DePaul University Academic Program Review

Cycle 7: Spring 2004--Spring 2005

Memorandum of Agreement – October 2005

Academic Integrity Board

As a result of the seventh cycle of DePaul University's Academic Program Review Process (Cycle 7), the participants in the process enter into the following agreements. The participants understand that this document will be available to be made public once all the signatures are in place.

Academic Affairs Commitments for the Academic Year 2005 – 2006:

I. Academic Affairs Support/Staffing
   A. The AVP for Academic Affairs with the Chair for the Academic Integrity Board will systematically consider what knowledge, skills, and abilities on the part of the AVP for Academic Affairs’ office staff are necessary to support Academic Integrity. The relationship between this staff support position and the Chair of the Academic Integrity Board will be defined.

II. Web Presence & Reporting
   A. The AVP for Academic Affairs will work with the Chair of the Academic Integrity Board, the AVP of Administration who controls the appearance of websites on the Academic Affairs Server, and Information Systems to develop websites for faculty and students, a portal link, and a web-based reporting application for faculty.

III. Support for the AIB Chair
   A. The AVP for Academic Affairs should address the need for broad institutional support of Academic Integrity concerns by discussing with necessary parties ways to support the AIB chair.

Academic Integrity Board Commitments for the coming Academic Year 2005 – 2006:

I. Adjudication Matters
   A. Develop in cooperation with Academic Affairs a list of variables from the collected case files that could be populated within a dataset so that the data can be analyzed, and the current situation at DePaul with regard to academic integrity can be better understood and addressed as appropriate. Determine FERPA regulations and compliance issues with regard to collecting and using student data.
B. Explore the potential value and possible impact of establishing comparative academic integrity data for DePaul compared to the aggregate data from the Center for Academic integrity by taking part in the Academic Integrity Assessment. Discuss the possible consequences and necessary precautions with the Institutional Review Board within the Office of Sponsored Programs & Research.

II. Website Development

A. The Chair of the Academic Integrity Board will work with the AVP for Academic Affairs and others mentioned in Academic Affairs Commitments, item II and also the student and faculty members of the Academic Integrity Board to determine the content for Academic Integrity websites.

III. Educative Sanctions

A. The Academic Integrity Board Chair and the AVP for Academic Affairs will meet with representatives of ARC, Student Records, other offices dealing directly with FERPA compliance, and the University Council to review the issue of transcript notation for academic integrity violations. Further policy discussion will be based on the recommendation of these offices regarding whether or not such a policy is consistent with the University’s values and mission.

B. The Chair of the Academic Integrity Board will, with assistance from the AVP for Academic Affairs, assemble a meeting of those whose presence is necessary to discuss the eventual institutionalization of a formal, non-credit course for multiple academic integrity violators. Areas for discussion are staffing, compensation and scheduling issues.

IV. Student Body Funding and Support

A. The Chair of the Academic Integrity Board will propose a modest budget to support the educative function of the student board.

V. Support for Academic Integrity Board Chair

A. Support for Initiatives—See Academic Affairs Commitment, Item III.
   i. Given sufficient support the Chair of the Academic Integrity Board will:
      ii. work with university administrators and program/center directors at all levels to compose an institutional identity that reflects a dedicated commitment to academic integrity as a crucial component of DePaul’s mission, and of its responsibility as a university devoted to ethical training;
      iii. work with Bridge and FYP (especially First-Year Writing), to establish a dedicated focus on academic integrity education initiatives in the first-year experience;
iv. work to develop faculty awareness of the necessity of the educative function—particularly in the case of Non-Native English Speaking students, Non-standard Dialect students (who, although native English speakers, may be acculturated to differing standards of authority and representation), and underprepared students—and will serve as a conduit between faculty and national popular and scholarly discussions about academic integrity providing faculty with resources to become more successful academic integrity educators;

v. work to develop commitment among faculty to the reporting structure through visits to college and department meetings, emails, and concerted work with the college consultants;

vi. develop ongoing Academic Integrity initiatives, such as an Academic Integrity statement and signature line in Blue Books; workshops/seminars for specific academic units; etc.

vii. assume a sponsoring/mentoring relationship with the student board by attending their meetings, overseeing ongoing training in support of their adjudicative function, serving as a resource as they develop and execute their outreach agenda, and serving as a conduit between the student board and the office of the AVP for Academic Affairs.

viii. orient new members (including academic integrity ombudspersons) to the work of the Academic Integrity Board

Signatures:

EVP for Academic Affairs

AVP for Academic Affairs

Unit AVP

APRC Chair

APRC Subcommittee Representative

Unit Committee Representative