



RESOLUTION-POLICY

X	Action Item
	For Information Only

From: Dr. Eric Milou, Rowan University Senate President  
To: Dr. Ali Houshmand, Provost  
Date: 4/8/11  
RE: Senate Resolution **110408-3**

**RESOLUTION  
TO CREATE A UNIVERSITY STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

*Submitted February 28, 2011, by Bruce Caswell on behalf of the Ad Hoc University Senate Committee on Academic Integrity.*

*Whereas*, academic integrity is a core value of the university,

*Whereas*, as a core value of the university academic integrity should receive the constant vigilance, involvement, and promotion of the University Senate,

*Therefore*, be it resolved the University Senate establish through its by-laws a standing committee to be known as the Committee on Academic Integrity with the charge and membership provided below.

**Rationale**

The Academic Integrity Policy was developed by a University Senate Task Force created when three existing Senate Committees -- Professional Ethics and Welfare, Student Relations, and Academic Policies and Procedures -- raised questions about the adequacy of existing university policies, procedures, and training on academic integrity for both faculty and students.

Since the three aforementioned committees have distinct charges that do not meet the needs for academic integrity, the task force determined that a comprehensive approach is preferable if academic integrity policy is to maintain the high profile essential to the quality of the learning environment. With the creation of the Academic Integrity Policy, the Ad Hoc University Senate Committee on Academic Integrity was established to address the complex challenges of promoting a culture of academic integrity among instructors and students, raising the awareness of instructors and students, and enhancing professional expertise on academic integrity issues and strategies on campus. Since academic integrity is first and foremost a pedagogical and scholarly concern, the locus for these activities should remain in the University Senate. The hearing of individual offenses and the enforcement of policies would remain with the appropriate administrative units. This collaboration is consistent with the principle of shared governance and will serve to strengthen the University Community.

## Charge

The University Senate Committee on Academic Integrity would be charged as follows:

- ∑ Develop expertise and serve as a resource on issues and strategies relating to academic integrity, including discipline-specific practices, copyright issues, the impact of digital media, and pedagogical best practices
- ∑ Organize design and delivery of curricular and co-curricular<sup>1</sup> resources and activities to support instructors and students including the Academic Integrity Seminar  
(Note: The content of the Academic Integrity Seminar, along with the content of three faculty workshops and supporting materials and a presentation for doctoral students, has already been developed and will be made available to the committee.)
- ∑ Develop and deliver programming through the Division of Student Life to introduce new freshman and transfer students to our academic integrity policy and to support all students

The adjudication process as described in the Academic Integrity Policy will remain the responsibility of the Office of Academic Affairs, with the exception of the Academic Integrity Seminar. The committee will not replace the Academic Integrity Review Board nor be expected to participate in the adjudication process.

The Office of Academic Affairs will handle procedural matters pertaining to the Academic Integrity Seminar, including identifying and contacting students who are required to attend.

The Academic Policies and Procedures Committee will continue to have responsibility for refinements to the policy with comment and recommendations from the Committee on Academic Integrity.

The content of the Academic Integrity Seminar, along with the content of three faculty workshops and supporting materials and a presentation for doctoral students has already been developed and will be made available for use and/or adaptation by the committee.

The committee will be supported by the Office of Academic Affairs, the Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, and the Division of Student Life, which will sponsor appropriate activities and provide support such as assistance with scheduling, arranging rooms, and making copies.

## Membership

The membership of the University Senate Committee on Academic Integrity would be large, 21 in all, in keeping with the importance of the academic integrity to campus culture and operations. The committee would be composed of:

- ∑ Eight (8) faculty representatives from the six academic colleges, one faculty member each from Business, Fine and Performing Arts, Engineering, Communication, and Education and three faculty member each from Liberal Arts and Sciences representing the natural and physical sciences, humanities, and social and behavioral sciences.
- ∑ One representative from CGCE, either faculty or professional staff.
- ∑ One faculty representative from a graduate program.

- Σ Two student representatives (plus an alternate).
- Σ One representative from Instructional Technology.
- Σ One librarian from the Campbell Library.
- Σ One representative from Orientation and Student Leadership Programs, one representative from Residential Learning and University Housing, and one representative from the Academic Success Center.
- Σ Non-voting liaisons designated by each of the Senate committees on Professional Ethics and Welfare, Student Relations, and Academic Policies and Procedures as well as the Senate Committee on Technological Resources, for a total of four liaisons.

**Chair**

The chair of the University Senate Committee on Academic Integrity would be elected annually from the Senate membership during the Senate’s annual committee chair elections. The chair would fill one of the membership slots above according to the chair’s department.

Curricular refers to learning activities that take place in the classroom or within the context of academic courses; co-curricular is the term for learning activities beyond the classroom. Here, it refers specifically to programs such as orientation and activities that are part of residential learning.

The Academic Integrity Seminar is a one-hour workshop that students are required to attend if found responsible for a serious violation by the Academic Integrity Hearing Board or if requested by the instructor as a sanction for any violation. The Seminar is usually offered twice a semester, depending on demand.

**Acceptance:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I give my approval. I have forwarded this item to \_\_\_\_\_ for implementation.

\_\_\_\_\_ No approval is actually needed. I have forwarded this item to the following individual or office for informational purposes only:

**ADDITIONAL REVIEW NEEDED:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to give approval if the following modification(s) are made:

\_\_\_\_\_ Before I can approve or reject this item, I need clarification on the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have forwarded this item to the following individual or office for further consideration and consultation.

**Rejection:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I decline acceptance of this item for the following reason:

*Please Return this Copy to the University Senate President ~ Retain a Copy for Your Records*