



**FOR INFORMATION**

**OPEN SESSION**

**TO:** Academic Board

**SPONSOR:** Professor Heather Boon, Vice-Provost, Faculty and Academic Life

**CONTACT INFO:** [vp.fal@utoronto.ca](mailto:vp.fal@utoronto.ca)

**PRESENTER:** See Sponsor

**CONTACT INFO:**

**DATE:** November 13, 2018 for November 22, 2018

**AGENDA ITEM:** 7a

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:** Provost's Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline 2017-18

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* requires the Provost to report annually in statistical format on cases of academic discipline to Academic Board.

**GOVERNANCE PATH:**

1. Agenda Committee [for information] (November 13, 2018)
2. **Academic Board [for information] (November 22, 2018)**

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

On November 23, 2017, the Academic Board received the Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline for 2016-17.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

Please see attached cover memo.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no financial implications.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For information.

## Provost's Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline 2017-18

On behalf of teacher and student and in fulfillment of its own principles and ideals, the University has a responsibility to ensure that academic achievement is not obscured or undermined by cheating or misrepresentation, that the evaluative process meets the highest standards of fairness and honesty, and that malevolent or even mischievous disruption is not allowed to threaten the educational process. These are areas in which teacher and student necessarily share a common interest as well as common responsibilities.

These words from the University's *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* (the "Code") aptly capture the vital importance of academic integrity to the University's academic mission.

The University's proactive approach and strategies around academic integrity are led by the tri-campus Provostial Advisory Group on Academic Integrity, as well as by Dean's Offices, a number of student-facing central offices, and some dedicated offices within the larger divisions. The Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation has also played a significant role in educating instructors on course assignment and syllabus structure in order to build positive writing and exam-preparation skills. A professional development workshop for all faculty and staff engaged in academic integrity processes is held every fall, with approximately 50 individuals typically attending. The workshop includes advice on meeting a division's obligations under the *Code*, as well as tips and best practices on meeting with students who have been implicated in an offence under the *Code*.

Divisional campaigns to build awareness of academic integrity were enhanced over the past year by a centrally-organized campaign alerting students to academic integrity scenarios that reappear frequently in cases at the University Tribunal. This campaign saw posters highlighting these common scenarios displayed across the three campuses in print and screen formats.

The *Code* establishes two sets of procedures for addressing offences committed under the *Code*: one process for cases undertaken within the divisions, and one for those undertaken by the University Tribunal.

As such, the Provost's Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline is also divided into two distinct Appendices, with Appendix A outlining statistics and trends pertaining to cases which—barring a small number of exceptions—are overseen completely by the divisions, and Appendix B detailing statistics and timeliness of cases brought before the University Tribunal.

The reporting of these statistics enables the Provost's Office and Dean's Offices to assess statistical trends pertaining to academic misconduct across the University. This past academic year saw an overall significant increase in the number of repeat offenders whose cases were addressed by the divisions; this issue will be discussed with Dean's Offices in the near future. Plagiarism remained the most frequent offence at both the divisional and Tribunal levels. The Appendices also show a slight reduction in the overall number of students who were found by a division to have committed a

Provost's Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline, 2017-18

violation of the *Code*, with this percentage of the student population falling from 2.1 percent to 1.9 percent. There was also a drop in the number of new cases brought to the University Tribunal when comparing year-over-year numbers.

This report is provided for information, and will be a resource for discussion with the divisions by the Provost's Office.

Appendix A: Summary of Divisional Academic Discipline Cases 2017-2018

**Table 1: Total Number of Student Offenders by Division**  
(only where a sanction is imposed and the case is closed by the division)

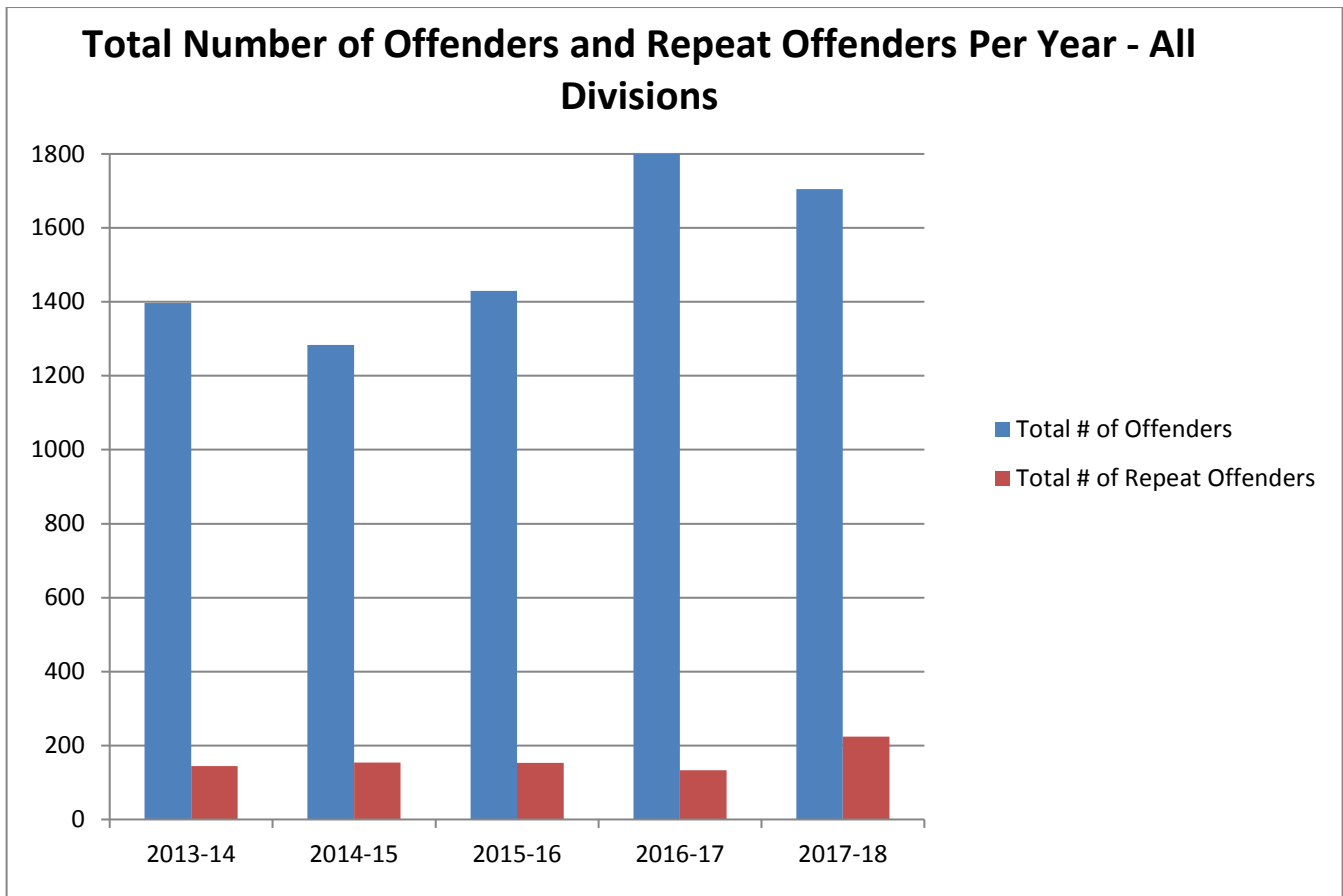
Division	2013-14	2014-15*		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18	
		Total # of Student Offenders by Division	% of Offenders based on Student Population	Total # of Student Offenders by Division	% of Offenders based on Student Population	Total # of Student Offenders by Division	% of Offenders based on Student Population	Total # of Student Offenders by Division	% of Offenders based on Student Population
Applied Science & Engineering	189	146	2.6%	99	1.7%	75	1.3%	57	1.1%
Architecture	3	8	1.3%	7	0.8%	13	1.4%	29	2.8%
Arts & Science	645	509	2.0%	590	2.1%	718	2.6%	535	1.9%
Dentistry	0	1	0.2%	11	2.6%	7	1.6%	2	0.5%
Graduate Studies	18	23	0.1%	44	0.3%	41	0.2%	51	0.3%
Law	2	0	0%	2	0.3%	0	0%	2	0.3%
Medicine	0	0	0%	2	0.04%	4	0.1%	0	0%
Music	4	6	1.0%	4	0.7%	0	0%	8	1.5%
Nursing	2	0	0%	4	1.1%	1	0.3%	3	0.9%
OISE	1	1	0.1%	1	0.3%	0	0%	0	0%
Pharmacy	8	50	4.7%	12	1.1%	21	1.9%	7	0.6%
Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education	18	8	0.9%	4	0.4%	21	2.0%	7	0.7%
U of T Mississauga	347	382	3.0%	432	3.2%	503	3.6%	511	3.6%
U of T Scarborough	160	149	1.3%	218	1.7%	414	3.2%	493	3.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1397</b>	<b>1283</b>	<b>1.5%<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1430</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>1818</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>1705</b>	<b>1.9%</b>

\*Percentage of students per division were first calculated in this year.

**Table 2: Total Number of Repeat Student Offenders by Division**  
(only where sanction is imposed)

Division	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Applied Science & Engineering	9	26	12	10	14
Architecture	0	0	0	0	2
Arts & Science	71	61	61	58	49
Dentistry	0	0	0	0	0
Graduate Studies	0	0	1	0	1
Law	0	0	0	0	0
Medicine	0	0	0	0	0
Music	2	1	0	0	0
Nursing	0	0	0	0	0
OISE / UT	0	0	0	0	0
Pharmacy	0	0	0	0	0
Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education	1	0	0	0	0
U of T Mississauga	46	37	62	54	79
U of T Scarborough	15	29	17	11	79
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>224</b>

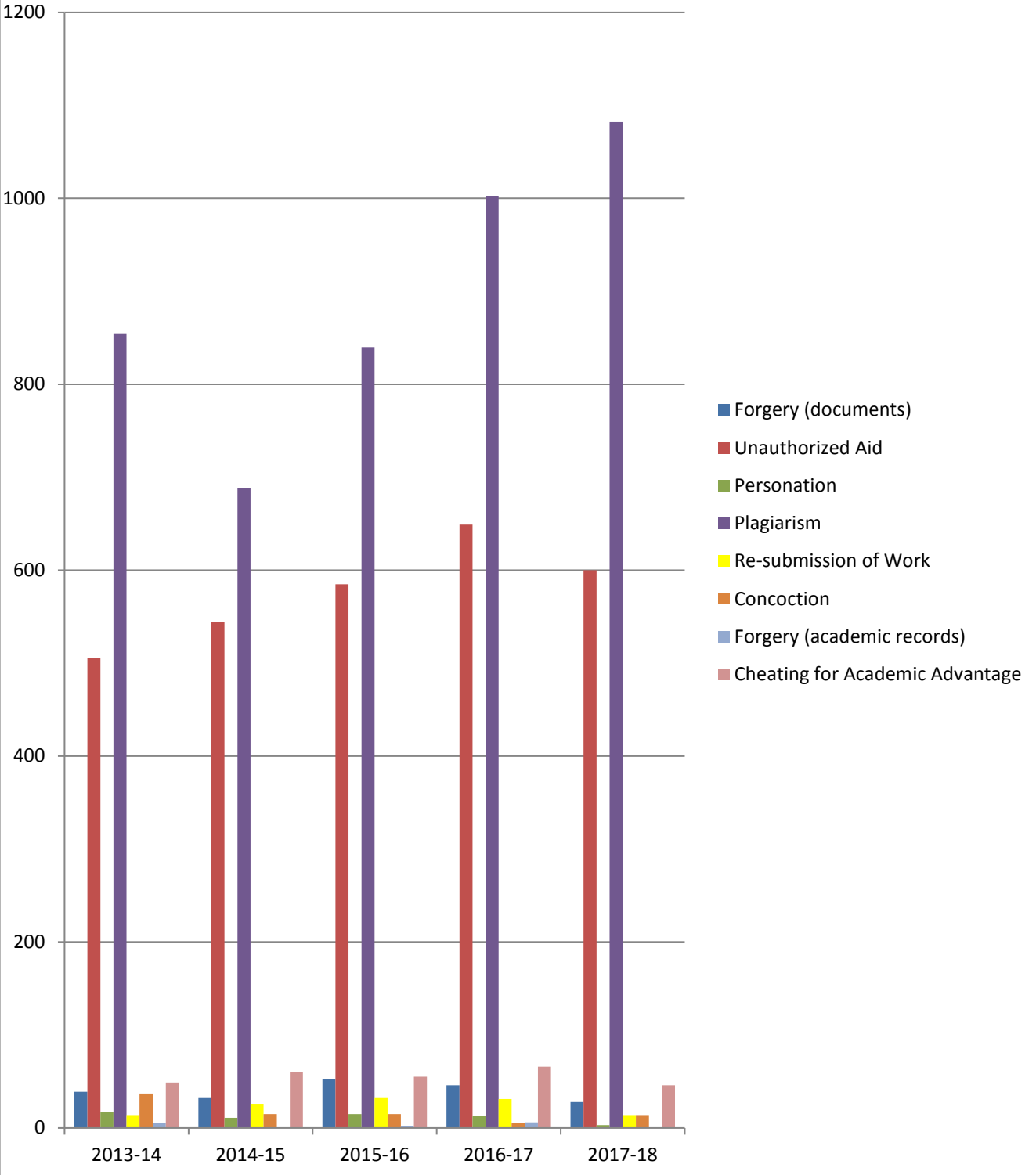
<sup>1</sup> This calculation for 2014-15 inadvertently did not include graduate students, but has been corrected for subsequent years.



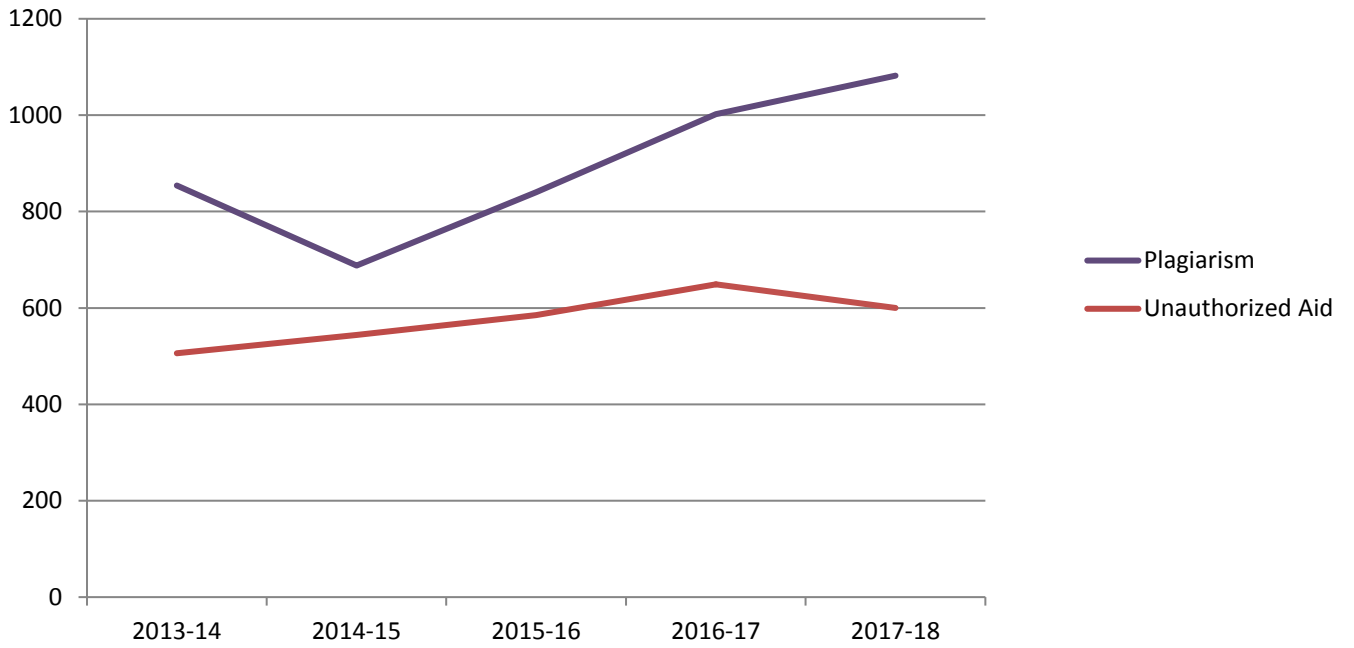
**Table 3: Total Number of Offences by Type – All Divisions**

Charge Code	Charge Text	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
B.i.1(a)	Forgery (documents, not transcripts)	39	33	53	46	28
B.i.1(b)	Unauthorized aid	506	544	585	649	600
B.i.1(c)	Personation	17	11	15	13	3
B.i.1(d)	Plagiarism	854	688	840	1002	1082
B.i.1(e)	Re-submission of work	14	26	33	31	14
B.i.1(f)	Concoction	37	15	20	5	14
B.i.3(a)	Forgery (academic records)	5	0	2	6	0
B.i.3(b)	Cheating for academic advantage	49	60	55	66	46
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1521</b>	<b>1377</b>	<b>1603</b>	<b>1818</b>	<b>1787</b>

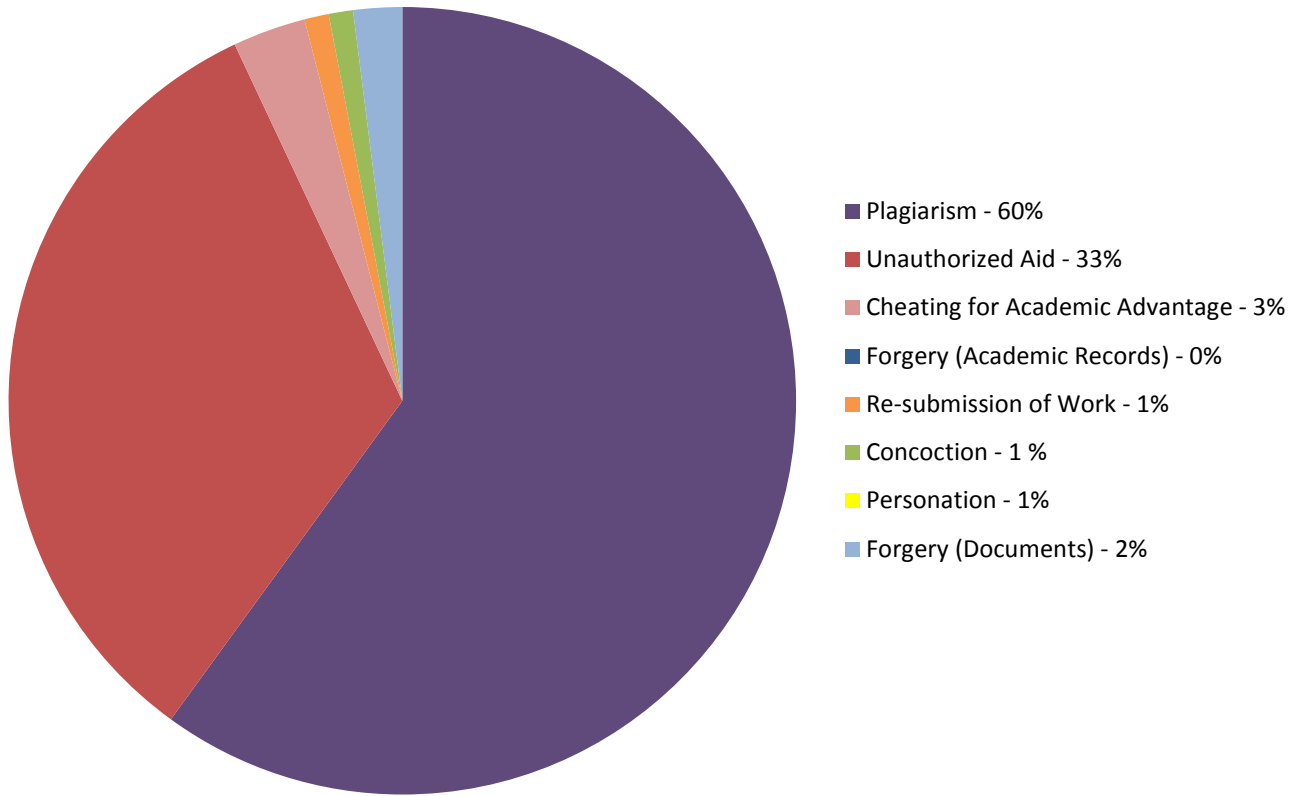
### Total Number of Offences by Type Per Year - All Divisions



### Total Top Two Offences Per Year - All Divisions



### Total Number of Offences by Type for 2017-2018 - All Divisions



**Table 4A: Timeliness between Date of Offence and Case Resolved**

Year July 1-June 30	Time between Date of Offence and Case Resolved				
	Within 6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	12-15 months	Total
2013-14	87.2%	8%	2.6%	1.8%	99.6%
2014-15	90.7%	5.0%	2.4%	1.8%	99.9%
2015-16	86.1%	7.8%	3.3%	2.8%	100%
2016-17	89.2%	6.3%	1.9%	2.5%	99.9%
2017-18	77.5%	8%	5.3%	9%	99.8%

**Table 4B: Timeliness between Date Academic Integrity Office Became Aware and Case Resolved**

Year July 1-June 30	Time between Date Academic Integrity Office Became Aware and Case Resolved				
	Within 6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	12-15 months	Total
2013-14	93.8%	3.7%	1.4%	0.6%	99.5%
2014-15	95.8%	2.5%	1.2%	0.5%	100%
2015-16	93%	4.3%	1.5%	1.2%	100%
2016-17	94.7%	2.9%	1.2%	1.2%	100%
2017-18	81%	6.3%	2.2%	10.2%	99.7%

**Table 4C: Timeliness for 2017-2018- By Division**

Division	2017-18				
	Time between Date of Offence and Case Resolved				
	6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	12-15 months	Total
Applied Science & Engineering	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Architecture	97%	3%	0%	0%	100%
Arts & Science	91%	8%	1%	.5%	100.5%
Dentistry	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Graduate Studies	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Law	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Medicine	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Music	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Nursing	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
OISE / UT	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pharmacy	77%	11%	11%	0%	99%
Kinesiology & Physical Education	71%	14%	14%	0%	99%
U of T Mississauga	54%	15%	13%	16%	98%
U of T Scarborough	84%	2%	1%	12%	99%
<b>Total</b>	77.5%	8%	5.3%	9%	99.8%

**Table 4D: Timeliness for 2017-2018- By Division**



	2017-18				
Division	Time between Date Academic Integrity Office Became Aware and Case Resolved				
	6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	12-15 months	Total
Applied Science & Engineering	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Architecture	97%	3%	0%	0%	100%
Arts & Science	96%	3%	0%	1%	100%
Dentistry	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Graduate Studies	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Law	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Medicine	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Music	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Nursing	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
OISE / UT	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pharmacy	77%	22%	0%	0%	99%
Kinesiology & Physical Education	71%	14%	14%	0%	99%
U of T Mississauga	69%	14%	6%	10%	99%
U of T Scarborough	84%	2%	1%	12%	99%
<b>Total</b>	81%	6.3%	2.2%	10.2%	99.7%

**NOTE:** For Timeliness Tables 4 A, B, C and D some totals do not equal 100%, because of rounding.

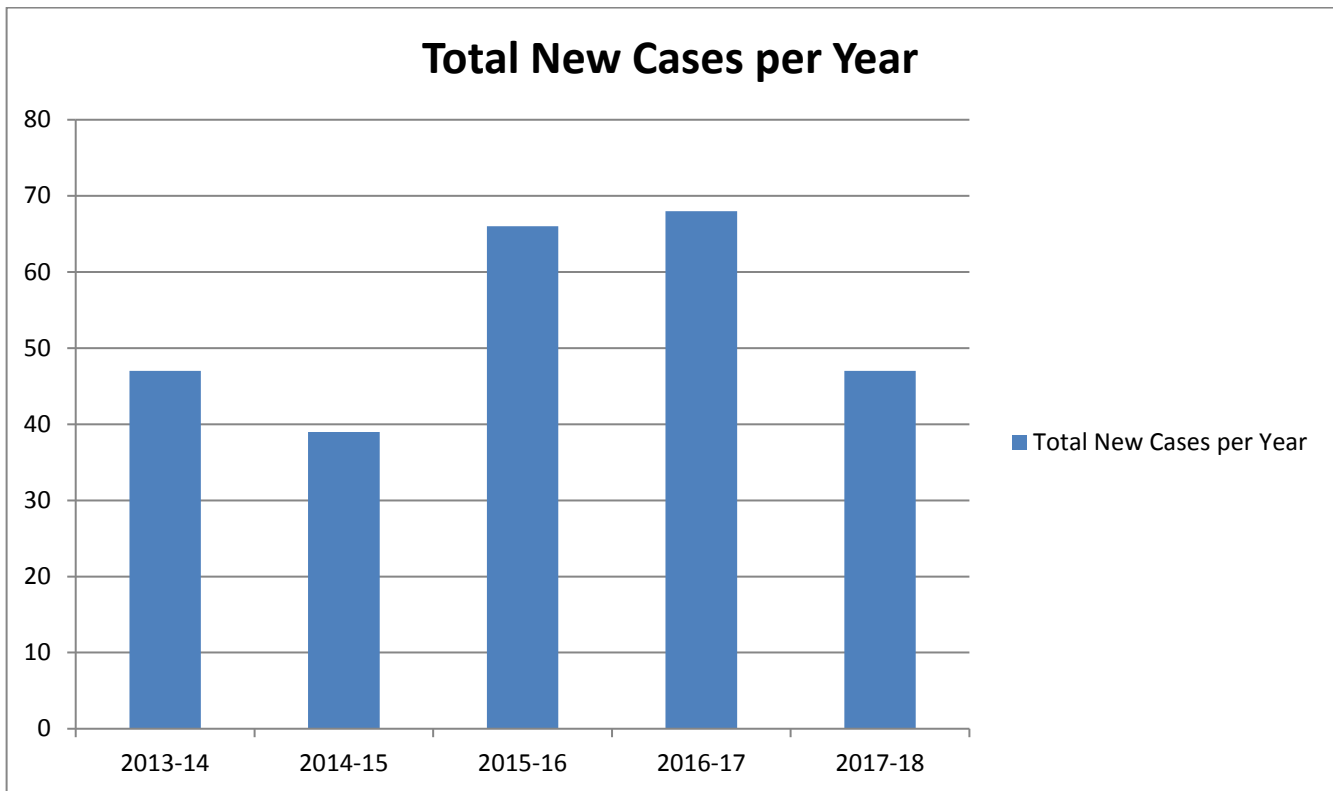
Appendix B: Summary of University Tribunal Cases 2017-2018

Table 1: Overview of Open Cases

Year July 1-June 30	Cases Carried Forward charges laid before July 1	New Cases charges laid	Total Open Cases	Cases Resolved*	Cases Carried Forward ** (as of July 1, 2018)
2013-14	35	47	82	45	37
2014-15	37	39	76	36	40
2015-16	40	66	106	53	53
2016-17	53	68	121	61	60
2017-18	60	47	107	56	51

\*These include cases that were returned to the decanal level/settled/withdrawn.

\*\* Some of these cases that were active (carried forward) on July 1<sup>st</sup> have since been closed.



**Table 2: Total Number of Cases by Final Outcome**

Outcome	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Acquittal	0	0	1	0	1
Degree Recall	0	1	1	0	2*
Expulsion from University	7	6	8	8	16*
Suspension	19	18	24	31	17
Returned to Decanal Level / Minutes of Settlement/Charges Withdrawn	19	11	19	22	21

**NOTE:** if some students were acquitted of some of the charges against them, it is not reflected under acquittal, as this column refers to those acquitted of all charges.

\*Refers to a case whereby the student's degree was recalled and cancelled, and additionally, they were expelled from the University. We have included both outcomes within this table.

**Table 3: Total Number of Cases Appealed\***

	2013-14*	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Total	1	1	1	2	4

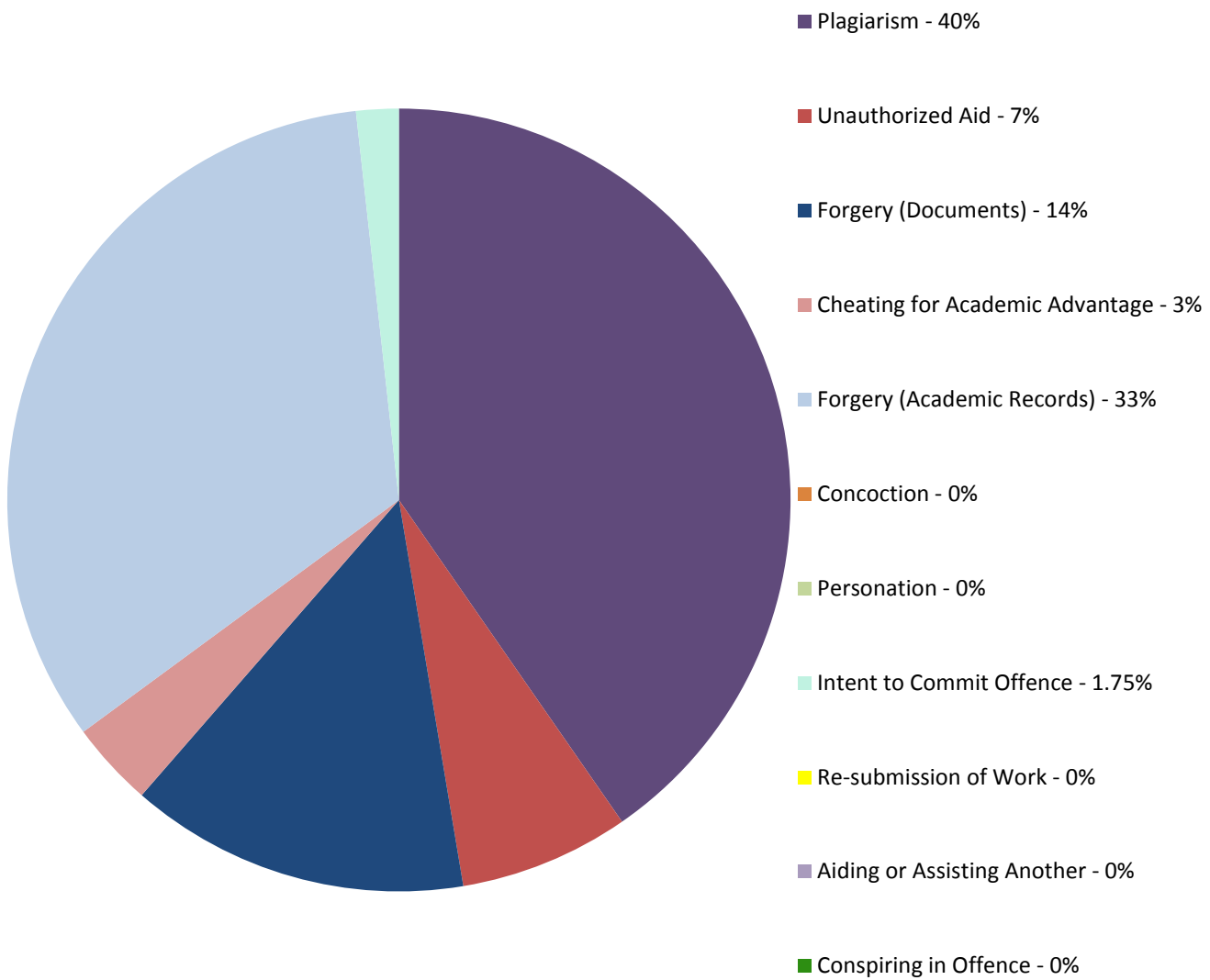
\* Some other cases were appealed during this period but they will be recorded in the year the decision is issued.

**Table 4: Total Number of Offences by Type\***

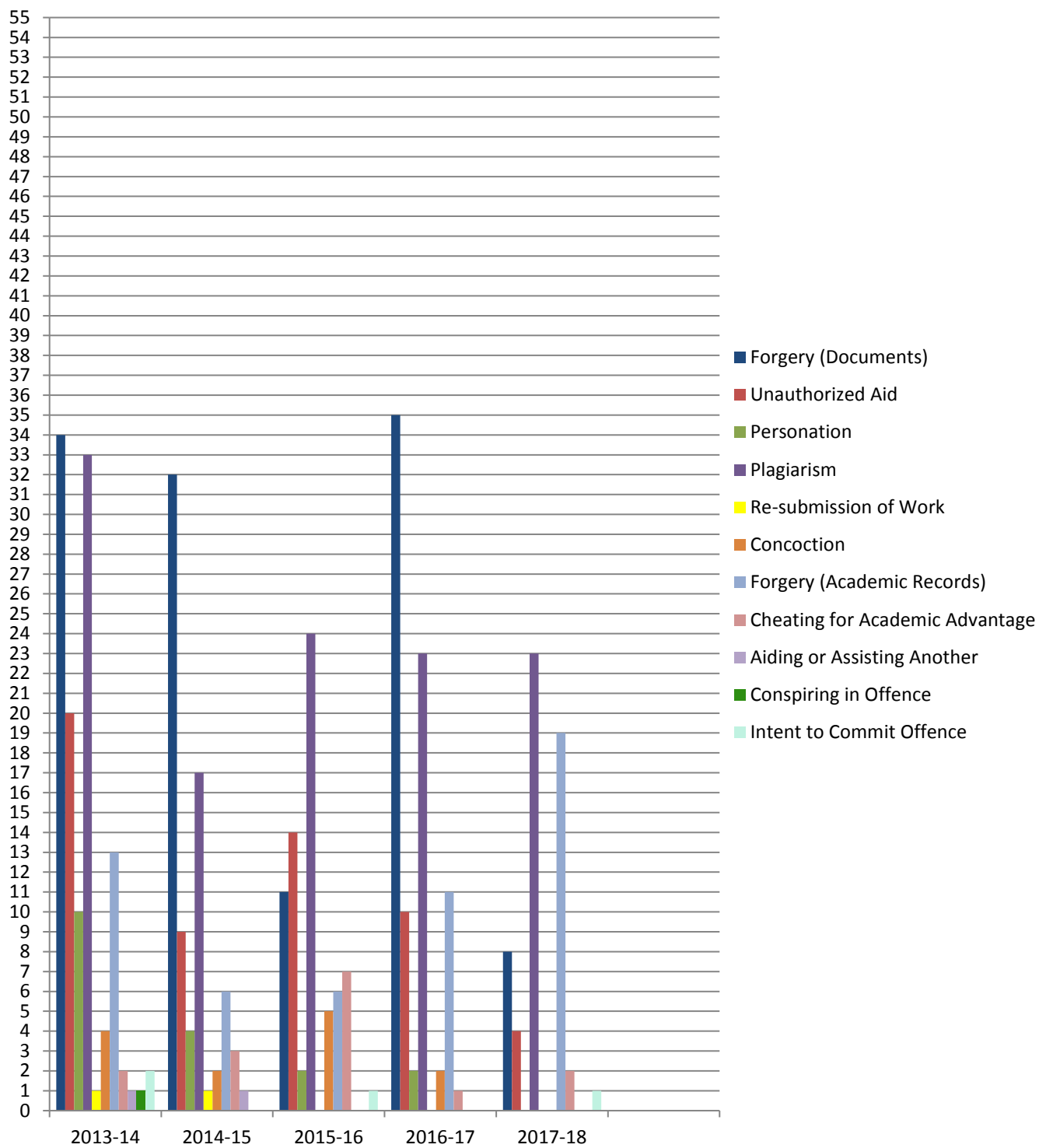
Charge Code	Charge Text	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
B.i.1(a)	Forgery (documents, not transcripts)	34	32	11	35	8
B.i.1(b)	Unauthorized aid or receiving assistance	20	9	14	10	4
B.i.1(c)	Personation	10	4	2	2	0
B.i.1(d)	Plagiarism	33	17	24	23	23
B.i.1(e)	Re-submission of work	1	1	0	0	0
B.i.1(f)	Concoction	4	2	5	2	0
B.i.3(a)	Forgery (academic records)	13	6	6	11	19
B.i.3(b)	Cheating for academic advantage	2	3	7	1	2
B.ii.1(a).ii	Aiding or assisting another	1	1	0	0	0
B.ii.1(a).iv	Conspiring in offence	1	0	0	0	0
B.ii.2	Intent to commit offence	2	0	1	0	1

\*Starting in 2014-15, we do not count offences that went back to the decanal level, as they are now counted by the Divisions. This is to avoid double-counting. Second, for the Tribunal level we do not count just the primary offence, but rather, count all offences for which the Tribunal found an individual guilty.

### Total Number of Offences by Type for 2017-2018



### Total Number of Offences by Type per Year



**Table 5: Total Number of Offenders by Division**

Division*	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Applied Science & Engineering	3	2	2	2	0

Architecture, Landscape, Design				2	0
Arts & Science	12	6	17	12	14
Dentistry	0	0	0	0	0
Graduate Studies	1	4	1	4	7
Law	1	0	0	0	0
Medicine	0	0	1	0	0
Music	0	0	0	0	0
Nursing	0	0	0	0	0
OISE / UT	0	0	0	0	0
Pharmacy	0	0	0	1	3
Kinesiology & Physical Education	0	0	0	0	0
U of T Mississauga	18	13	24	34	19
U of T Scarborough	10	11	8	6	13

\* These include offenders whose cases went back to decanal level for resolution/settled/withdrawn.

**Table 6a: Timeliness between Charges Laid and Order Issued**

Year July 1-June 30	Time between Charges Laid and Order Issued				
	Within 6 months	6-9 months	9 -12 months	12-15 months	Total*
2013-14	59%	23%	4.5%	9%	95.5%
2014-15	24%	16%	28%	0%	68%
2015-16	78%	13%	3%	6%	100%
2016-17	74.3%	20%	3%	0%	97%
2017-18	50%	30%	13%	3%	96%

\* The total is calculated based on the total number of cases where an Order was issued. For 2017-18, an Order was issued in 86% of all cases that went to a hearing. Of these, 1 case had an Order issued outside of the 15-month mark, due to multiple adjournment requests made by, and granted to, the student.

**Table 6b: Timeliness between Charges Laid and Written Reasons**

Year July 1-June 30	Time between Charges Laid and Written Reasons				
	Within 6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	12-15 months	Total
2013-14	31%	23%	19%	12%	85%
2014-15	16%	4%	8%	24%	52%
2015-16	47%	26%	12%	3%	88%
2016-17	33%	31%	31%	0%	95%
2017-18	17%	26%	29%	11%	83%

**NOTE:** Tables 6a and 6b do not include offenders whose cases went back to decanal level for resolution or were settled, but it does include decisions that were appealed. Also, in 86% of cases that proceeded to a hearing, either an Order or written reasons were issued within 15 months. For all cases where orders and/or decisions were released after 15 months, an analysis was conducted. In each of these cases, there were either adjournment requests made by the student, and/or matter was appealed.