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KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY HONOR & INTEGRITY SYSTEM Annual Report to Provost, Faculty Senate and Student Senate 2012-2013



Viktor Chikan, 2011

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Executive Summary

Reporters (faculty, instructors, GTAs, etc.) submitted 201 Honor Code Violation Reports to the Kansas State University Honor & Integrity System. There were 259 students that were involved with these 201 cases. These values were higher than respective averages over the last 10 years. The reporter investigated the situation and determined appropriate sanctions for about 90% of the cases. Twenty-three hearing panels were convened to determine if a violation had occurred and, if appropriate, what the sanctions should be. Unauthorized collaboration was the most frequent violation (40% of cases) and XF was a sanction for 21% of the cases. One of the more unusual situations resulted in permanent XF grades being given to three students that solicited unauthorized aid materials. Forty-three educational presentations were made to over 2,800 students and about 150 faculty or staff. One-hundred and fifty-five students completed the Development and Integrity course. Hearing Panel format changed from 5 voting members and a non-voting Chair to 5 voting members including the Chair. Also, permanent XF sanction can only be given by a Hearing Panel.

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Introduction

The primary purpose of the Honor & Integrity System is to promote academic integrity as a standard of expectation within the university community. With this purpose in mind, the system seeks to promote academic integrity through both education and adjudication. Article VI of the Honor & Integrity System Constitution requires the Director to provide a report to Student Senate, Faculty Senate and the Provost annually. This report summarizes the activities of the Honor System for the 2012/2013 academic year as well as provide a report of the system changes and administrative activities of the Director, Associate Director and Honor Council during the reporting period.

Cases Reported

The Honor & Integrity System processed 205 Honor Pledge Violation Reports (as of today's date) including 36 cases that are currently active (11 violation reports being contested, 25 students yet to conduct Case Review and decide whether to contest or not). This is the largest total number of violation reports received by the Honor & Integrity System since the system's inception in 1999 (Fig. 1, Table 1). Please note, the data presented reflect only the violations officially reported to the system. These data do not include informal consultation with faculty regarding violations not reported, nor does the data reflect instances discovered by faculty who choose to handle the violation themselves. It should also be noted, Kansas State University does not have a mandatory reporting policy for academic dishonesty. However, faculty should report violations which result in an academic sanction which adversely impacts the student's grade. The Honor & Integrity System has established procedures by which students may contest allegations of dishonest conduct which is not available to them otherwise. Also, students with repeated violations in various courses would be held more accountable through this university-wide unit.

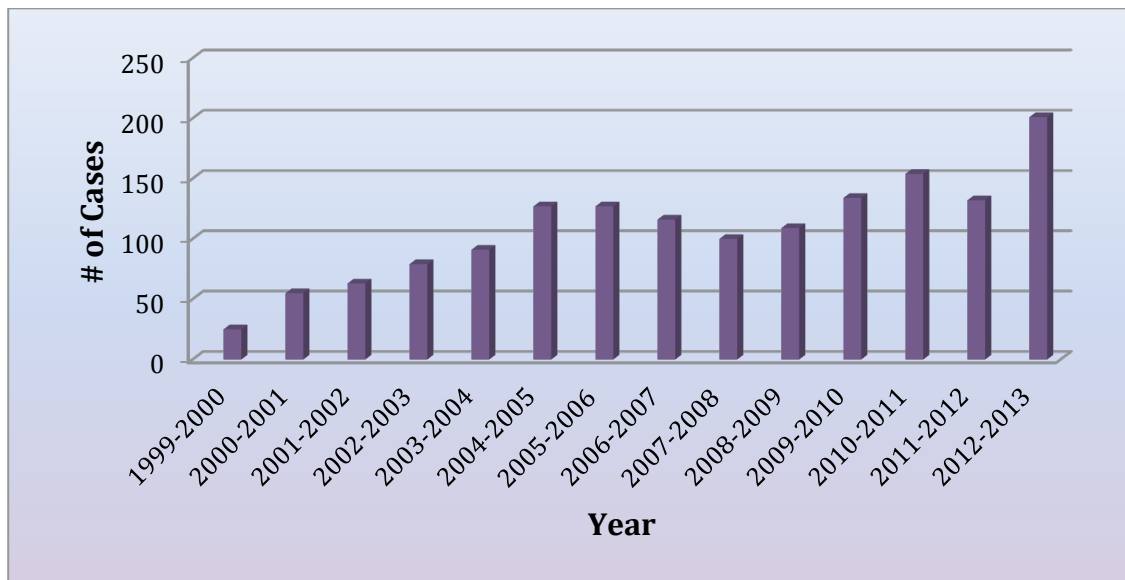


Figure 1. Total number of Honor Pledge alleged violations (cases) per academic year.

During the reporting period, 259 students were alleged to have committed Honor Code violations (Table 1). This is much greater than the average of 176 students per year for the last 10 years. Cases are frequently reported in which multiple violators are named as having violated together the academic integrity standards of the university. If the sanctions are the same, and the violation is related, the Honor & Integrity System assigns one case number to the violation. The number of cases we process is a function of many factors: faculty deciding to report incidences to our office,

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faculty identifying Honor Code violations, sometimes many students are associated with one case, and the number of violations that have occurred.

Table 1. Number of cases and students reported per academic year.

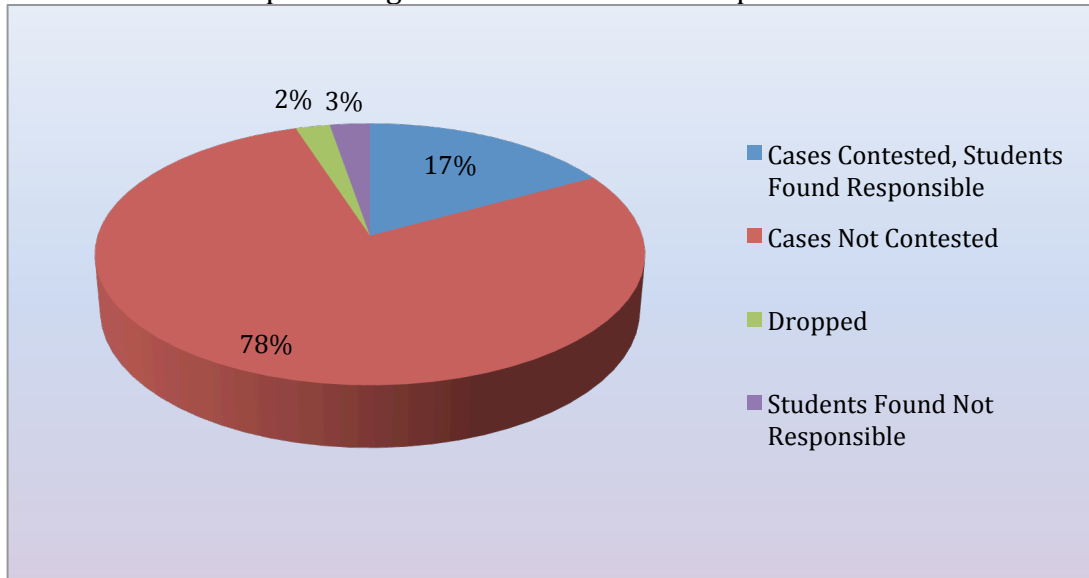
Academic Year	Cases	Students
1999-2000	25	33
2000-2001	55	91
2001-2002	63	103
2002-2003	79	104
2003-2004	91	232
2004-2005	127	162
2005-2006	127	170
2006-2007	116	150
2007-2008	100	127
2008-2009	109	123
2009-2010	134	181
2010-2011	154	188
2011-2012	132	166
2012-2013*	201	259

*In Progress.

Reporters that are the primary instructor for the course where the violation occurred have the authority to determine what the appropriate sanctions are for violating the Honor Code (Option 1 on Violation Report). Reporters can also request the Honor & Integrity System to investigate situation, determine if Honor Code had been violated, and also determine appropriate sanctions. Reporters determined the sanctions for about 78% of the submitted Violation Reports that were not contested by the Alleged Violator (Fig. 2).

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Figure 2. Information about percentage of cases contested compared to not contested.



Alleged Violator Demographics

Of the 259 students reported in 2012-2013, 157 students were male and 86 were female (16 did not report). Alleged violators were fairly evenly distributed between undergraduate classes (Fig. 3). There were 8 cases that involved graduate students (on-campus and distance students).

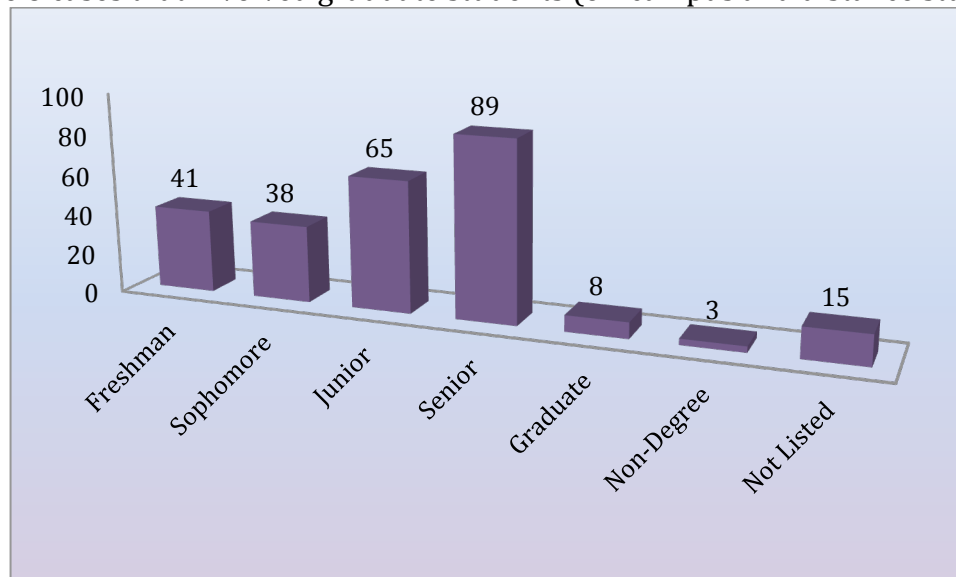


Figure 3. Breakdown of alleged violator's class.

Faculty Demographics

Reports were received from all levels of teaching personnel (Fig. 4). Tenure track faculty constituted 42% of the violation reports received while instructors and Graduate Teaching Assistants accounted for 43%. Administrative personnel, which includes Deans, Department Heads, and Program Coordinators, filed 1% of the reports.

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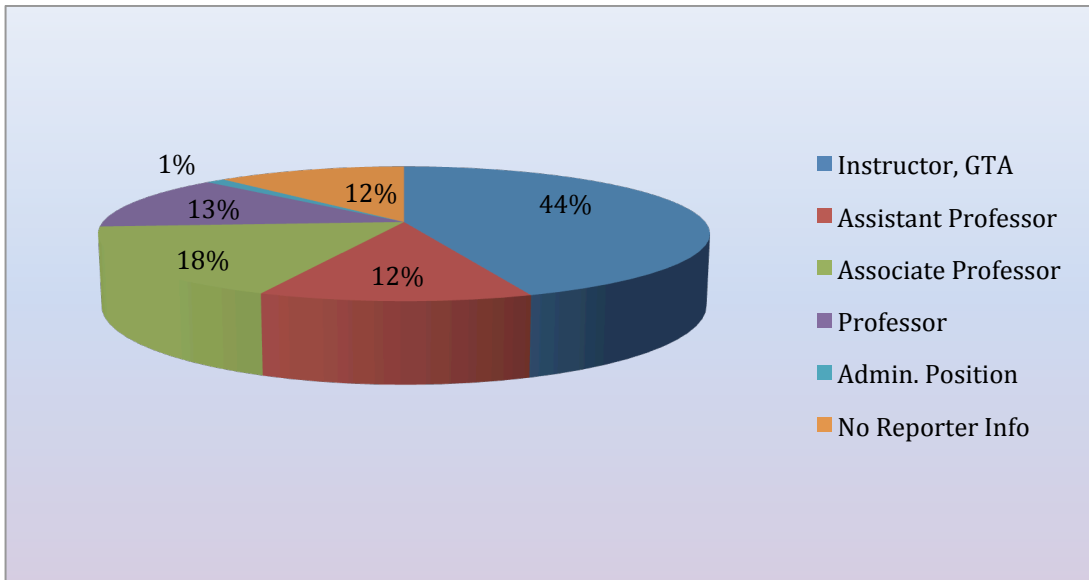


Figure 4: Breakdown of reporter's position at Kansas State University.

Details about Violations

Most violations were students giving or receiving answers from others (Fig. 5). Classic plagiarism was another common violation.

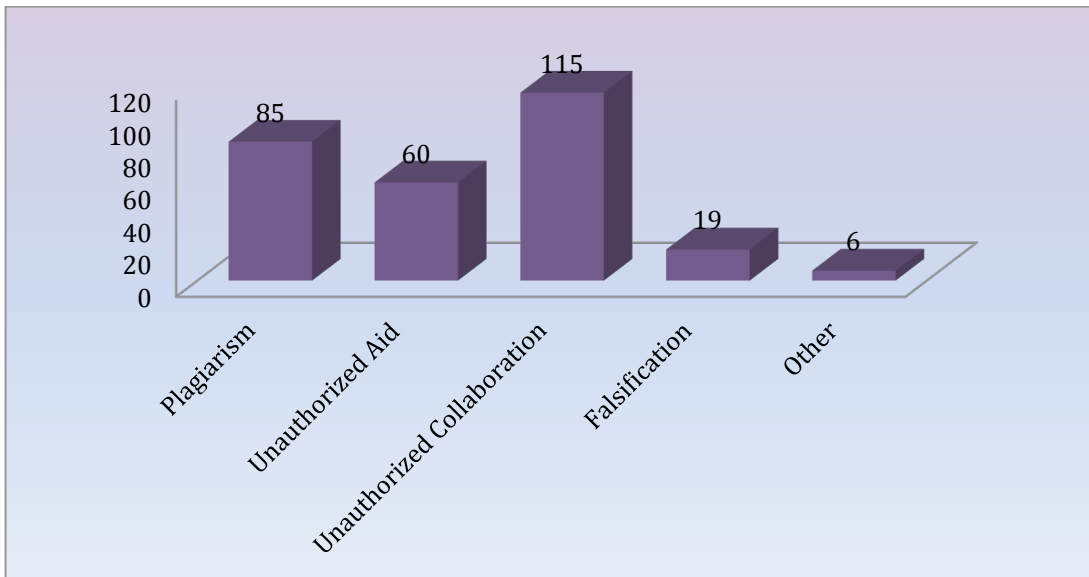


Figure 5. Breakdown on alleged violations. Plagiarism: Copying other resources. Unauthorized collaboration: Giving or receiving answers. Unauthorized Aid: Consulting unapproved resources. Falsification: Submitting work under false pretenses.

Details about Sanctions

Sanctions ranged from expulsion recommendations to the Provost all the way to a verbal warning (Fig. 6). Forty-one students contested the alleged violation and 23 hearings were conducted. Several students (approximately 12) were found to be not responsible. This shows the due process for alleged violators is working well and is a valuable aspect to the Honor & Integrity System.

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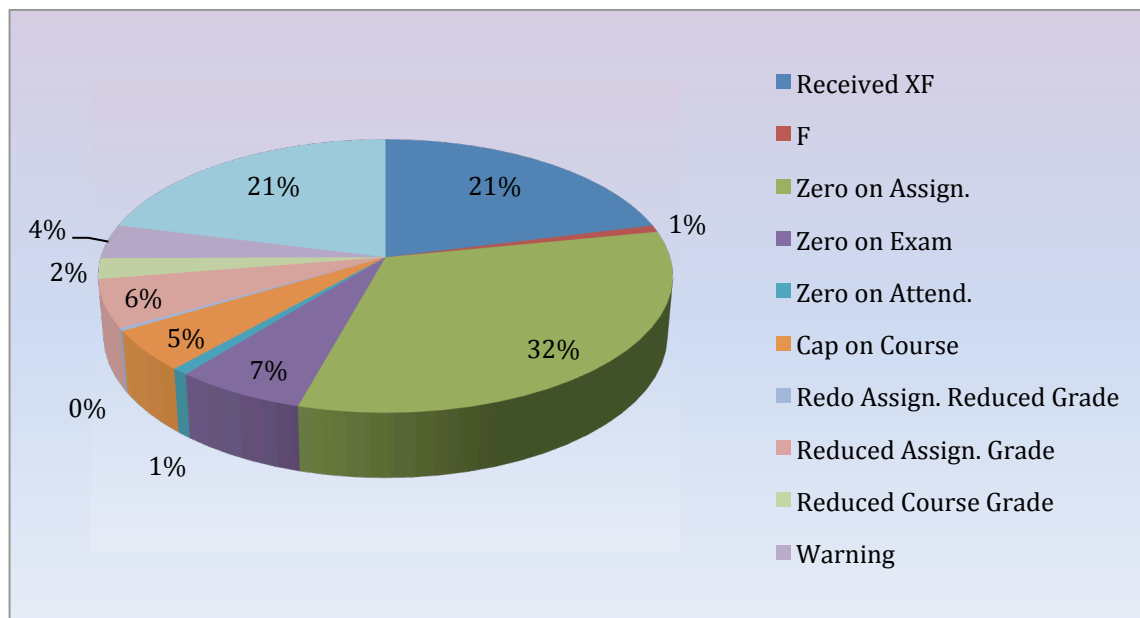


Figure 6. Breakdown of sanctions. An alleged violator may receive more than one sanction. For example, requiring the Development and Integrity Course and issuing an XF are commonly given together.

Multiple Violations

There were 16 students that had previously been reported to the Honor & Integrity System. These students were required to appear before a hearing panel to determine if further sanctions were needed. Almost all of these students received additional sanctions because of having violated the Honor Code multiple times (Expulsion recommendations to Provost: 3, Suspension recommendations to Provost: 1).

In a more unusual situation, three students with multiple Honor Pledge violations received permanent XF grades and two (3rd student suspended) were expelled for soliciting unauthorized aid materials. The situation involved students putting final projects online and bids were solicited to complete the project. Some of the students purchased finished projects from the same online bidder. A representative of the website contacted the course professor when he suspected that it was class projects being bid on.

Educational Presentations

From August, 2012 through July, 2013, the office conducted 43 presentations related to academic integrity and honesty. Through these 43 presentations, 2845 students and 150 faculty/staff were informed of the Honor and Integrity System. These presentations ranged from 10-15 minutes to multiple hour workshops. Dr. Starrett also met with Deans from Engineering, Arts and Sciences, Human Ecology, Business Administration, Technology and Aviation, and the Libraries to discuss related topics.

Development and Integrity Course

During the fall 2012 semester, the Development and Integrity Course continued as an 8 week (meeting twice a week) course. During the first 8-week course, 16 students were enrolled in the face-to-face course offering. All students successfully completed the course. Twelve additional students enrolled in and successfully completed the class during the second eight-weeks of the fall semester. During the second eight weeks, an online component with 8 students (all completing) enrolled.

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During the spring 2013 semester, 24 students enrolled during the first eight weeks (with all successfully completing) and 43 students were enrolled (42 successfully completed) during the second eight weeks face-to-face courses (2 sections). An additional 18 students enrolled (18 completing) in the online component during the second eight weeks of the semester.

The summer session of the Development and Integrity class was delivered in an online format, meeting every day online from May 20-June 6, 2013. Thirty-four students were enrolled in the class.

In summary, during the 2012-2013 academic year, 95 students enrolled in the face-to-face component while 60 enrolled in the online component. Compared to the previous year, 71 students enrolled in the face-to-face offerings and 25 completed the online component in 2011-2012.

Administrative

Two major changes were approved by the Honor Council for immediate implementation:

1. Honor Council Hearing Panels would consist of two faculty/staff members and three students with one of the voting individuals serving as the Chair. This change has worked well, is liked by the Honor Council and has reduced the Hearing Panel load on the Honor Council by 1/6.
2. First time offenders of the Honor Pledge would not be able to be sanctioned with a permanent XF grade. XF grades can now only be issued by an Honor Council Hearing Panel. This improves consistency with this serious sanction and insures the sanction is appropriate when a panel of five Honor Council members issues this sanction.

Another major change is that the Violation Report is now a web form. We hope this reduces some of the burden of submitting an Honor Pledge Violation Report.

Future Activities

Drs. Starrett and Roberts plan to continue usual activities: work with faculty and students on alleged violations, teach the Development and Integrity course, conduct hearings, and work with the Honor Council in reviewing operating guidelines. There are some sizeable units on campus that currently do not have defined representation on the Honor Council (i.e., libraries, Leadership Studies, IT services, DCE). We are considering expanding Honor Council to have individuals from these units participate in the Honor Council. We also plan to visit many departments at both K-State campuses to have a brief update and refresher conversation about the Honor & Integrity System. Dr. Starrett will also be presenting a paper entitled, "Case Studies of Contested Honor Pledge Violations" authored by Drs. Starrett, Roberts and Trey Hill at the 6th Asia Pacific Conference on Educational Integrity in Sydney, Australia in early October.