Academic Integrity

Faculty members are responsible for both the maintenance of academic integrity throughout the educational process, and the instruction of students in the meaning and importance of this concept. Classes in each course should be informed at the outset about forms of collaboration that are and are not encouraged or permitted in that course.

On March 13, 2002, the Faculty Senate adopted a resolution strongly urging all instructors to include an explicit statement in their syllabi or other course organizational material, regarding the interpretation of academic integrity in the context of that particular course. In lieu of writing their own syllabus statement, faculty may use the following generic, comprehensive statement on academic integrity, with an optional extension for courses that incorporate collaborative work: “Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Cornell University Code of Academic Integrity. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student’s own work [Optional: For this course, collaboration is allowed in the following instances: list instances.]”

Deliberate fraudulence by a student to advance his or her academic status usually merits a penalty of some severity and these cases are governed by the Code of Academic Integrity, reproduced in appendix seven or available on the University Faculty website http://theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/pdfs/AcadIntegCode9.06.pdf

The Academic Integrity Handbook was prepared to provide faculty and others involved in the instructional program with an explanation of the workings of the academic integrity system. A pamphlet entitled, The Code of Academic Integrity and Acknowledging the Work of Others, was prepared for students. Copies of both publications are available either in the Office of the Dean of Faculty or on the University Faculty website (http://theuniversityfaculty.cornell.edu/policies/pol_main.html).

The Cornell Law School and the College of Veterinary Medicine have honor codes that provide the means to monitor academic integrity within their own units. These schools are exempt from the general university Code of Academic Integrity.