

4.1.27

Issued: August 2008

SUBJECT:

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Purpose

As a Christian community of faith and scholarship, we at Brewton-Parker College are committed to the principles of truth and honesty in the academic endeavor (2 Timothy 3:16). As faculty and students in this Christian community, we are called to present our academic work as an honest reflection of our abilities; we do not need to defraud members of the community by presenting others' work as our own (Mark 10:17-22). Therefore, academic dishonesty is handled with serious consequences for two fundamental reasons: it is stealing – taking something that is not ours; it is also lying – pretending to be something it is not. In a Christian community, such pretense is not only unnecessary it is also harmful to the individual and community as a whole. Cheating should have no place at a campus where all labors are informed by our faith because God desires us to be truthful with each other concerning our academic abilities. Only with a truthful presentation of our knowledge can there be an honest evaluation of our abilities. To such integrity, we as a Christian academic community are called.

The following acts are those which we consider to be dishonest:

Plagiarism is presenting as your own work the words, ideas, opinions, theories, or thoughts of another which are not common knowledge. Students who present others' words or ideas as their own without fair attribution [documentation] are guilty of plagiarizing. Unfair attribution includes, but is not limited to, a direct quotation of all or part of another's words without appropriately identifying the source. It is also unfair attribution to have included a source within a citation page without having carefully cited the source within the text of the document.

Plagiarism also includes, but is not limited to, the following acts when performed without fair attribution: directly quoting all or part of another person's words without quotation marks, as appropriate to the discipline; paraphrasing all or part of another person's words without documentation; stating an idea, theory, or formula as your own when it actually originated with another person; and purchasing (or receiving in any other manner) a term paper or other assignment, which is the work of another person, and submitting that work as if it were one's own.

Inappropriate Assistance

Giving or receiving assistance that has not been authorized by a faculty member in connection with any exam or academic work is academically dishonest. Students should assume that any assistance on exams, quizzes, lab work, etc., is unauthorized unless the faculty member involved in the exercise has approved it. Examples of prohibited actions include, but are not limited to, the following: copying or allowing others to copy answers to an exam; transmitting; receiving, or in some form obtaining information during an exam which would offer answers within the framework of the material being tested; giving or receiving answers to an exam scheduled for a later time; and completing for others or allowing others to complete for oneself, all or part of an assignment; submitting as a group assignment work which was prepared by less than all of the members of that group. It is the responsibility of the student to inform an instructor of the lack of participation of one member of a group.

Lying

Offering false information with regard to your performance in academic work is academically dishonest and in opposition to the Christian life. Such activity includes, but is not limited to, the following: giving false reasons for failure to complete an academic assignment; falsifying the results of laboratory work or other data; altering academic work after it has been

submitted; altering grades, lab work, or attendance records; falsely signing another person as present when he/she is absent in a class; submitting for academic advancement an assignment which has previously been submitted for academic advancement (unless so authorized by the faculty member supervising the work).

Theft

Stealing or otherwise taking in an unauthorized manner information which relates to academic work is academically dishonest.

Procedures

First Offense: The student must be advised of the penalty within seven days of the discovery of the Academic Integrity infraction. The student will be issued a grade of zero on the assignment and a mandatory counseling session with a member of the Academic Integrity Advisory Committee will be scheduled within a week of notification of the offense. The professor will inform the Office of the Provost of the offense, and the Provost will subsequently maintain the student's Academic Integrity record.

Second Offense: The Office of the Provost will be notified of the offense, and the Professor will issue a grade of zero on the assignment. Upon being informed by the Office of the Provost that this is the second Academic Integrity offense, the student will be dropped from the course and a failing grade will be recorded.

Third Offense: The office of the Provost will be notified of the offense, and the Professor will issue a grade of zero on the assignment. Upon being informed by the Office of the Provost that this is the third Academic Integrity offense, the student will be dropped from the course and a failing grade be recorded. The student will be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action to consist of immediate expulsion from the College for a period of one Academic Year.

Petition for redress is made to the Appeals Committee.