

Academic Integrity Task Force
March 18, 2010 Meeting Minutes
10-11 am

Members Attending: Paige Crandall, Ken Gerhardt, Angela Linder, Chris Loschiavo, Sara Mock, Heidi Radunovich, Paul Robinson (student representative), Paul Sindelar, Steve Hagen (via conference phone), and Stephanie Hanson (transcriber)

Guests: Provost Joe Glover; Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Jack Mecholsky (both to provide the charge); Dr. Bernard Mair (associate provost for undergraduate affairs)

Items Addressed

1. **Charge to the Task Force** - Provost Glover and Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Jack Mecholsky provided the charge, which included three overall questions:

- a. Is there a problem with academic integrity at UF?
- b. If yes to (a), are there localized pockets of concerns (e.g. individual colleges and/or level of students) or general systems issues?
- c. Can we characterize these issues? In doing so, consider the actions of the faculty and staff, and how they might contribute to or detract from a culture fostering academic integrity. Provide recommendations regarding the issues discovered.

We were advised to focus on the recommendations and not on the implementation of these recommendations. Provost Glover provided assurance that the appropriate UF administrative personnel would work to manage the logistics and implement any recommendations accepted. We were further encouraged to consider both short and long-term recommendations. Dr. Glover informed the task force that he has drafted a policy for proctoring exams, which has been discussed with the deans thus far. This policy draft could serve as one point of reference if we make any recommendations regarding cheating.

2. **Task Force Leadership** – Dr. Glover appointed Dr. Hanson as task force chair. Dr. Hanson requested that a co-chair be selected, and she was given permission to select a co-chair prior to the next meeting.

3. **Meeting Schedule**

- a. **Decision:** It was the consensus of task force members present that the task force would strive to initially meet biweekly. The following meeting schedule has been set:
 - i. **Scheduled Meetings: April 2, April 16, and May 7, 2010**
 - ii. All meetings will be held from 2:00-3:30 pm.
- b. **Action:** Dr. Hanson will e-mail task force members with the location of the next meeting.

4. **Elements of Problem Identification**

- a. **Discussion:**

- i. We initiated a discussion of how to define the first question cited above. We identified several components that affect academic integrity for which we might want to survey faculty and students that overlap charges 1 and 2 cited above. These include, but are not limited to:
 - Faculty and student definitions of what constitutes academic dishonesty
 - Faculty and student understanding of relevant policies and codes
 - Faculty and student understanding and use of new technologies that might contribute to (or combat) poor academic integrity
 - Current student approaches to violating the honor code
 - Faculty methods for facilitating academic integrity among students
 - Faculty use of or reluctance to use current honor code violation procedures
 - ii. We agreed it would be helpful to review both internal and external information (from other universities in particular) to assist us in our initial work.
- b. Actions for Task Force Members prior to the next Meeting**
- i. Chris Loschiavo will check to see if he has a copy of a specific survey regarding academic integrity that was used by another institution. He will also contact the president of the Ambassadors for Civility and Ethics, a student organization who has expressed interest in assisting the task force, to invite her to the next meeting.
 - ii. Paige Crandall will organize relevant questions from SERU for task force distribution at the next meeting.
 - iii. Heidi Radunovich will e-mail task force members a copy of research she conducted regarding student behavior in her college.
 - iv. Task force members agreed to review Dr. Radunovich's article in addition to materials handed out at the meeting, including a recent Chronicle of Higher Education article (*Plagiarism Prevention Without Fear*, January 26, 2010), Mercury News.com report on cheating at Stanford, *Facilitating Academic Honesty* policy from the UF College of Nursing, and prevention tips from the UF College of Engineering.
 - v. Angela Linder will circulate a copy of or a link to her Faculty Senate presentation regarding academic dishonesty.
 - vi. Bernard Mair will e-mail members not in attendance the materials handed out at the meeting and circulate the membership list to all members.
 - vii. Stephanie Hanson will follow up to appoint a co-chair; she will also query Marie Zeglen regarding whether there have been any AAU questions regarding academic integrity, per the suggestion of Dr. Gerhardt.
 - viii. If task force members identify other relevant material, members in attendance agreed to share this throughout the task force process.

NEXT MEETING: April 2, 2010, 2:00-3:30 pm, location TBA