2010-2011
Final Report
Cosumnes River College Academic Senate
Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Integrity
(Academic Integrity Committee/AIC)

Committee Membership:
Erikson, Kurt
Esposito-Noy, Celia (Executive Secretary, non-voting)
Fowler, Lynn
Geissler, Markus
Morales, Martin
Mukantabana, Mathilde
Reichel, Sonya
Schubert, Richard (Chair)
Sigauke, Emmanuel
Weinshilboum, David

Committee Charge:

The Academic Integrity Committee seeks to clarify the roles, rights, and responsibilities of the college's faculty and students in regards to academic integrity with the aim of supporting campus academic integrity and developing for the consideration of the Senate specific recommendations concerning the appropriate means by which to institutionalize a further commitment on the part of the college to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity. The Academic Integrity Committee also serves to support the college’s Disciplinary Appeals Committee.

The overarching and on-going current project of the AIC is to develop further means to address California Education Code Section 66050¹ and College-Wide Student Learning Outcome 5d².

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¹ California Education Code Section 66050:
“…Public institutions of higher education in California shall provide a collegiate experience which gives each student…the ability to consider ethical issues thoughtfully…The segments of higher education are encouraged to improve the quality of undergraduate education as a central priority of California's public colleges and universities.”

² CRC College Wide Student Learning outcome 5d:
“…Recognize the ethical dimensions of decisions and actions as well as demonstrate the ability to engage in the ethical reasoning necessary to exercise responsibility as an ethical individual, professional, local, and global citizen.”
During 2009-10, the Academic Integrity Committee:

1. Reviewed and revised its committee charge (unanimously approved by the Academic Senate on October 22, 2010).

2. Supported the college’s Honor Code
   a. Via a series of events, more specifically:
      i. The CRC-CPPE Fall Ethics Symposium *The Ethics of Education*
         November 16-17, 2010.³
      ii. “The Student Discipline Process and Academic Integrity” January 13, 2011 (Spring Flex).⁴
      iii. “Students Understanding of Citation” a CASSL, Library Instructional Services, and AIC joint workshop for faculty on March 4, 2011.⁵
      iv. “On Moral Considerability: R-E-S-P-E-C-T, Find Out If It Just Applies to ME”, a Socratic discussion.⁶
   b. Via the new Honor Code banners hung around campus.⁷
   c. Via support for the CRC Safe Spaces Program.⁸
   d. By assisting Emily Bond (CRC Librarian) with the development of “Avoiding Plagiarism”, an online tutorial for students.
   e. Exploring use of the Honor Code as a screen-saver or screen background image in campus computer labs.⁹

3. Reviewed, and where necessary compiled a list of necessary future revisions to, campus academic integrity (AI) documents appearing in the college catalog (print and

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³ While the AIC provided material support for this event, it was funded by the CRC Office of the President, directed by Rick Schubert under the auspices of President’s Reassigned time, and developed and executed in collaboration with the Sacramento State University Center for Practical and Professional Ethics.
⁴ This workshop was facilitated by Celia Esposito-Noy and Rick Schubert.
⁵ Emily Bond, Andi Adkins Pogue, Emmanuel Sigauke, and David Weinshilboum are to be commended on their excellent presentation.
⁶ This event, facilitated by Rick Schubert, took place as part of CRC Earth Week.
⁷ The committee thanks Celia Esposito-Noy for her support for, and work on, this project.
⁸ Rick Schubert provided feedback on the Safe Spaces “Plan of Action” and attended the March 2, 2011 Safe Spaces Workshop as a representative of the AIC.
⁹ This project is currently pending. The AIC is awaiting a viability report from Dean Stephen McGloughlin via Celia Esposito-Noy.
on-line versions), class schedules (print and on-line versions) and in the Faculty and Staff Resource Guide:

a. Academic Integrity Statement
b. Academic Integrity Process
c. Expectations for Student Behavior
d. Honor Code

4. Provided representation to an ad hoc committee comprised of Academic Senate President (Marjorie Duffy), Dean of Instruction (Judy Beachler), VPI (Whitney Yamamura) and AIC Chair (Rick Schubert)
   i. Revised catalog language regarding absence and enrollment status to render it more consistent and more readily comprehensible.
   ii. Discussed the need for faculty consultation and input on catalog changes regarding academic and professional matters.

5. Provided representation to the Academic Integrity in Distance Education (AIDE) joint subcommittee of the Distance Education and Information Technology Committee, the Distance Education Subcommittee of the Curriculum Committee, and the Academic Integrity committee.
   a. Helped develop recommendations to the Senate for improvement of AI in DE.10

6. Provided representation on the college’s Workload Committee.11

7. Began developing as an alternative to the current student disciplinary process a model which would treat general behavioral breaches (e.g. disruptive behavior) and breaches of scholarly integrity (e.g. plagiarism) by students in recognizably distinct ways.12

8. As in past years, served as a resource to faculty and administrators not on the committee (e.g. helped explain college AI policies, processes, and resources; provided consultation to faculty and administrators facing AI issues).

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10 Please find the 2010-2011 AIDE Report attached to the DEIT 2010-11 year-end report to the Senate. The AIC representatives to AIDE were Markus Geissler and Rick Schubert.
11 Rick Schubert represented AIC and the faculty at large on the Workload Committee. Please see the Workload Committee’s 2010-2011 reports to the faculty.
12 Lynn Fowler is to be commended for her exemplary service to the committee researching relevant Title 5 language.
9. As in past years, more tangible outcomes of the committee’s work aside, participation in AIC’s extensive on-line and face-to-face discussions regarding AI issues continued to offer committee members a rich professional development experience.

Given the potential value to our campus of the AIC’s ongoing projects and the extent to which it remains best suited to their completion, the current members of the committee unanimously recommend that the Senate extend its support of the committee for a further academic year.

During 2010-11, the membership of the AIC also served as the college’s Disciplinary Appeals Committee, convening three times and hearing two appeals.\(^{13}\)

In closing, the AIC wishes to express its gratitude to the other Senate committees that have supported its work: the Professional Development Committee, Distance Education and Information Technology Committee, Curriculum Committee, and Sustainability Committee. In specific, the AIC wishes to express its appreciation for the excellent leadership Amanda Wolcott provided for AIDE. The AIC’s experience with AIDE in specific during 2010-2011 has been very positive not only due to Amanda’s excellent leadership, but also because of the “inherent” advantages of a joint-subcommittee. The AIC encourages other Senate committees to develop their own joint-subcommittees when overlaps in committee interests make this appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rick Schubert
AIC Chair 2010-2011

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\(^{13}\) One appellant failed to appear for their hearing. Faculty members of the relevant individual appeals committees were Sonny Huang, David Weinshilboum, Emmanuel Sigauke, and Sonya Reichel.