



The University of Georgia

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March 29, 2007

Dr. Susan Mattern-Parkes, Chair
Executive Committee
University Council
327 LeConte Hall
Campus

Dear Dr. Mattern-Parkes:

At the March 26, 2007 meeting of the Educational Affairs Committee, the members approved and voted to forward the attached revision to the University's academic honesty policy to the Executive Committee of University Council for consideration and placement on the April 24, 2007 Council agenda.

If you have questions concerning this item, please feel free to call (706) 542-3117 or contact me by email at wvencill@uga.edu.

Sincerely,

William K. Vencill, Chair
Educational Affairs Committee

WKV/dcb
attachment

c. Ms. Rebecca Macon, Registrar

RATIONALE FOR REVISION TO A CULTURE OF HONESTY (www.uga.edu/honesty):

The University's academic honesty policy, *A Culture of Honesty*, now requires that a student who violates the honesty policy a second or subsequent time shall receive a dishonesty transcript notation and be permanently removed (expelled) from UGA.

Currently, to allow for an unbiased educational discussion, an instructor who reports such a student is not told in advance about the previous violation. If the student reveals the information about the previous violation, instructors have expressed concern that the emotional aspects of being a part of a conversation about the end of a student's academic career is difficult and negates the importance of discussing the violation that occurred in the instructor's course. If the student acknowledges the additional violation, the facilitator informs the participants (instructor and student) that the University's sanction is expulsion and the transcript notation. The only part of the agreement about the sanction left to the instructor and student is the student's course grade. On a number of occasions, instructors have dismissed clear violations to avoid the student's expulsion. This is certainly not the message the University wants to give students about academic integrity and the University's expectations, yet it is an understandable response when an instructor is faced with the knowledge that the student's academic career at UGA will end.

The following proposal for a change in *A Culture of Honesty* would allow an instructor and student (with a previous violation) to determine a sanction appropriate for the violation that occurred in that instructor's course (determined without regard to the imposition of a penalty for multiple violations). The penalty for multiple violations would be separately determined by a Board consisting of two faculty members and one student (Multiple Violations Review Board). This proposal provides the Board with a menu of progressively more serious sanctions to be imposed as the Board deems appropriate – some of these sanctions would allow the student to complete a University of Georgia degree after a period of absence from the University.

PROPOSED CHANGE IN A CULTURE OF HONESTY RELATED TO SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS :

Level 1 – Facilitated Discussion:

The instructor and student will meet (Facilitated Discussion) and have all of the same options for resolution as a student reported for a 1st violation – including reaching an agreement about a sanction for the violation that occurred in that instructor's course (determined without regard to the imposition of a penalty for multiple violations). This process allows the instructor and student to discuss the incident and agree upon a sanction appropriate for that particular violation. A separate panel (see below) then determines an appropriate sanction for the fact that multiple violations have occurred.

Sanction(s): Determined by instructor & student

Level 2 – Continued Discussion:

If the instructor and student did not reach an agreement in Level 1, an Academic Honesty Panel will meet with the student and instructor to determine if a violation occurred and if so the appropriate sanction for the violation.

Sanctions: "O" on assignment(s) in question and at least one of the following minimums: 1. "F" in course, 2. Dishonesty transcript notation, 3. Suspension, 4. Dismissal, or 4. Expulsion. (Panel may assign additional sanctions.) If the Panel determines that extraordinary circumstances warrant the imposition of a sanction less than one of the minimums, a detailed rationale must be provided to the Office of the Vice President for Instruction, the instructor, and the student.

Level 3 – Multiple Violations Review Board:

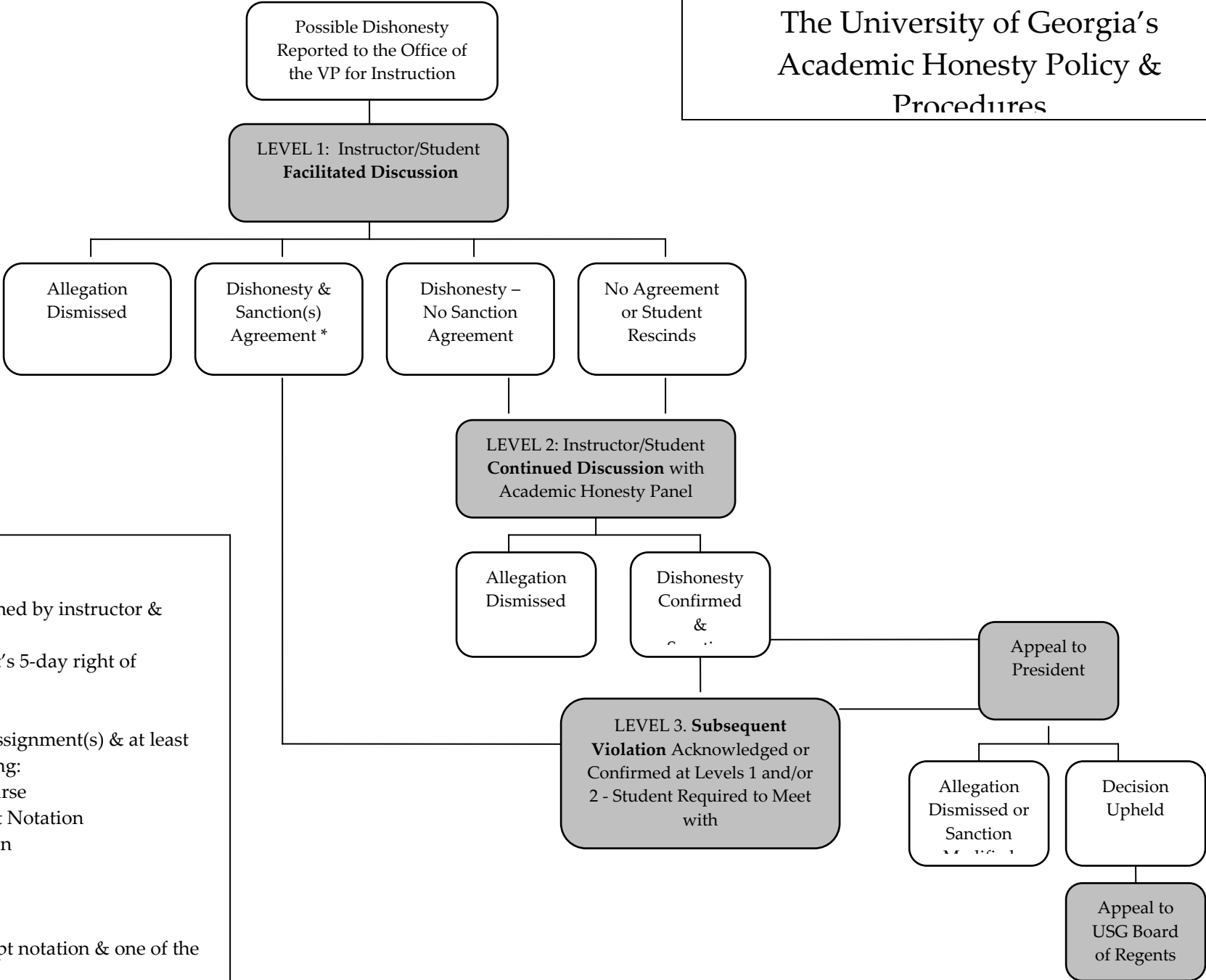
After the Facilitated Discussion and/or Continued Discussion, the student and coordinator of academic honesty will meet with the Multiple Violations Review Board to determine the consequence(s) for the multiple violations.

Sanctions: Dishonesty transcript notation and one of the following: 1. Suspension, 2. Dismissal, 3. Expulsion. (Board may assign additional sanctions.) If the Board determines that extraordinary circumstances warrant the imposition of a sanction less than one of the minimums, a detailed rationale must be provided to the Office of the Vice President for Instruction and the student.

Appeals:

A student who has been suspended, dismissed or expelled from the University or whose degree has been revoked may appeal the decision and consequence to the President of the University (or his/her designee).

**“A Culture of Honesty”
The University of Georgia’s
Academic Honesty Policy &
Procedures**



*** Sanctions:**

Level 1 – Determined by instructor & student (subject to student’s 5-day right of rescission)

Level 2 – “0” on assignment(s) & at least one of the following:

- “F” in course
- Transcript Notation
- Suspension
- Dismissal
- Expulsion

Level 3 – Transcript notation & one of the following: