TO: Members, Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Integrity

FROM: Rick Caulfield, Provost
--AND--
Virgil Fredenberg
President, Faculty Senate

DATE: November 13, 2013

RE: Charge to Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Integrity, AY13-14

This memo formalizes creation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Integrity and provides the charge to committee members. The committee was formed with approval of both the Provost and the UAS Faculty Senate as a vehicle for reviewing and updating UAS policy and procedures regarding academic integrity. As described below, the committee is expected to produce recommendations that can be approved and inserted into the AY14-15 academic catalog.

The Charge: While eliminating all forms of academic dishonesty should be a collective goal, we first need an understanding of the policies, procedures, guidelines and standards in place to support Academic Integrity and respond to academic dishonesty.

To identify gaps in UAS policy and procedures the committee will:

1. Review current UAS documentation regarding student conduct and academic integrity within:
   a. UAS Faculty Handbook;
   b. UA Board of Regents Student Code of Conduct (SCoC) category #1, Cheating, Plagiarism, and other Forms of Academic Dishonesty and related examples (academic catalog p. 257, “policy section”) and related procedures contained within the University conduct procedures section (academic catalog pp. 258-266) including Resolution of Disputes Regarding Academic Decisions or Actions (Grade Appeal Process); and
   c. Any other relevant documentation.
2. Review current literature regarding best practices in Academic Integrity

The committee’s work will be informed by guidance from the UA General Counsel’s Office.

Once gaps have been identified, this ad hoc committee will draft recommendations that will be available for review by Provost Council and other stakeholders. Following that review, final recommendations will be forwarded to Faculty Senate and the Provost for review and approval. Actions could include but are not limited to:

1. Clear guidelines in the Faculty Handbook regarding faculty options for response to violations of Academic Integrity;
2. Development of a “sanction matrix” for Student Code of Conduct violations of Provision 1: Cheating, Plagiarism or Other Forms of Academic Dishonesty; and
3. Redraft the Resolution of Disputes Regarding Academic Decisions or Actions (Grade Appeal Process).

The timeline for this work is driven by the publication schedules for the Faculty Handbook and the Academic Catalog. The goal will be to complete tasks identified by and assigned to the committee by March 2014.

Cc: Chancellor
    Faculty Senate
    Deans/Directors