

HONOR COMMITTEE MEETING

March 1, 2020

- I. ROLL CALL**
- II. COMMUNITY INPUT**
 - A. None.
- III. OFFICER REPORTS**
 - A. Vice Chair for Community Relations** (Lucy Krasker)
 - 1. None.
 - B. Vice Chair for Education** (Mary Beth Barksdale)
 - 1. Low voter turnout. Will be asking newly elected representatives to come up with education ideas prior
 - C. Vice Chair for Investigations** (Sally Greenberg)
 - 1. Potential I-Panel upcoming.
 - D. Vice Chair for Hearings** (Alex Spratley)
 - 1. None.
 - E. Chair** (Lillie Lyon)
 - 1. Low turnout means that neither of the two Honor referenda passed, though majority of those voting were in favor of both.
 - 2. Need to continue to find representatives to fill vacancies for next year's Honor Committee for schools where students did not run.
 - 3. Newly elected Committee will be meeting at retreat on weekend of March 23rd to select next year's Executive Committee.
- IV. SUBCOMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP REPORTS**
 - A. Policies & Procedures Subcommittee** (Committee Co-Chair: Stephen Paul)
 - 1. Will write report on appeals process for next Committee to discuss, insufficient time to debate and pass any changes this term.
 - B. Faculty & TA Advisory Committee** (Committee Co-Chair: Lucian Mirra)
 - 1. None.
 - C. Investigative Procedures Working Group** (Chair: Sally Greenberg)
 - 1. Continuing to meet with support officers on investigative procedures. No new updates.
 - D. Joint Cases Working Group** (Co-Chairs: Elizabeth Thompson and Todd Truesdale)
 - 1. No new updates – work upcoming after spring break.
- V. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**
 - A. ARCH: Vacancies filled for next year's Committee.
 - B. BATT: None.
 - C. CLAS: None.
 - D. COMM: None.

- E. EDUC: One elected Committee representative, seeking someone for unfilled representative role.
- F. GBUS: None.
- G. GSAS: None.
- H. LAW: None.
- I. MED: Elections starting tomorrow for MED Honor representatives, have enough candidates to fill spots.
- J. NURS: One elected Committee representative, seeking someone for unfilled representative role.
- K. SCPS: None.
- L. SEAS: One elected Committee representative, seeking someone for unfilled representative role.
Working with Engineering Student Council.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. By-law Proposal: Definition of Lying

1. LAW TT proposes language as follows: “Lying” shall mean the misrepresentation of one or more facts in order to gain a benefit or harm another person, where the actor knows or should know that the misrepresentation will be relied upon by another person. Lying shall not include “social lies.” Social lies are defined as non-academic, non-professional, non-institutional, or purely interpersonal misrepresentations of fact.
2. This definition is meant to exclude social lies or purely interpersonal matters which are unrelated to the University and have no relation to academics or University organizations.
3. LAW SP asks why “or” is used in the last sentence instead of “and.” This may make the category of social lies overly broad. LAW TT agrees to change the conjunction to “and.”
4. Chair LL says there are two criteria for defining lies under Honor: how connected the lie is to UVA as an institution and how trivial or nontrivial the lie might be. Chair LL states that we are seeking to exclude trivial social lies that are not related to UVA. She points out that some social lies might be very significant that are not directly related to UVA as institution but still cause significant harm to another student. It is likely too difficult to come up with a standard for triviality within the definition of lying which would not overlap with significance as a criterion of guilt, which would be prospective judgement on the significance of the case.
5. VCE MB suggests adding to the definition a level of discretion where social lies that are potentially very significant could override exclusion or still be considered by Honor. LAW TT states that his definition is meant to hone in on what kinds of lies affect the community of trust versus what kinds of lies are too trivial or unrelated to UVA to waste the time of Honor.
6. VCH AS states that she is potentially uncomfortable with this definition in continuing to carve out jurisdiction of Honor. MED PT would rather have us take risk of irrelevant or trivial lies and not excluding the serious social lies, rather than excluding it all. MED KB

agrees similarly. Chair LL asks what counts as “organizational” or “institutional” in this definition. LAW TT agrees that it may need to be fleshed out more but the definition focuses on people acting in their official roles at UVA within organizations.

7. Committee votes to move forward with new definition after reviewing with legal counsel and

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. By-law Proposal: Executive Committee Voting

1. Occasionally cases arise where Executive Committee members have to recuse themselves from executive decisions like executive drops – if three or more people have to recuse themselves, the by-laws do not currently provide a way to fill the Executive Committee to make these decisions which require three votes. This would allow the Chair to randomly select Committee members to fill spots for executive decisions if three or more Exec members have to recuse themselves. One option states that any decision always requires three votes in favor, and the second option states that any decision requires at least three Executive Committee members with a majority in favor. VCE prefers the first option of three votes total. LAW SP proposes that there are at least four Exec members voting to ensure that recusals don’t effectively count as “no” votes. After discussion, the Committee decides that the first option is ideal. Passed 22-0-0 to take effect beginning of April.

B. By-law Proposal: Community Response Interview

1. This would allow reporters or primary witness for the community to view all evidence and interviews to write a response interview rather than only allowing reporters/primary witness to view and respond to the student’s initial interview, with discretion of VCI if there are evidence or interviews that reporter cannot view. MED KB and VCH AS propose a rewording to clarify the role of discretion. Tabled to reword for grammatical clarity – no further objections.

VIII. COMMUNITY INPUT

- A. None.

IX. CLOSED SESSION

- A. Bicentennial Report Response Discussion