# KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY HONOR & INTEGRITY SYSTEM Annual Report 2023-2024



Data Collected and Summarized on August 1, 2024

# Summary

As of August 1, 2024, reporters (e.g., faculty, instructors, GTAs) submitted 241 Honor Pledge Violation Reports involving 255 students (248 unique individuals) since August 1, 2023. Of this total, 222 students did not contest the allegation and were found responsible; 5 students still have an open case; 28 students contested alleged violations; and 5 cases are still open. Of the 28 who contested, 5 students' cases were dropped by the professor, 14 were found responsible and 9 not-responsible. The number of students who were found responsible of an Honor Code violation in 2023-2024 is 222 (not contested) + 14 (contested) or 236 students.

Additional data include: cases were predominantly filed as plagiarism (40.19%) followed by unauthorized aid (34.08%), and unauthorized collaboration (12.86%); 75 students were sanctioned to the Development and Integrity course (in comparison to 45 the previous year) and 55 total enrolled during the academic year; and freshmen (30.98%) had the largest percentage of reports followed by sophomore (22.35%), senior (21.57%), junior (17.65 %), and graduate/non degree (7.45%). There were 57 cases reported that directly alleged students used information from GenAI when they were not allowed to.

The honor council heard a total of 25 hearings, 21 case review board hearings and 4 additional sanctioning hearings. Some of the case review board hearings had multiple students involved.

#### Introduction

The purpose of the Honor and Integrity System is to promote academic integrity as a standard expectation within the university community. The Honor and Integrity System pursues this mission through both education and adjudication. Article VI of the Honor and Integrity System Constitution requires the Director to provide an annual report to the Student Senate, Faculty Senate and the Provost and Senior Vice President. This annual report summarizes the activities of the Honor and Integrity System for the 2023-2024 academic year as well as provides a report on the administrative activities of the Director, Honor and Integrity System staff, and volunteer Honor Council during the reporting period.

# **Cases Reported**

Within 2023-2024 academic year, the Honor and Integrity System processed 241 total Honor Pledge Violation Reports (as of August 1, 2024). This figure reflects only the violations officially reported to the system. It does not reflect informal consultation with reporters regarding alleged violations, nor Honor Code violations that faculty reporters choose to handle without recourse to the Honor and Integrity System. Kansas State University does not operate by a mandatory reporting policy for academic dishonesty. Rather, faculty are highly encouraged to

report possible violations so that they and students alike can benefit from established due process and so that students with repeated violations are identified and properly sanctioned as a result.

During the reporting period, 241 cases were processed (Table 1) and 255 students were alleged to have committed Honor Code violations. Not unfrequently, reporters submit cases in which multiple violators are named. The number of cases processed is a function of many factors: faculty discernment and decision making, the number of students associated with a particular case, and fluxuation in the actual (unknown) number of violations. It is as difficult to estimate the number of Honor Code violations that go unreported just as it is difficult to know how many go undetected.

Table 1. Total number of Honor Pledge alleged cases and students reported per academic year in past 10 years.

	Cases	Students
2014-2015	157	190
2015-2016	297	343
2016-2017	150	187
2017-2018	173	230
2018-2019	162	195
2019-2020	349	396
2020-2021	427	491
2021-2022	189	234
2022-2023	138	185
2023-2024	241	255

Reporters who are the primary instructor for the course where the violation occurred have the authority to determine the appropriate sanctions for violating the Honor Code (Option 1 on Violation Report). Reporters determined the sanctions (Option 1 Case) for over 99% of the students identified as alleged violators. Reporters may also, however, request that the Honor and Integrity System determine if the Honor Code has been violated and, if so, appropriate sanctions (Option 2). Approximately 89% (80% in 2022-2023) of all reported students did not contest the violation report. Twenty-eight students contested alleged violations. Of these, nine were found not responsible (see Table 2).

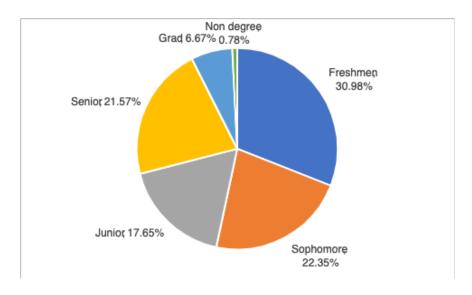
Table 2. Breakdown of Total Students Reported

Total Students Reported		
Contested - Found Responsible		
Contested - Found Not Responsible		
Not Contested		
Dropped		
Still Open		
Total Students Reported		

# **Alleged Violator Demographics**

Alleged violators were relatively spread between the undergraduate classes during the 2023-2024 academic year.

Figure 1. Classification of Reported Students (255 students total)



# **College Demographics**

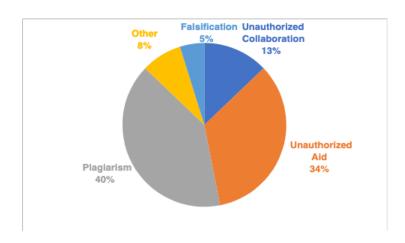
Table 3: College classification for Reporters (number is number of students reported)

Reporter's College (Individual Students)	
Agriculture	
Architecture, Planning, and Design	
Arts and Sciences	
Business Administration	
Education	
Engineering	
Health and Human Sciences	
Salina Campus	
Leadership Studies	
Veterinary Med (Not Vet Med Class)	
Olathe Campus	

### **Details about Violations**

The most common violations were plagiarism and unauthorized aid (Figure 2). This was a shift from unauthorized collaboration from previous years. It is suspected that the increase in GenAl related cases (57 cases) caused the increase to unauthorized aid and maintenance of plagiarism.

Figure 2 – Types of violations reported. *Plagiarism (40%): Copying the work of others and presenting it as original. Unauthorized collaboration (13%): Giving or receiving answers.*Unauthorized Aid (34%): Consulting unapproved resources. Falsification (5%): Submitting work under false pretenses. Other (8%): Any other academic dishonesty.



#### **Details about Sanctions**

Sanction(s) issued by reporters ranged from an XF to a verbal warning (Figure 3). Multiple sanctions are commonplace (e.g., zero on assignment plus required enrollment in the Development and Integrity course).

Figure 3. Breakdown of sanctions for students found responsible (does not include pending cases nor multiple violation sanctions). Student may be assigned more than one sanction.



#### **Multiple Violations**

Multiple violators (as long as the second or subsequent violation is not in the same class during the same semester) are required to appear before a 5-member Honor Council panel called an Additional Sanctioning Hearing (ASH). During the 2023-2024 academic year, 7 students chose to violate the honor pledge more than one time during their tenure at K-State. At the time of this report, four hearings had been held. The hearings resulted in a combination of additional sanctions including permanent XFs, requirement to take the Development and Integrity course, using campus resources such as the writing center and academic coaching, and also no additional sanctions.

#### **Educational Presentations**

Educational presentations continued this academic year both via zoom and in person. A recorded presentation was also made available for faculty to use in their "classrooms". The office still encourages faculty members to have me come to their classes to share information about the Honor and Integrity System as a reminder to all levels of students. Presentations can be requested to be any length (5 minutes up to the entire class period).

# **Development and Integrity Course**

During Fall 2023, 15 students completed the Development and Integrity course. Spring 2024 had 28 students and then the summer session in 2024 had 12 students. In total 55 students took the class this past academic year.

#### **Honor Council**

The Honor Council cannot be commended enough for their work during 2023-2024. They heard a total of 25 hearings over the year with several hearings having multiple students involved. The hearings this year were hybrid with some joining via zoom and some in joining in person.

#### **Professional Activities**

During the 2023-2024 academic year, Dr. Camilla Roberts completed her fourth and final full year as President of the International Center of Academic Integrity (ICAI). She transitioned in March 2024 to president emeritus and has been serving as a transition leader for the association as it has transitioned to a new association management company. She was also asked to make multiple in person and virtual presentations and presented various webinars for educators around the world. During the 2024-2025 academic year she will be serving as an invited faculty member for the AAC&U Institute on AI, Pedagogy, and the Curriculum.

#### Office Administration

During the 2023-2024 academic year, the Honor & Integrity System had a graduate student during the entire year. The GA taught the development and integrity course. The office also continues the collaboration with the Office for Student Support and Accountability with student workers.

In summer of 2023 it was announced that the Honor and Integrity System would be transitioning away from the Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness in connection with the Next Gen Strategic Plan. On October 1, 2023, the Honor and Integrity System transitioned officially be under the Office for Student Support and Accountability which falls under Division of Academic Success and Student Affairs (DASSA). It has been during this past summer (July 2024) that financial and timekeeping has transitioned to DASSA.