

University Tribunal

FILE: 2000/01-07 Heard together with 2000/01-08

November 17, 2000

Delivered by Hand

Personal and Confidential

Mr. P.



Dear Mr. P.:

At its hearing held on October 10, 2000, the Trial Division of the University Tribunal considered the following charges against you:

- 1. That on or about August 12, 1997 you knowingly had Mr. C.¹ personate you on an exam, contrary to Section B 1.1 (c) of the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*.
- 2. That on or about August 13, 1997 you knowingly omitted to report Mr. C.'s personation of you to the University for the purpose of aiding and assisting Mr. C. to commit an offence contrary to Section B. II. 1. (a)(ii) and B.I.1. (c) of the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*.
- 3. That in or about September, 1997 you knowingly forged, altered or falsified a doctor's note required by the University, and/or circulated or made use of such a forged, altered or falsified document contrary to Section B1.1. (a) of the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*.
- 4. That in or about September or October, 1997 you knowingly forged, altered or falsified a medical certificate required by the University, and/or circulated or made use of such a forged, altered or falsified document contrary to Section B 1.1. (a) of the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*.

The particulars of the charges were as follows:

1. In the summer of 1997 you were a student in ECO 200Y. The final exam for that course was held on August 12, 1997.

¹ See 2000/01-08

- 2. You did not attend on that examination, but rather had the examination written by Mr. C. under your name, and under your student number.
- 3. When Mr. C. confirmed that he had written the exam under your name, the day after the exam was written, you took no steps to report this academic offence that was perpetrated in your name to the University.
- 4. During the same time period you were a student in ECO 220Y. You did not write the final exam that took place on August 14, 1997.
- In or about September, 1997 you petitioned to be permitted to write the final for ECO 220Y. You claimed that you had been ill on the scheduled examination date of August 14, 1997.
- 6. In support of your claim that you were ill you submitted to the University a doctor's note dated August 29, 1997 and a "University of Toronto Student Medical Certificate" dated August 17, 1997. Both of these medical documents were forged or falsified.

I am writing to confirm formally that the panel found you guilty of the charges and imposed the following sanctions.

- 1. That you be suspended from the University for five years, commencing September 1, 2000;
- 2. That the sanction imposed be published on the your academic record for five years, commencing September 1, 2000;
- 3. That you be assigned a grade of zero, rather than the grade of 12% previously assigned, for ECO 200Y; and
- 4. The your case be reported to the Provost, who may publish a notice of the decision of the decision and the sanctions imposed in the University newspapers, with your name withheld.

In rendering the decision of the Tribunal, the Chair provided the following reasons.

Firstly, I would like to deal with the various factors in the recorded case. We consider the offences of which Mr. P. has been found guilty to be extremely serious and warranting an extremely serious sanction. Had it not been for the long period of time between the date of offence and the date of the trial we would have considered expulsion, as recommended by the University. However, we feel that there is evidence that in the intervening period, Mr. P. has made an effort to substantially improve his academic performance. We have looked at submissions made during the hearing, which indicate that Mr. P. 's marks have increasingly become better. We accepted evidence that he has tried harder and he has obviously sought help and tried to deal with this. We also note that all four charges surrounded a very short period of time. While they are different charges, there were no previous convictions nor has there been any further misconduct to indicate that Mr. P. is likely to commit this offence again. We believe that his efforts to do better academically and to seek help is indicative of the positive aspect of his character.

However, we felt that we should impose as strong a sanction possible short of expulsion because it is important from the point of the University community as a whole and a very detrimental effect to the University on the whole, students engaging in this type of conduct.

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 is December 8, 2000.

Yours sincerely,

"Margaret McKone"

Ms Margaret McKone Acting Secretary University Tribunal

cc: Rodica David, Chair, Tribunal Panel Paul Gooch, Vice-Provost Lily Harmer, Discipline Counsel Salim Hirji, Counsel for Mr. P. Ian McDonald, Associate Dean, UofT at Scarborough