Student Disciplinary Actions: 2019-2020

Presented to the Council of the University Senate on May 25, 2021
Michele Rasmussen
Dean of Students in the University

Annually, the Council of the University Senate asks Campus and Student Life to provide a report of all student disciplinary proceedings, as required by actions taken by the Council on May 23, 1970 and June 8, 1976.

I. Area Disciplinary Systems

Campus and Student Life reports to the Council on disciplinary matters that have occurred in the academic units during the year. Between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, Area Disciplinary Committees were convened to consider allegations brought against 34 students in 33 separate hearings.

In the College, 28 disciplinary hearings were convened involving 29 separate students. The College Area Disciplinary Committee (CADC) concluded that 27 students were responsible for violating University Policy and 2 were not responsible. Seven students submitted a request for review, of which six did not meet the criteria for convening a Review Board and one resulted in a Review Board meeting.

1. A student was charged with cheating. The CADC concluded the student was not responsible.

2. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student was observed by others to be looking at other students’ answers during an exam, ultimately submitting answers identical to other students. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension. The student requested a review of the CADC’s decision. The request did not meet the criteria for convening a Review Board.

3. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student inappropriately accessed materials on Canvas during an exam. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension.

4. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student inappropriately accessed materials on Canvas during an exam. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension. The student requested a review of the CADC’s decision, and a Review Board was convened. The Review Board upheld the original decision and sanction.

5. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student was observed by others to be looking at other students’ answers during an exam, ultimately submitting
answers identical to other students. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension.

6. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student inappropriately accessed materials on Canvas during an exam. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension. The student requested a review of the CADC’s decision. The request did not meet the criteria for convening a Review Board.

7. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student brought a device that contained unpermitted information to a final exam which gave the student an unfair advantage. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension. The student requested a review of the CADC’s decision. The request did not meet the criteria for convening a Review Board.

8. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student was observed by others to be looking at neighboring students’ exams and consulting notes during an exam. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension.

9. A student was charged with falsification of records and theft, specifically the student intentionally recorded an unapproved number of paid work hours, did not work the hours recorded, and received an overpayment as a result. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension. The student requested a review of the CADC’s decision. The request did not meet the criteria for convening a Review Board.

10. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student used an online translator on two separate occasions to complete an assignment for a lower-level language class and collaborated with a native speaker to complete an assignment. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension. The student requested a review of the CADC’s decision. The request did not meet the criteria for convening a Review Board.

11. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student submitted an essay that had previously been submitted by another student. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension.

12. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student provided disallowed assistance to another student after completing an exam, allowing the other student to complete the exam in a dishonest manner. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued disciplinary probation until graduation.

13. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student received disallowed assistance from another student during and examination. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension.
14. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student received disallowed assistance from online resources during a final examination. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension.

15. A student was charged with cheating. The CADC concluded the student was not responsible.

16. A student was charged with plagiarism, specifically the student received assistance from a native language speaker and writer to complete several homework assignments and a midterm exam in a foreign language class. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a suspension through the date of the student’s graduation.

17. A student was charged with plagiarism, specifically the student submitted a required reading comment for class containing uncited direct quotes and paraphrased ideas from GradeSaver.com. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a five-quarter suspension.

18. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student sought unpermitted assistance from another student during a final examination but did not gain an unfair advantage. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and issued disciplinary probation for four quarters.

19. Two students were charged with physical or verbal abuse that threatens or endangers the health or safety of others, specifically the two students were in a physical altercation. The CADC concluded the students were responsible and issued a formal warning to one student and eight quarters of disciplinary probation to the other student.

20. A student was charged with theft, specifically the student used another student’s credit card without permission and stole cash from the student on two separate occasions. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and imposed disciplinary probation for 11 quarters and required reimbursement.

21. A student was charged with plagiarism, specifically the student submitted a final paper containing uncited work taken from outside sources and represented the work as the student’s own. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and imposed a four-quarter suspension.

22. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student sat for a final examination on two separate occasions, using a false name the first time, to gain an unfair advantage over other students in the second sitting. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and imposed a five-quarter suspension.
23. A student was charged with academic dishonesty, specifically the student used unauthorized resources in order to complete essays for a language class. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and imposed a four-quarter suspension.

24. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student was observed looking at another student’s exam during a final exam and submitted the exam with identical answers. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and imposed a four-quarter suspension.

25. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student inappropriately accessed materials on Canvas during an exam. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and imposed a four-quarter suspension.

26. A student was charged with academic dishonesty and cheating, specifically the student used unpermitted materials from a cellular device during a midterm exam. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and imposed a four-quarter suspension. The student requested a review of the CADC’s decision. The request did not meet the criteria for convening a Review Board.

27. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student inappropriately accessed course materials during two separate final exams. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and imposed a five-quarter suspension.

28. A student was charged with cheating, specifically the student brought a device to a final examination which contained unpermitted information that would have given the student an unfair advantage. The CADC concluded the student was responsible and imposed a four-quarter suspension.

The Chicago Booth School of Business held three disciplinary hearings involving three different students. None of the students found responsible for violating University Policy requested a review of the Area Disciplinary Committee’s (ADC) decision.

29. A student was charged with plagiarism, specifically the student cut and pasted information from Wikipedia to a final exam. The ADC concluded the student was responsible and issued disciplinary probation through the student’s graduation. Additionally, the student received an “F” in the class and was required to retake the course to graduate.

30. A student was charged with violating Booth’s honor code, standards of scholarship, and professionalism, specifically the student forged an email to obtain an invitation to an employer’s recruiting event. The ADC concluded the student was responsible and issued disciplinary probation through the student’s graduation. Additionally, the student was not eligible to register for classes or participate in internship recruiting or programming for two-quarters.
31. A student was charged with violating Booth’s standards of professionalism, specifically the student failed to follow the directive of a University official by not informing the Associate Dean of a conviction of two felony counts by a federal jury for importing and possessing/transferring machine guns. The ADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a four-quarter suspension. 

The **Divinity School** held one disciplinary hearing involving a single student. The student was found responsible for violating University Policy. The student did not submit a request for review of the Area Disciplinary Committee’s (ADC) decision.

32. A student was charged with interfering with the authority to direct and not upholding the Divinity School’s expectation to treat members of the community with dignity and respect. Specifically, the student failed to present credentials to a University of Chicago Police Department officer and interacted with the officer in an argumentative and disrespectful manner. The ADC concluded the student was responsible and issued disciplinary probation through the student’s graduation.

The **Division of Social Sciences** held one disciplinary hearing involving a single student. The student was found responsible for violating University Policy. The student did not submit a request for review of the Area Disciplinary Committee’s (ADC) decision.

33. A student was charged with cheating on an exam by consulting external material during the administration of the exam. The ADC concluded the student was responsible and issued a two-quarter suspension, disciplinary probation until the student’s graduation, and recommended an intake appointment with Student Counseling Services.

**II. University-wide Student Disciplinary System**

Campus and Student Life reports to the Council on matters referred to the **University-wide Student Disciplinary System** for conduct involving alleged violations of the University Policy on Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct.

Between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, the University-wide Student Disciplinary Committee (Committee) was convened on six occasions to consider allegations brought against six students. One student requested a review of the Committee’s decision, which did not meet the criteria for convening a Review Board.

1. A graduate student was referred to the Committee for an allegation of stalking a College student. The Committee concluded the student was not responsible, but the respondent agreed to not utilize areas on campus frequented by the complainant.

2. A student in the College was referred to the Committee for an allegation of sexual assault of another College student. The Committee concluded the student was not responsible.
3. A graduate student was referred to the Committee for an allegation of stalking another graduate student, specifically the respondent engaged in a course of conduct that included posting items on social media, using threatening language in group chats, attempting to collect personal information about the complainant, and writing a play about the complainant. The Committee concluded the student was responsible and assigned disciplinary probation for two quarters and an educational program; the Committee also restricted the respondent’s access to academic and workspaces, and the respondent could not register for classes in which the complainant was enrolled.

4. A student in the College was referred to the Committee for an allegation of sexual assault of another College student. The Committee concluded the student was not responsible.

5. A student in the College was referred to the Committee for an allegation of sexual assault of another College student. The Committee concluded the student was not responsible.

6. A student in the College was referred to the Committee for an allegation of sexual assault of another College student. The Committee concluded the student was responsible and issued a two-quarter suspension. The respondent requested a review of the Committee’s decision. The request did not meet the criteria for convening a Review Board.

III. University Disciplinary System for Disruptive Conduct

Starting in 2017-18, Campus and Student Life reports annually to the Council on matters referred to the University Disciplinary System for Disruptive Conduct, which was established in 2017 and addresses conduct involving alleged violations by students of University Statute 21.

Between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020, the University-wide Standing Committee on Disruptive Conduct (USCDC) was convened twice. No requests for review were submitted by the respondents in either matter.

1. A College student alleged to have engaged in disruptive conduct was referred to the USCDC, specifically the student engaged in and helped organize behavior that interfered with an invited speaker. The USCDC concluded that the student’s actions interfered with the speaker and caused multiple event participants to become fearful. The USCDC issued disciplinary probation for one month and issued an educational assignment.

2. A College student alleged to have engaged in disruptive conduct was referred to the USCDC, specifically the student entered a classroom while a class (in which the student was not enrolled) was in progress, made an announcement for a party, shot-gunned a beer, and departed. The USCDC concluded that the student’s actions disrupted the class. The USCDC issued disciplinary probation for five quarters and required the student to write a letter of apology to the course instructor.
Table 1. Student matters referred to area disciplinary committees, 2009-10 to 2019-20

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<th>Year</th>
<th>College/ Academic Matter</th>
<th>College/ Other Matter</th>
<th>Graduate/ Academic Matter</th>
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Table 2. Student matters referred to the University-wide Student Disciplinary Committee, 2014-15 to 2019-20

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1 Table 2 displays student matters based on the affiliation of the respondent (i.e., as a student in the College or in one of the graduate divisions/professional schools)

Table 3. Student matters referred to the University-wide Standing Committee on Disruptive Conduct, 2017-18 to 2019-20

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