

Abstract of the Honor Council
Case 36-1, Spring 2020
June 18, 2020

Members Present:

Sam Holloway (presiding), Izzie (clerk), Matey Yanakiev, Ricky Robinson, Kaitlyn Crowley, Saniya Gayake, Zac Zalles (observing), Christopher Bi (observing), and Izzi Reynolds (observing)

Ombuds: Oeishi Banerjee

Letter of Accusation:

The Honor Council received a letter accusing Student A of unauthorized collaboration with Student B for a lower level CAAM course. The Chair read the Letter of Accusation aloud in full.

Evidence Submitted:

- Letter of Accusation
- Student A's written statement
- Student B's written statement
- Course Syllabus
- Assignment Description
- Lecture Material
- Course Lecture Material
- Random Samples
- Code Submissions
- Moss Comparisons
- Petition to Examinations and Standing
- Examinations and Standing Email Response

Plea:

Student A pled "In Violation."

Testimony:

Student A read aloud the written statement from the Investigative Meeting. The student recounted that she received unauthorized aid from another student. The Student noted that the pandemic created difficult circumstances for her, and that she exercised poor judgement in seeking help on a pledged assignment.

The Student asked the Council to consider instituting a penalty along the lines of the Spring 2020 academic relief sanctions. The Student said that the Honor Council recommended she petition to EX&S and that her petition had been declined. Student A said that she was ready to abide by the Honor Code for the remainder of her time at Rice.

Verdict Deliberations:

Council members believed that a preponderance of the evidence supported that a violation occurred because the code was substantially similar and the student in her testimony admitted to unauthorized collaboration on a pledged assignment.

Vote #1: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that a violation occurred?

Yes: 6 + 3

No: 0

Abstentions: 0

The Council then discussed whether or not Student A committed the violation. The Council agreed that Student A committed the violation.

Vote #2: Does a preponderance of the evidence support that Student A is “In Violation?”

Yes: 6 + 3

No: 0

Abstentions: 0

Penalty Deliberations:

The Council found no mitigating or aggravating factors in the case.

The CPS penalty for this case, based on the weight of the assignment, is between a 2 letter grade reduction and a 3 letter grade reduction.

Vote #3: What is the appropriate penalty for Student A?

F in the course and 3 semesters of suspension: 0

F in the course and 2 semesters of suspension: 0

F in the course and 1 semester of suspension: 0

F in the course: 0

3 letter grade reduction: 0

2 letter grade reduction: 6 + 3

1 letter grade reduction: 0

Letter of Reprimand 0

Abstentions: 0

Decision:

The Honor Council thus finds Student A “In Violation” of the Honor Code and recommends that she receive a 2 letter grade reduction in the course.

Time of testimony and deliberations: 45 minutes

Respectfully submitted,
Izzie Karohl
Clerk