

Resolution 013
A Resolution to Better Outline the Academic Dishonesty Policy
Sponsored by: Senator Schlee
Co-Sponsored by: Senator Farrell, Senator Crnkovich, and Senator
Cunningham

Whereas,

The University has a policy that all professors ought to follow when they believe a student has been academically dishonest, cheating or plagiarizing, comprising a majority of such instances.

Whereas,

This policy clearly lays out the process of submitting these accusations and sanctioning students as well as an official appeals process.

Whereas,

There is an Academic Dishonesty Committee that hears appeals from students who believe they were wrongly accused of academic dishonesty.

Whereas,

This committee is only required to contain one undergraduate student and consists of several faculty members and professors.

Whereas,

Academic Dishonesty Committee meetings can take place without the presence of the undergraduate student, meaning a decision can be made without proper representation on the part of the accused.

Whereas,

The identities of students who have appealed are not kept confidential, making the decision process potentially biased or harmful to students.

Whereas,

Although professors are required to hold a conference with a student if they accuse them of academic dishonesty, there is no specific guideline as to what constitutes a conference, leading to a general corruption of this principle

Whereas,

There is no guidance for the Academic Dishonesty Committee as to how they should decide a case under the circumstances of a professor who did not follow policy by not properly informing the student or failing to explain their accusation to the student.

Be it enacted that,

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby requests that the Academic Dishonesty policy is amended to require:

1. All Academic Dishonesty Appeals processes remain anonymous for those hearing the appeals.
2. Any Academic Dishonesty Appeal Committee contains at least two undergraduate student representatives where at least one is present for the committee meetings before a decision is made.
3. If the conference requirement policy is not followed adequately by professors, the academic dishonesty accusations are to be rendered null and void.

Agreed to by a vote of _____ yeas to _____ nays on this date: _____ with _____
abstaining and _____ not present.

Abigail Anger
President of the Student Government Association

Monica Wallace
Vice President of the Student Government Association

