University Disciplinary Actions: 2012-13

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.

As an initial matter, the All-University Disciplinary Committee did not meet during the 2012-13 academic year.

With regard to disciplinary matters that have occurred in the academic units during the 2012-13 academic year, Area Disciplinary Committees were convened on fourteen occasions to consider allegations brought against seventeen students, as described below.

In the College, nine disciplinary hearings were convened involving ten students. Three of the students requested a review of the disciplinary committee's decision.

- A student was brought before a disciplinary committee for an allegation of sexual assault. The student was accused of forcing another student to engage in oral sex. By a preponderance of the evidence the student was found responsible and the committee imposed a nine quarter suspension. The accused requested a review. The review board upheld the original decision.
- In the second case, a student accused another student of sexual misconduct; the complainant said the accused forced the complainant into a music room where the accused proceeded to attempt to forcibly penetrate the complainant with a finger. The disciplinary committee found the accused not responsible for sexual assault but responsible for breaching the standard of behavior expected of a student. The accused was placed on probation for the remainder of that student's College career and asked to take a sexual violence seminar under the direction of Resources for Sexual Violence Prevention.
- The third case involved a student accused of sexual assault. The student was alleged to have sexually assaulted another student who was too intoxicated to give consent. The committee found the accused responsible and imposed a two quarter suspension. The accused requested a review on the grounds that process was not followed. The review board determined that process was not followed and removed the transcript notation from the accused's record. However, the accused, due to the timing of the review process, did not register for two consecutive quarters.
- In the fourth case, a student was accused of sexual assault. The student allegedly masturbated near the complainant without the complainant's consent. The committee found the accused not responsible for sexual assault but found the accused's behavior to be disrespectful and unbecoming of a university student. The committee imposed a sanction of probation for the remainder of the accused's College career.

- In the fifth case, a disciplinary committee hearing was held for a student accused of sexual assault. The complainant indicated that sexual intercourse was not consensual. The disciplinary committee found that there was not a preponderance of evidence of non-consensual sex and decided that the accused was not responsible.
- A sixth student was brought to a disciplinary committee for an allegation of sexual assault. A student reported having been sexually assaulted in Harper Memorial Library by someone who appeared not to be a student of the university. The accused forced the complainant into a classroom where the assault allegedly then took place. After a report to the police by the complainant and an investigation by the police, the accused was determined to be a student in the College. The accused was found responsible for sexual assault and was suspended for eight quarters with readmission contingent on following a prescribed treatment plan, clearance for reentry into the College, not pleading guilty or convicted of any crimes while on suspension, and the completion of a term on a full-time basis in an accredited four-year institution performing at a C average or better. The suspended student requested a review of the decision. The review board upheld the original committee's decision.
- The seventh case involved a student accused of academic dishonesty. The student was accused of forging the TA's signature for a French conversation session that the student did not attend. The committee found the student responsible and imposed a three quarter suspension.
- The eighth case was another accusation of a sexual assault. The complainant alleged that a sexual encounter between both parties was not consensual. The committee found the accused not responsible for sexual assault.
- In the ninth disciplinary case, two students accused of theft from the university were seen separately by the same committee. Both students were alleged to have removed property from the storage room in Harper Memorial Library belonging to the College Programming Office. Each student was found responsible. One student was given a one quarter suspension and the other was given a two quarter suspension.

In the Graduate Divisions and Professional Schools, six hearings were convened involving eight students. One student in the Division of the Physical Sciences requested a review of the disciplinary committee's decision, but the review board upheld the original committee's decision.

The Harris School of Public Policy held three disciplinary hearings involving four students.

- A graduate student in the Humanities accused a Harris School student of sexual assault. The allegation by the complainant was that the complainant was too intoxicated to have given consent. The accused was found not responsible by the disciplinary committee.
- In the second case, two students were accused of cheating on an exam. Both students were found by the TA to have papers strewn about the floor during an exam (papers on the floor between both students). The committee did not find

sufficient evidence to find the students responsible for cheating on the exam, but felt that the explanation for the strewn paper was not entirely true. Both students were placed on probation for the remainder of the academic career at Harris School.

- In the third hearing a student was accused of plagiarizing a speech for a class. The committee found the student not responsible.

The Physical Sciences Division convened two disciplinary hearings involving three students.

- A student was brought to a disciplinary committee on allegations that the student lied in two previous disciplinary hearings, in the process causing reputational harm to a peer. The student was found responsible. The committee expelled the student. The accused asked for a review of the decision; the review was granted, and the review board upheld the original committee's decision to expel the student.
- Two students were seen separately by the same disciplinary committee accused of collusion and cheating on the final exam. Both students were found responsible and given a four quarter suspension.

Student cases referred to disciplinary committees, AY 2003–AY 2013

Year	College/ Academic	College/ Other	Graduate/ Academic	Graduate/ Other	Total
03-04	4	0	16	4	24
04-05	1	4	6	1	12
05-06	3	6	8	3	20
06-07	7	6	3	2	18
07-08	3	6	9	2	20
08-09	1	5	12	2	20
09-10	2	4	8	2	16
10-11	4	3	3	3	13
11-12	4	9	10	2	25
12-13	1	9	5	2	17
Average	*3*	*5.2*	*8*	*2.3*	*18.5*