

The Honor Newsletter

May 2016 - Issue No. 10

Welcome to The Honor Newsletter! This twice-a-semester update is your one-stop-shop for all things Honor.

I. Honor Audit Commission

In response to the outcome of this year's University-wide vote on Honor's sanctioning policies, as well as the heightened level of discussion about the Honor system at the University in recent years, the Honor Committee is currently forming an Honor Audit Commission. Beginning this summer, this commission will plan and carry out a comprehensive, external review of the Honor system over the next two academic years. Comprised of students, faculty, administrators, and alumni, the Audit Commission will evaluate sanctioning, the Honor case process, and the Honor Committee's engagement with the University community, ultimately recommending steps the Committee can take to function more effectively. The Audit Commission will work closely with the student body to help the Honor Committee better fulfill its responsibility to represent the interests and needs of our community.

II. Final Exam Events

Newcomb Ballroom Open Study Hours: 5/4, 5/8, and 5/11 from 7-10pm. Snacks and supplies will be provided!

Food in Libraries: There will be Campus Cookies on 5/4 at 9pm, and we will pass out Duck Donuts at 11am on 5/8.

Exam Tabling: outside of the major exam halls on 5/5 (1-2 pm) and 5/6 (5:30-7pm).

Clemons Tabling: every day between 5/5-5/12. The weekday shifts will be from 7:30- 10 pm, and the weekend shift will be from 12:00pm-3:00pm. Honor supplies and blue books will be provided!

First-Year S'mores: 5/6 outside of O'Hill Forum from 5:30pm-8:30 pm. Come with questions about Honor!

Mindfulness/Meditation Sessions: in Clemons library on 5/7, 5/8, and 5/9 from 7-10 pm. Come use this space to "de-stress" during exams!

Bagels and Bluebooks: in front of Clark Hall on 5/10 from 10:30-2pm.

III. Outreach News

Honorable Mention

The Honorable Mention initiative encourages the community to recognize deeds that further foster a Community of Trust. We hope that students will begin to submit Honorable Mentions to expand the narrative of Honorâ€™s impact on the University. The Executive Committee will review submissions on a bi-weekly basis and selected students will be recognized for their positive contribution to our community. We hope this effort promotes the ideal that every student is a part of the Honor system. Please do not limit the scope of what you believe worthy of recognition; it could range from caring for a friend in need to returning someoneâ€™s lost ID. [You can nominate peers here.](#)

Honor Loans

The Ivey F. Lewis Honor Loan is a short-term loan for full-time students (graduate and undergraduate) in need of emergency aid. All loans are interest-free with a maximum loan amount of \$600. Visit the Dean of Students Office in Peabody Hall or call 924-7133 to make an appointment.

IV. Case Processing Updates

CR: The Honor System permits a student to atone for his or her mistakes by filing a Conscientious Retraction (CR). A valid and complete CR involves the admission of a possible Honor Offense before the student has reason to believe that such offense has come under suspicion by anyone.

IR: The Informed Retraction (IR) permits a student to atone for his or her mistakes after an Honor Report has been made. An IR is predicated on a student taking responsibility for the commission of an Honor Offense and making amends with all affected parties. A student must then take a two-semester leave of absence from the University.

CR: In February, a student submitted a CR for lying about a timestamp to avoid a grade deduction.

IR: In February, a student submitted an IR for plagiarizing on a creative

writing assignment.

IR: In February, a student submitted an IR for lying about attendance in a class.

IR: In February, a student submitted an IR for cheating on a final exam through unauthorized collaboration.

IR: In February, a student submitted an IR for using unauthorized materials in completing a homework assignment.

IR: In February, a student submitted an IR for cheating on a final exam by attempting to look at the exam of his neighbor.

CR: In March, a student submitted a CR for cheating on a take-home midterm by using unauthorized aid.

IR: In April, a student submitted an Informed Retraction for cheating on a homework assignment by using unauthorized sources.

V. Honor Hearings

Two public summaries of hearings have become publishable since the previous newsletter.

Note: All public summaries are written using the masculine gender for purposes of confidentiality.

A student in the College of Arts & Sciences was accused of Cheating on a midterm exam in a Religion course by pre-writing answers in the test booklet he brought with him into the exam. The case was reported by the professor. The Community argued that the student had previously prepared answers to the exam questions, which were provided in advance, and that the student entered the test with these responses in hand. The Accused Student argued that the evidence indicative of pre-written answers in exam in question was a part of his particular method of writing and organizing his exam. A panel of randomly-selected students and Honor Committee members found the Accused Student **not guilty** on the basis of Act and Knowledge.

A student in the McIntire School of Commerce was accused of Cheating on a final project. The case was reported by a student. The Community argued that any instance of copying material without proper attribution was cheating. The Accused Student argued that he was unaware of the requirement to use original content due to the unclear policies throughout the course. A panel of

randomly-selected students founded the Accused Student **not guilty** on the basis of Act and Knowledge.

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