

# Honor Board

## Report for Faculty Meeting

### April 26, 2021

The Academic Honesty Policy of the College is overseen by an Honor Board consisting of faculty and students. For the 2020-21 academic year the Faculty members are Mary Gaebler (Religion), Glenn Kranking (History), Martin Lang (Communication Studies), David Obermiller (History), Jacob Siehler (MCSS) and Patricia Snapp (Music). Student members are Hailey Concepcion ('21), Reed Kottke ('22), Jenna Kotz ('21), Owen Nkurunziza ('21), and Lillie Ortloff ('22). Associate Provost and Dean, Valerie Banschbach, is the *ex officio* Provost's Office designee.

Academic Honesty Policy violations are submitted by faculty to the Provost's Office. In the 2020-21 academic year, as of April 22, 49 first-time violations of the Academic Honesty Policy have been reported, two second-time violations, and one Honor Board hearing is in process (regarding a case from Fall 2020). Consistent with last year, the number of reports this year falls toward the high end of the range of numbers of reported violations over the past five years (Table 1).

Table 1. Academic Honesty Policy Violations 2015 - 2021

<b>Term</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
<i>Fall in-person</i>	11	32	10	14	12	1
<i>Fall online</i>	-	-	-	-	-	27
<i>January</i>	2	0	3	0	0	0
<i>Spring in-person</i>	8	20	10	17	1	5
<i>Spring online</i>	-	-	-	-	41	18
<b>Total AY</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>51</b>

This Spring, the Honor Board faculty conducted some research to determine how our practices align with those of peer and aspirant small, private liberal arts colleges. We surveyed colleagues at 8 other liberal arts institutions about their Academic Honesty policies and Honor Codes. We are working with the data we gathered. At a future faculty meeting, current and past faculty members of the Honor Board plan to present the information we gathered about other institutions' practices and lead a discussion about the state of our Academic Honesty Policy and Honor Code. Questions of interest include: What kind of academic honesty situations are faculty handling without reporting to the Provost's Office? What kinds of situations warrant reporting? What factors discourage reporting? What concerns do faculty have about the Academic Honesty Policy language and the Honor Code System? Are faculty satisfied that students are learning enough about academic honesty during their time at Gustavus?

Our student Honor Board members have likewise expressed interest in leading a student-focused conversation about the Academic Honesty Policy and student perceptions of it. Our goal will be to bring those conversations together to determine if changes should be proposed.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Honor Board Faculty and Dean Valerie Banschbach