

Overview

- Brief review of current Academic Honesty process in Faculty of Health (based on existing Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (2005)
- https://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/
- Brief review of proposed Academic Honestly process (as per the revised Senate Policy currently under consultation)
- Highlights of report on proposed Policy from FoH Standing Committee on Examinations and Academic Standards (CEAS)

Clarification of Terms

Person of Primary Responsibility (PPR) coordinates implementation of Policy/activities of PPR delegates

Associate Dean (AD) of Students

PPR designate-delegated authority re Academic Conduct matters

- UPD or GPD
- OSAS (Office of Student and Academic Services in Faculty of Health)

Committee on Examinations and Academic Standards (CEAS)-Standing Committee reports to Faculty Council

Faculty Appeals Committee (FAC)

- Responsible for considering appeals for CD, PPR or PPR designate decisions in relation to this policy
- Committee must be recognized by Faculty Council as body responsible for appeals related to Policy
- Structure aligns with current CEAS Subcommittee on Academic Honesty Panel Hearings

Current AH Process: Exploratory Meetings held for all Suspected Breaches

At unit level, all suspected breaches are handled independently from one another; neither CD, nor UPD is made aware of second offence on record

CD notifies UPD of potential breach



UPD consults with CD, reviews evidence; Notifies RO to put hold on student record

Schedules Exploratory Meeting (EM)

CD, UPD, admin assistant attend EM; summary notes taken; added to file

Presents evidence to student; student has opportunity to speak to charge

CD & UPD make recommendation re breach and/or penalty (Maximum penalty: Failure in Course/Permanent Grade of Record)

AH Panel Hearing (Subcommittee of CEAS)

Panel comprised of minimum three members: one may be student member

AD is Faculty Presenter-reviews evidence; calls witnesses; presents case; makes recommendations re breach and/or penalty

Student has opportunity to respond

Panel determines decision/penalty; Dean's Office communicates written decision to student; unit; RO to lift hold; File stored by OSAS



File to OSAS/Chair of CEAS

OSAS checks for previous breach on record

CEAS Chair reviews all files from units, Provides oversight on recommended breach/penalty:

Either finalizes decision on breach/penalty; OR

Escalates to panel hearing if student

- does not attend EM;
- does not agree to breach/penalty;
- has previous offence on record; or
- -if recommended penalty greater than Failure in Course/Permanent Grade of Record



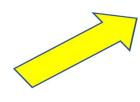


File closed or

CEAS/OSAS report outcome to CD; student; RO notified to lift hold

File stored by OSAS

Proposed AH Process with option for CD Direct Resolution (revised Senate Policy)



CD notifies UPD of potential student breach of AH Policy

UPD checks with OSAS re previous breach on record



Sends student evidence for charge

Student written response/ may opt for meeting

UPD decides on sanction

Student can appeal to FAC within 10 days

UPD can manage:



- High volume cases
- Previous breaches

Has wide range of sanctions available



Sends student evidence for charge

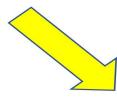
Student written response/ may opt for meeting

CD decides on sanction

Student can appeal to FAC within 10 days **CD** can manage:

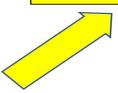
- First offence
- Assessment maximum 30%
- Plagiarism or cheating only

Maximum sanction: Zero on assessment



File closed or

CD/UPD report outcome to UPD/AD, who notify RO



Faculty Appeals Committee

(currently CEAS subcommittee panel hearing)

3-member panel adjudication committee, (minimum two Faculty)

Student has opportunity to respond

Panel hearings:

- all student appeals of CD or UPD decisions
- complex cases

Sanctions include suspension, expulsion, withholding, recission of degree

Dean's Office communicates written decision to student; unit; RO to lift hold; file stored in OSAS

Student can appeal to Senate
Appeals Committee within 30 days

CD/UPD resolutions offer the potential for bias to be introduced when UPD checks with OSAS for previous breach on record; currently neither CD nor UPD is made aware of previous breach

High-level Goals of Revised Senate Policy

- Adapting to new realities in the academic conduct landscape
- Streamlining investigation procedures: encouraging formal resolution, aligning with principles of procedural fairness, natural justice
- Providing enhanced flexibility on sanctions
- Clarifying language; minimizing legalistic terminology
- Enhancing University-wide consistency re procedures, documentation, record-keeping protocols.

Adapting to New Realities

- High-volume misconduct procedures enhance timely response
- Zoom increases convenience/access
- Greater recognition of technological advances have increased methods for committing breaches

Streamlining Response: CD Resolution

Potential Benefits

- May improve reporting/timely management of breaches
- Could improve transparency by providing evidence for suspected breach to student in writing, inviting response in 10 days

Potential Challenges

- If more CDs opt to report/manage resolution, potential for increased volume of breaches
- Concerns re need for increased administrative support for unit/Faculty levels (e.g., UPD involvement; redacting files; timelines)
- Potential to introduce bias into decisionmaking at unit level) (notification of previous offence to CD/UPD)
- Question oversight role for CEAS chair

Flexibility of Sanctions Language and Terminology

Flexibility of sanctions

- Expanded options, flexibility of lowerlevel sanctions
- Shifting categories of breaches (fraudulent conduct)
- Educational remedy vs disciplinary sanctions:

Educational development opportunities (e.g. opportunity to expand current options to module/discussion session)

Language

- Overall language is clear; minimizes legalistic terminology
- Useful definitions

Consistency re Procedures, Documentation, Record-keeping Protocols

CEAS

- Recommend that CEAS (Standing Committee of Faculty of Health) continues to be involved rather than Petitions (OSAS)
- CEAS focus is academic standards, thus appropriate to manage:
- -8.4 Disputing result of investigation;
- -4.5 Imposing suspension/expulsion;
- -4.9 Waiving transcript notation

Petitions Appeals Committee

- Focus of Petitions (through OSAS):
- Student requests to waive a Faculty regulation or deadline (late withdrawal from course; take courses on overload)
- Existing CEAS subcommittee on academic panel hearings align with Faculty Appeals Committee (FAC)
- Opportunity for CEAS to refine AH procedures (e.g., reporting; AD role; PPR designate)

