# Academic Integrity Subcommittee

## Minutes of the Meeting of November 4, 2021

Meeting held from 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Present

Members: Brian Frank (Engineering), Johanne Benard (Arts and Science), Laura Devenny (AMS), Klodiana Kolomitro (Chair), Cheryl Pulling (School of Nursing),

Observers: Lavonne Hood (Ombudperson), Jacob Marinelli (AMS)

Guests: Melissa Seal (Legal Counsel), Claire O’Brien (VPTL Office)

Regrets: Lon Knox, University Secretary

Secretary: Matt Rahimian (VPTL Office)

The chair acknowledged our presence on traditional lands of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples.

There was a round of introduction. The chair mentioned that we might reduce the meeting time to one hour in future.

1. Agreement on Agenda

It was agreed that the agenda should proceed as circulated.

1. Agreement on Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of April 22, 2021, were agreed as circulated.

3. Chair’s report

Klodiana Kolomitro reported that the [Academic Integrity Procedures – Requirements of Faculties & Schools](https://www.queensu.ca/secretariat/policies/senate/academic-integrity-procedures-requirements-faculties-schools) was approved at the last senate meeting. She explained that an amendment to delegate the AI departures to the faculties and schools was moved and failed. The approval of the Academic Integrity Procedure was a major milestone. There is a need for further education and resource development. She thanked the AI Subcommittee members for the work and support in revising the procedures document.

Next, the chair reported on the Requirement to Withdraw numbers. There have been three cases, two of them had a prior departure and one did not have a prior departure.

There was a question on a shared resource, which was the guide for the academic integrity section on the QUQAP self-study. The chair explained that. The idea of developing educational resources was supported by the AISC members.

Next, the chair reported on the annual AI departure cases with a quick overview of the five-year trend in annual departures from academic integrity. There was a question on why the information about international students is not collected. The chair explained that we look into that. (This question was investigated and the VPTL Office realized that there has been ample discussion on whether or not to collect international students’ AI departures. The answer was not to collect such data).

Next, members commented on their recent observations of academic integrity initiatives and challenges. There is some brief information-sharing during student orientations on academic integrity. Academic Integrity is a continuous subject. It has been impacted by COVID 19 challenges. The pandemic has made upholding academic integrity more challenging. Online learning is challenging for many students and more preventative measures are needed to safeguard academic integrity.

Next, Dr. Rahimian reported on the Academic Integrity Campaign that was launched in Fall 2021. It was a social media campaign and reached out to over 2000 individuals.

Next, there were some additional comments on collecting data on international students. Academic integrity investigations are more stressful for international students than domestic students. More proactive measures are needed to promote academic integrity. There was an additional comment that we need to provide more support for international students to familiarize them with our academic integrity norms and practices. More importantly, for providing that support, there is little need for collecting data on them. Additionally, collaborations among various unites are necessary to ensure an effective education on academic integrity for the students.

The next item on the agenda was the Academic Integrity Subcommittee Terms of Reference. There were a few minor concerns that will be addressed in the ToR.

Then, the chair asked about AI priorities. promoting academic integrity during exams was the first priority mentioned. Next, the idea of embedding a culture of academic integrity at the university was suggested. The involvement of various stakeholders, such as student groups, is necessary for effective culture-change practice.

The committee secretary will share the final version of the Terms of Reference, the educational resources developed to promote academic integrity, and other meeting follow-up material with the committee members via email for feedback and comments.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.