

# THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA | OKANAGAN



23 May 2007

## OKANAGAN SENATE SECRETARIAT

### Enrolment Services

### Senate and Curriculum Services

3333 University Way

Kelowna, BC · V1V 1V7

Tel: (250) 807-9259 · Fax: (250) 807-8007

[carol.scarff@ubc.ca](mailto:carol.scarff@ubc.ca)

[nathalie.bomberg@ubc.ca](mailto:nathalie.bomberg@ubc.ca)

## Annual Report on Committee Activities Senate Committee on Appeals of Standing and Discipline May 2007

### Committee Terms of Reference:

Delegated authority over the following by Senate:

- A) Appeals of student discipline decisions
- B) Appeals of academic standing decisions; and
- C) Appeals of promotion/advancement

The Committee shall allow an appeal where it is decided that the decision of the Faculty was arrived at through improper or unfair procedures, and that as a result, a wrong decision on the merits has or may have been arrived at; however, the Committee has no jurisdiction where the sole question raised in an appeal turns on the exercise of academic judgment by a Faculty. The decision of the Committee on an appeal is final.

For the complete Terms of Reference, please reference

<http://okanagan.students.ubc.ca/calendar/index.cfm?tree=3,53,106,0>

Since May of 2005, the Committee has heard one appeal. Appeals can be denied or allowed; this one was allowed.

### Appeal Allowed:

1. The student appealed a grade of 0% (per cent) assigned on the basis that the student's paper contained plagiarized material, for a course taken in the 2005/2006 academic year. The student requested that the committee modify the President's decision and assign a grade of 0% for the assignment in question (rather than for the course), remove the disciplinary notation from the student's academic record and rescind the letter of reprimand. The appeal was allowed in that the Committee reached the decision to reverse the 0% grade for the entire course and apply it instead to the assignment in question, however the transcript

notation and the letter of reprimand still stand. The Committee held that the reduced penalty more closely reflects the degree of discipline appropriate for the offense.

### **General Observations**

The Committee wishes to draw to the attention of faculty and departments the importance of following due process in all matters relating to student assessment, promotion and appeal; of maintaining scrupulous records of course requirements, grade schemes, and student performance; as well as drawing such regulations and requirements to the attention of students.

On behalf of the Committee

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carol E. Scarff  
Chair

### **2006-2007 Committee Members:**

Dr. Carol Scarff (Chair)  
Dr. Edward Butz  
Ms. Lesley Driscoll  
Ms. Erin Johnston  
Dr. Richard Klukas  
Dr. Donna Senese