Handbook (p.18) be revised to create:

- 1) A comprehensive reporting and standardized sanctioning process
- 2) A centralized clearinghouse for consideration in determining appropriate sanctions

- IV. Rationale for Proposal:

- 1) **The restructured policy streamlines the reporting and sanction process of academic misconduct cases.**

- a. **The restructured policy creates a standardized reporting process and centralized clearinghouse for documentation of academic misconduct.**

Under the current academic misconduct policy, there is no requirement or procedure for reporting academic misconduct. The absence of a reporting mechanism creates a scenario in which a student may commit multiple acts of academic misconduct without receiving a proportionate sanction. Under the proposed policy, the faculty member retains complete control over the course-related sanction, and the department and college, in conjunction with Academic Affairs and Research, will have the ability to consider the student's full academic misconduct record when determining whether additional sanctions are appropriate.

- b. **The introduction of a sanction rubric allows for standardized sanctions**

The current academic misconduct policy suggests possible sanctions but does not offer guidance in sanction determination. Under the restructured policy a sanction rubric for use by faculty and administration (not for publication or distribution to students) is proposed (attached). The rubric will allow for a standardization of sanctions.

- c. **The restructured policy avoids the appearance of partiality in the appeals process.**

Under the current procedure, a student who disagrees with the sanction issued for academic misconduct must utilize the Academic Grievance Procedure to appeal. The Academic Grievance Procedure relies on those who are involved in and/or potentially invested in the outcome of the academic misconduct appeal for resolution (the faculty member, chair, and ultimately a college committee). The proposed procedure will remove the appeals process from the college entirely, and rely on an outside committee; the University Academic Integrity Committee comprised of three faculty members, two undergraduates, and one graduate student from each academic college.

V. Type of review (i.e., expedited, full, or extended)

Full

**P. 18, Student Handbook – See attachments.**