

# 2015/2016 Student Discipline Summaries

September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016

Under section 61 of the *University Act*, the President of the University has authority to impose discipline on students for academic and non-academic offences (see the 2015/2016 University Calendar). A summary of such disciplinary cases for UBC Vancouver and UBC Okanagan is posted, without disclosing the names of the students involved.

In the period September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016, 42 students appeared before the President's Advisory Committee on Student Discipline, and 7 students appeared before the President's UBC Vancouver and Okanagan Non-Academic Misconduct Committee, and 42 were subsequently disciplined. For each case, the events leading to the imposition of the discipline and the discipline imposed are summarized below. Discipline may vary depending upon the circumstances of a particular case.

## UBC Vancouver – Academic Misconduct Cases

1. A student committed academic misconduct by (i) submitting a grant proposal for his/her Ph.D. comprehensive examination that contained plagiarism and (ii) submitting false records or information to the chair of his/her examining committee.

Discipline: A letter of reprimand; received fail standing on comprehensive examination but permitted to re-take the examination with a new grant-proposal topic; required to write a letter of apology to members of the examining committee detailing the extent of the plagiarism and apologize for the impact of his/her actions. [Must agree to the appointment of an additional co-supervisor to his/her doctoral committee]

2. A student committed academic misconduct by (i) stealing the original master copy of a final examination from the instructor's office; and (ii) placing hardcopies of the course material as well as photos of answers to that examination questions on a cellphone in a hidden location in the washroom that were accessed by him/her during that final examination.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 8 months\*.

3. A student committed academic misconduct by sharing his/her laboratory code with another student in violation of the course rules.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the lab assignment.

4. A student committed academic misconduct by posting discussion messages online that were plagiarized from those of another student who took the course previously.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months\*.

5. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting an essay that contained plagiarized material from online sources.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months.

6. A student committed academic misconduct by using his/her cellphone to communicate with another student during a final examination.

Discipline: A mark of zero on the final examination and a letter of reprimand.

7. A student committed academic misconduct by using his/her cellphone to communicate with another student and to access material on the course website during a final examination.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months\*.

8. A student committed academic misconduct by plagiarizing his/her doctoral dissertation.

Discipline: Must submit a completely new dissertation to the Faculty for external evaluation.

9. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting a final essay containing material that was plagiarized from both online sources and from assignments submitted by classmates on his/her project team.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months\*.

10. A student committed academic misconduct by cheating on a question on the midterm examination.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months\*.

11. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting an assignment that contained material that was plagiarized from published sources.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months\*.

12. A student committed academic misconduct by looking at or copying answers from a fellow student's exam papers, and/or allowing that fellow student to look at or copy answers from his/her exam papers during the final examinations in four courses.

Discipline: A mark of zero in four courses and a suspension from the University for 12 months\*.

13. A student committed academic misconduct by looking at or copying answers from a fellow student's exam papers, and/or allowing that fellow student to look at or copy answers from his/her exam papers during the final examinations in four courses.

Discipline: A mark of zero in four courses and a suspension from the University for 12 months\*.

14. A student was alleged to have committed academic misconduct by submitting a midterm examination with changed answers for re-marking.

Outcome: The student was not sufficiently careful when indicating which portion of the examination he/she wanted re-marked. The evidence is convincing that he/she did not commit misconduct. The allegation is dismissed.

15. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting a falsified add/drop form for a course.

Discipline: A suspension from the University for 8 months\*.

16. A student committed academic misconduct by plagiarizing in his/her PhD dissertation.

Discipline: Given the very significant mitigating circumstances in this case, he/she was required to append errata to his/her dissertation to correct the problematic passages to the Faculty's satisfaction.

17. A student committed academic misconduct by receiving help from a proof reader on a written assignment in a course.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months\*.

18. A student committed academic misconduct by bringing unauthorized material into a quiz and made use of that material.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months\*.

19. A student was alleged to have committed academic misconduct by using unauthorized material during a closed book, online examination.

Outcome: The evidence supports his/her claim that he/she did not commit an act of misconduct, therefore, the allegation is dismissed.

20. A student was alleged to have committed academic misconduct by submitting an assignment in a course that was plagiarized from the work of other students.

Outcome: The evidence supports his/her claim that he/she did not commit an act of misconduct, therefore, the allegation is dismissed.

21. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting two assignments that were plagiarized from other students.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a letter of reprimand.

22. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting an essay that was plagiarized from the work of another student who took the course in the previous term.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months\*.

23. A student committed academic misconduct by duplicating solution for an assignment from a solution manual.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course\*.

24. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting plagiarized material from the work of another student in the class.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months\*.

25. A student committed academic misconduct by plagiarizing portions of an assignment.
- Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months\*.
26. A student committed academic misconduct by pasting a large block of unauthorized text into his/her midterm examination.
- Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months\*.
27. A student was alleged to have committed academic misconduct by sharing the answer to a question on his/her assignment with other students.
- Outcome: No finding of academic misconduct; no imposition of discipline.
28. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting an assignment that was plagiarized from the work of another student.
- Discipline: A mark of zero in the course.
29. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting an assignment that was plagiarized from the work of another student.
- Discipline: A mark of zero in the course.
30. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting an assignment that was identical to that of another student.
- Discipline: A mark of zero in the course.
31. A student was alleged to have committed academic misconduct by copying an assignment from someone else.
- Outcome: Evidence does not support the allegation; no imposition of discipline.
32. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting a final paper that was plagiarized from online sources.
- Discipline: A mark of zero in the course.

33. A student committed academic misconduct by falsifying a medical note and submitting it for a missed quiz.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 12 months\*.

34. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting work in two courses that was plagiarized from published sources.

Discipline: A mark of zero in both courses and a suspension from the University for 4 months\*.

35. A student committed academic misconduct by bringing unauthorized notes into the midterm examination and making use of those notes during the examination.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 8 months\*.

36. A student committed academic misconduct by gaining entry to the University without fully disclosing his/her post-secondary record.

Discipline: A letter of admonition due to a number of significant mitigating circumstances.

37. [Rehearing] A student committed academic misconduct by submitting two assignments in a course that were plagiarized from answers available on the Internet. In addition, the handwriting on the assignments was found to be different from his/her other submissions in the same course.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months\*.

### **UBC Vancouver – Non-Academic Misconduct Cases**

1. A student committed non-academic misconduct by assaulting a fellow student.

Discipline: A suspension from the University for 2 years; permanent (non-removable) record of disciplinary action entered on transcript\*.

2. A student was alleged to have committed non-academic misconduct by assaulting a fellow student.

Outcome: Committee was unable to determine that the code of student conduct was violated in this instance, and therefore, the allegation is dismissed.

3. A student committed non-academic misconduct against a person and University property.

Discipline: A suspension from the University for 8 months\*\*; required to provide satisfactory evidence that he/she is able to return to the University without endangering or threatening members of the University community; required to be on probation for two years after his/her reinstatement to the University; prohibited from being on campus for the period of suspension; subject to a no-contact order with another individual.

4. A student committed non-academic misconduct by engaging in unwelcome conduct that he/she knew, or ought to reasonably know, would cause the other student to feel demeaned, intimidated or harassed, and by refusing to comply with a reasonable direction given by the Equity & Inclusion Office to have no contact with that student.

Discipline: A suspension from the University for 4 months\*\*; directed to not have any communication or contact, in any form or manner, directly and indirectly with the other student.

### **UBC Okanagan – Academic Misconduct Cases**

1. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting a paper where substantial content was inserted without acknowledgement or citation.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 4 months\*.

2. A student committed academic misconduct by answering final examination questions using content taken directly from two websites without reference or citation.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a letter of reprimand\*.

3. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting an essay where portions of the essay were taken from an online source without reference or citation.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 8 months\*.

4. A student committed academic misconduct in a course by (i) submitting an assignment that contained information from an online source without reference or citation; and (ii) submitting an essay that was not his/her own work.

Discipline: A mark of zero in the course and a suspension from the University for 8 months\*.

5. A student committed academic misconduct by submitting artwork that he/she created amounted to plagiarism in that he/she used the ideas of others to inspire his/her art and in so doing did not depart sufficiently from his/her inspiration to qualify his/her work as original. (By submitting work that was not entirely of his/her own creation)

Discipline: A letter of reprimand.

### **UBC Okanagan – Non-Academic Misconduct Cases**

1. A student committed non-academic misconduct by engaging in a physical altercation with a fellow student.

Discipline: A suspension from the University for 2 years\*\*. Prohibited from being on UBCO campus grounds for the length of the suspension.

2. A student was alleged to have committed non-academic misconduct by engaging in a physical altercation with a fellow student.

Outcome: There was not enough evidence to prove the allegation against him/her.

3. A student committed non-academic misconduct by being physical aggressive and causing damage to University property.

Discipline: Required to make financial restitution of the damages, and to participate in BASICS (Brief Alcohol Screen and Intervention for College Students) program; prohibited to consume alcohol on campus or be under the influence of alcohol while on campus until the following term.

\* In all cases indicated by an asterisk, a notation of disciplinary action is entered on the student's transcript. At any time after two years have elapsed from the date of his or her graduation the student may apply to the President to exercise his discretion to remove the notation.

Students under disciplinary suspension from UBC may not take courses at other institutions for transfer of credit back to UBC.

\*\* In all cases indicated by two asterisks, a notation of disciplinary action is entered on the student's transcript. The notation will be removed upon lapsing of the suspension.