

Adopted: March 10, 1987  
Revision Adopted: May 24, 1988

ACADEMIC SENATE  
OF  
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY  
San Luis Obispo, California

AS-246-87/SA&FBC

Revised RESOLUTION ON  
CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

Background: On January 22, 1986, The Academic Senate Chair asked the Fairness Board and Student Affairs Committees to review campus policies on cheating and plagiarism. The Fairness Board of 1985-86 and 1986-87 worked on a proposal which was brought forth jointly with the Student Affairs Committee and which was passed by the Academic Senate in Spring 1987. The President returned the proposal (unsigned) on June 15, 1987 with comments prepared by G. Irvin. After additional deliberations by the current Fairness Board, a meeting between Board representatives and G. Irvin took place (January 1988) in preparation of a new policy proposal. The new proposal incorporates that which is important to the administration within a policy which is supported by the Fairness Board and is similar to the policy approved by the Academic Senate last year.

WHEREAS, The present CAM policy on cheating is extremely short and lacks definition;  
and

~~WHEREAS, / / / There are differences from department to department regarding the / / / definition and handling of cheating offenses; and~~

WHEREAS, It would be desirable to add further language regarding plagiarism to the CAM policy; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the present guidelines on cheating (CAM 674) ~~be modified as outlined below~~ be fully replaced with the following :

674 ~~Cheating~~ Academic Dishonesty: Cheating and Plagiarism

The University will not condone academic cheating or plagiarism in any form. The faculty is expected to uphold and support the highest academic standards in this matter. Instructors should be diligent in reducing potential opportunities for academic cheating and plagiarism to occur.

674.1 Definition of Cheating

Cheating is defined as obtaining or attempting to obtain, or aiding another to obtain credit for work, or any improvement in evaluation of performance, by any dishonest or deceptive means. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: lying; copying from another's test or examination; discussion of answers or ~~ideas relating to the answers~~ questions on an examination or test, unless such discussion is specifically authorized by the instructor; taking or receiving copies of an

exam without the permission of the instructor; using or displaying notes, "cheat sheets," or other information devices inappropriate to the prescribed test conditions; allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent same.

674.2

Policy on Cheating

Cheating requires an "F" course grade and further attendance in the course is prohibited. However, if a student appeals the charge of cheating, s/he shall be permitted to remain in the class through the appeals process. The instructor is obligated to place evidence of the cheating in writing before the Dean of Student Affairs with copies to the department head of the course involved, to the student, and to the department head of the student's major. Physical evidence, circumstantial evidence, and testimony of observation may be included. Said memorandum should notify the student that if he or she denies cheating an appeal is possible through the Fairness Board once the department head of the course of record has been consulted regarding the appeal. Instructors should be confident that cheating has occurred; if there is any doubt, the student should be consulted and/or additional information sought prior to taking action for cheating. Students' rights shall be ensured through attention to due process.

*Instructors should be diligent in reducing potential opportunities for cheating to occur. /*

*In the event that the Dean of Students identifies a student to be guilty of more than one cheating offense, this shall be considered sufficient cause for the initiation of disciplinary action.*

The Dean of Student Affairs shall determine if any disciplinary action is required in addition to the assignment of a failing grade. Disciplinary actions which are possible include, but are not limited to: required special counseling, special paper or research assignments, loss of student teaching or research appointments, loss of membership in organizations, suspension or dismissal from individual programs or from the University. The most severe of these possible actions shall be reserved for grievous cheating offenses or more than one offense by an individual.

674.3

Definition of Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as the act of using the ideas or work of another person or persons as if they were one's own, without giving proper credit to the source. Such an act is not plagiarism if it is ascertained that the ideas were arrived at through independent reasoning or logic or where the thought or idea is common knowledge.

Acknowledgement of an original author or source must be made through appropriate references; i.e., quotation marks, footnotes, or commentary. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following: the submission of a work, either in part or in whole, completed by another; failure to give credit for ideas, statements, facts or conclusions which rightfully belong to another; failure to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another, whether it be a paragraph, a sentence, or even a part thereof; close and lengthy paraphrasing of another's writing ~~or programing / without credit or originality~~ without credit or originality; use of another's project or program or part thereof without giving credit .

674.4

Policy on Plagiarism. Plagiarism may be considered a form of cheating and therefore subject to the same policy ~~described in Section 674.3 above~~ which requires notification of the Dean of Student Affairs and includes possible disciplinary action (See 674.2) . However, as there may be a ~~fine line between plagiarism and editorship with poor attention to format, some instructor discretion is appropriate~~ technical plagiarism which is the result of poor learning or poor attention to format, and may occur without any intent to deceive, some instructor discretion is appropriate. Under such circumstances, notification of the Dean of Student Affairs is not required . In the event of plagiarism, A n instructor may choose to counsel the student and offer a remedy (within his/her authority) which is less severe than that required for cheating, providing there was no obvious intent to deceive. However, an instructor may not penalize a student for plagiarism in any way without advising the student that a penalty has been imposed . The instructor should further advise that a n appeal is possible through the Fairness Board, once the department head has been consulted regarding the appeal. Instructors should be confident that plagiarism has occurred. If there is any doubt, the student should be consulted and/or additional information sought prior to taking action for plagiarism. Students' rights shall be ensured through attention to due process .

Proposed By:  
Student Affairs Committee/  
Fairness Board Committee  
February 17, 1987  
Revised May 3, 1988

# Memorandum

RECEIVED

OCT 5 1988

CAL POLY  
SAN LUIS OBISPO  
CA 93407


To : Charles Andrews, Chair  
Academic Senate

Academic Senate

Date : October 3, 1988

File No.:

Copies : Malcolm Wilson  
Hazel Scott (w/att)

From :   
Warren J. Baker  
President

Subject: ACADEMIC SENATE RESOLUTION ON CHEATING  
AND PLAGIARISM (AS-246-87/SA&FBC)

In June, Charles Crabb forwarded to me the subject resolution adopted by the Academic Senate. Based upon an opportunity to review the revised resolution during the summer by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, I am pleased to approve the Academic Senate resolution.

CC: George Beardsley 10.24.88