



**FILE: 1996/97-03**

January 30, 1997

**Personal and Confidential**

(Letter to be picked up by Ms N. from the  
Governing Council Office as per her request)

Ms N.

[REDACTED]

Toronto, ON

[REDACTED]

Dear Ms N.:

At its hearing held on January 27, 1997, the Trial Division of the University Tribunal considered the following charges against you:

THAT on or about March 26, 1996, you knowingly obtained unauthorized assistance during a term test contrary to Section B.I.1(b) of the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* (1995).

THAT on or about January 23, 1996, you knowingly obtained unauthorized assistance in a term test contrary to Section B.I.1.(b) of the University Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (1995).

THAT on or about July 5, 1995, you intentionally obtained unauthorized assistance in a term test contrary to Section B.I.1.(b) of the University Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (1991).

The Particulars of the case are as follows:

- a) In the winter of 1995 and 1996, you were a student in PSL 221Y. Term tests in the second term of that course were scheduled for January 23, 1996 and March 26, 1996.
- b) At each of those tests, you knowingly obtained unauthorized assistance from Ms. P., another student in the course, by copying from Ms P.'s question and answer sheets during the course of the tests.

- c) In the summer of 1995, you were a student in BCH 320Y. A term test was held in that course on July 5, 1995.
- d) During the test, you intentionally utilized unauthorized assistance from Ms. P., another student in the course, by copying from Ms P.'s answer sheets during the course of the test.

The panel accepted your plea of guilty and imposed the following sanctions:

- suspension from attendance in the University for three years, effective December 31, 1996;
- assignment of a grade of zero for the course BCH 320Y;
- that the sanction imposed by the Tribunal be recorded on the student's academic record and transcript for a period of 5 years following the date of sentencing;
- that the decision and sanctions imposed be reported to the Vice-President and Provost for publication in the University newspapers, with the name of the student withheld.

The panel gave the following reasons for its decision:

Based on the submissions of counsel for the University and counsel for the accused, we find that the penalty, as set out in the joint submission, recognizes and balances the competing interests of the University and the student so that the interests of deterrence, preventing occurrences such as this from happening again in the University community, while at the same time leaving open the possibility of reformation, are balanced in the joint submission.

Basically, the offences are of a serious nature. They were planned repeat offences, which occurred even after the student was caught and penalized in one course. It is conduct which is unacceptable in the University community and contrary to the standard expected in the academic community, which requires integrity. These are offences which call out for a penalty which will deter others from engaging in similar conduct. At the same time, hopefully, the penalty will be such as not to preclude the possibility of this student regaining her position within the University community after the period of suspension.

We took into particular account the fact that the accused person recognized her blame at the first opportunity. No attempt was made to cover up. She admitted her guilt both at the outset and at this academic hearing. There was no attempt to lay blame elsewhere or, to do anything other than, to come forward and accept her penalty, which she left to the University community to consider to be appropriate.

In all the circumstances we feel that the penalty balances the competing interests that are required to be taken into account in matters such as this; and accordingly, we have rendered the decision in accordance with the joint submission.

The Tribunal is reporting the case to the Vice-President and Provost for publication in the University newspapers, with your name withheld.

Information concerning rights of appeal may be found in Section E of the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. The deadline for filing an appeal by you or by the University is February 26, 1997

Yours sincerely,

**“Margaret McKone”**

Ms Margaret McKone  
Acting Secretary  
University Tribunal

Enclosure

Copies: J. Keefe, Tribunal Chair  
A. Sedra, Vice-President and Provost  
P. Gooch, Vice-Provost  
J. Monger, Discipline Counsel  
A. Goldkind, Downtown Legal Services  
S. Bartkiw, Arts and Science  
I. Orchard, Arts and Science