

Date: November 9, 2020

From: Chuck Taber, Provost and Executive Vice President

To: University Leadership and Faculty

RE: Promoting Academic Integrity in the Classroom

Dear Faculty,

As we all progress toward the final portion of this challenging fall semester, we recognize the stress created by the implementation of multiple classroom modalities not only for faculty but students as well. One specific area of concern has been the Honor and Integrity process, which has experienced an increase in the number of cases under review this semester. It is clear that there is confusion among some students concerning how to navigate the myriad of digital assignments and differing collaboration expectations across the classes. While some have not made good choices, we want to assure that we minimize confusion and point students to helpful resources.

As you prepare for the remainder of the semester, please consider implementing some of the following practices in your classes, whether in person, hybrid, or online (from Dr. Camilla Roberts, director of the Honor and Integrity Office):

- Review your expectations on proper and improper collaboration on assignments or tests
- Talk to your students about the importance of honor and integrity
- Talk to your students about the challenges of digital learning and how access to technology can create ethical dilemmas in their learning process
- Plan for and announce your regular student hours/office hours and let students know that they can discuss any questions that they have on assignments with you
- Make yourself available to students during especially stressful points in time during the semester, such as during a high-stakes assignment or prior to a major assessment.

The Honor and Integrity office has many resources and tips on their [website](#) for students and faculty. Please encourage your students to access the resources available.

In addition, Dr. Roberts recently presented a workshop on “Maintaining Academic Integrity in All Classroom Environments” as part of the Teaching and Learning Center’s (TLC) professional development series. This presentation is available for viewing on the [TLC website](#).

In the longer run, as you prepare for the spring 2021 semester, please consider enrolling in the Online Course Design Institute or viewing the many training resources available on the [Keep Teaching website](#). The [Teaching and Learning Center](#) is also available to assist you in any way they can. As we move toward the spring, we want to continue to improve the quality of our online learning experiences for students.

I truly appreciate all that you are doing during this difficult time. Thank you for your commitment to high quality teaching and learning at K-State.

Chuck

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