

**Minutes for Meeting on Feb. 17, 2017  
Academic Integrity Committee (AIC) 2017-2018**

**Members/Attendees:**

ATTENDING

Bonnie Weston – OSI  
\*Lori Critz – Library  
\*Jeff Davis – ECE (Chair)  
Paul Foster – FEB Liaison  
Dallas Flint - OSI  
Andrew Lawrence - OSI  
William Leahy - COC  
David Smith - COC

Lekha Surasani -Undergrad  
Lindsey Eidson -Undergrad  
NOT ATTENDING  
Jake Soper – Chem & BioChem  
(Chair Student Honor Committee)  
\*Joel Sokol – IsyE

**Room:** Klaus 2100

**Time:** 12-1pm

**Discussion Items:**

I. Review and vote on minutes from the last meeting.

Minutes were approved.

II. Statistics from the Office of Student Integrity (OSI) (Bonnie Weston)

OSI gave a great comparison of the trends in academic reporting cases. For this year, it appears that the college of engineering and college of computing have a closer number of cases. Bonnie Weston made the point that a lot of students go through the College of Computing, which also inflates their numbers.

One alarming trend was the increase in cheating cases reported in Master's level classes (esp. the online Master's program). Last year, CS6505 had 69 (#1 spot) cases and CS6250 had 38 cases (#3 spot). This year CS6476 had 16 (#2 spot) cases and CS7637 5 (#3 spot) and CS8803 had 8 cases (#5 spot).

III. Discussion of College of Computing Methods to Identify Academic Misconduct  
(Prof. David Smith and Prof. Bill Leahy)

The committee was very appreciative of David Smith and Bill Leahy agreeing to speak at our meeting about cheating cases in their classes. They discussed the methodologies that they both used to detect academic misconduct. Many of the in-house tools they use were developed by previous TAs for the class. Both professors emphasized that they use the tools to flag programs; however, they then evaluate

each case by hand to determine if cheating has occurred. One tool that they use is MOSS (Measure of Software Similarity), but they have others that they use as well.

Prof. Smith indicated that the approach in CS1371 is one of prevention. Subsequently, he has put more emphasis on the tests than the homeworks. Homework assignments only account for 15% of the grade so that there is not high pressure for students to cheat. Also, if people cheat on the homeworks they typically fail the test and get the just reward of their dishonest actions.

Also, CS1371 typically has 1 undergraduate TA for each 25 students. They have students demo and explain their code directly to the TAs. The TA will also get a soft copy of the code and run it through a program like MOSS.

They primarily have eliminated cheating on tests by having multiple copies of a test to make sure that no two tests are "sitting" next to each other.

The percentage of similarity that is used to flag student submissions is a little arbitrary, but they use this only to flag programs. Once flagged, the professors or TAs will look at the two programs to make a decision if plagiarism has occurred.

Dr. Leahy has moved to use more Faculty Conflict Resolutions, and has had good success. Typically, the students will confess that they copied the code if confronted by the professor. He made the comment that FCRs are especially appropriate with plagiarism cases because there has to be a level of competency in programming to assess cheating. Students may be able to fool OSI if they are not well versed in programming.

#### IV. Honor Advisory Council (HAC) Climate Survey (Dallas Flint and Lekha Surasani)

Honor Advisory Committee is putting together a survey for students to determine how much cheating occurs on campus, AND to see if students understand what plagiarism is and do they know where resources are.

#### V. Workload Discussion of the Student Honor Committee (Jake Soper)

The workload has increased. It is still unclear if these committees should be merged.

#### VI. New chair for next year

Lori Critz was nominated to be the chair for next year.

#### VII. Other issues?

Lindsey Eidson indicated that part of the integrity education to students needs to focus on emphasizing that people should not share their code. Some students think it is okay and that they should not be punished if they did the work themselves. She indicated that some students feel that letting someone copy from them is not a violation of the honor code.