



**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 12, 2019 for November 21, 2019

**AGENDA ITEM:** 12(a)

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Provost's Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline 2018-2019

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

The *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters, 1995* requires the Provost to report annually in statistical format on cases of academic discipline to Academic Board.

**GOVERNANCE PATH:**

1. **Academic Board [for information] (Nov 21, 2019)**

**PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

On November 22, 2018, the Academic Board received the Provost's Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline for 2017-2018.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

See attached report.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no financial implications.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For information.

## Provost's Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline 2018-19

*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 academic integrity strategy is led institutionally by the tri-campus Provostial Advisory Group on Academic Integrity. Responsibility for academic integrity, however, is shared with the divisions. Dean's Offices, dedicated offices within the larger divisions, and faculty and instructors all work together to ensure that students meet clear expectations around academic integrity. The Centre for Teaching Support and Innovation has also played a significant role in educating instructors on assignment and syllabus structures that ensure students respect these expectations.

Professional development workshops for faculty and staff engaged in academic integrity processes are also held biannually, with approximately 50 individuals typically attending. The workshops include advice on meeting a division's obligations under the *Code*, as well as tips and best practices on meeting with students whose actions are being considered as an offence under the *Code*.

Divisional campaigns to build awareness of academic integrity have been enhanced by a centrally-organized campaign alerting students to academic integrity scenarios that reappear frequently in cases at the University Tribunal. This campaign has seen 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 that are able to be managed entirely within the divisions, and one for those that proceed to the University Tribunal. Cases proceed to the Tribunal based on the seriousness of the type of offence, the weight of an assignment in which an offence has been committed, or the fact that the student has not admitted to the behavior being charged. The Provost's Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline contains two distinct Appendices that reflect these two processes, with **Appendix A** outlining statistics and trends pertaining to cases which 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. In a welcome trend, this past

academic year saw reductions in a) the total number of students and the percentage of our students who had cases dealt with by a division, b) the number of students facing new charges who had previously committed an offence under the *Code*, and c) the overall number of *Code* offences that were dealt with by the divisions. The number of new cases before the Tribunal has also not returned to the 2016-17 level, a previous high.

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

# Provost's Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline

## Appendix A: Summary of Divisional Academic Discipline Cases 2018-2019

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

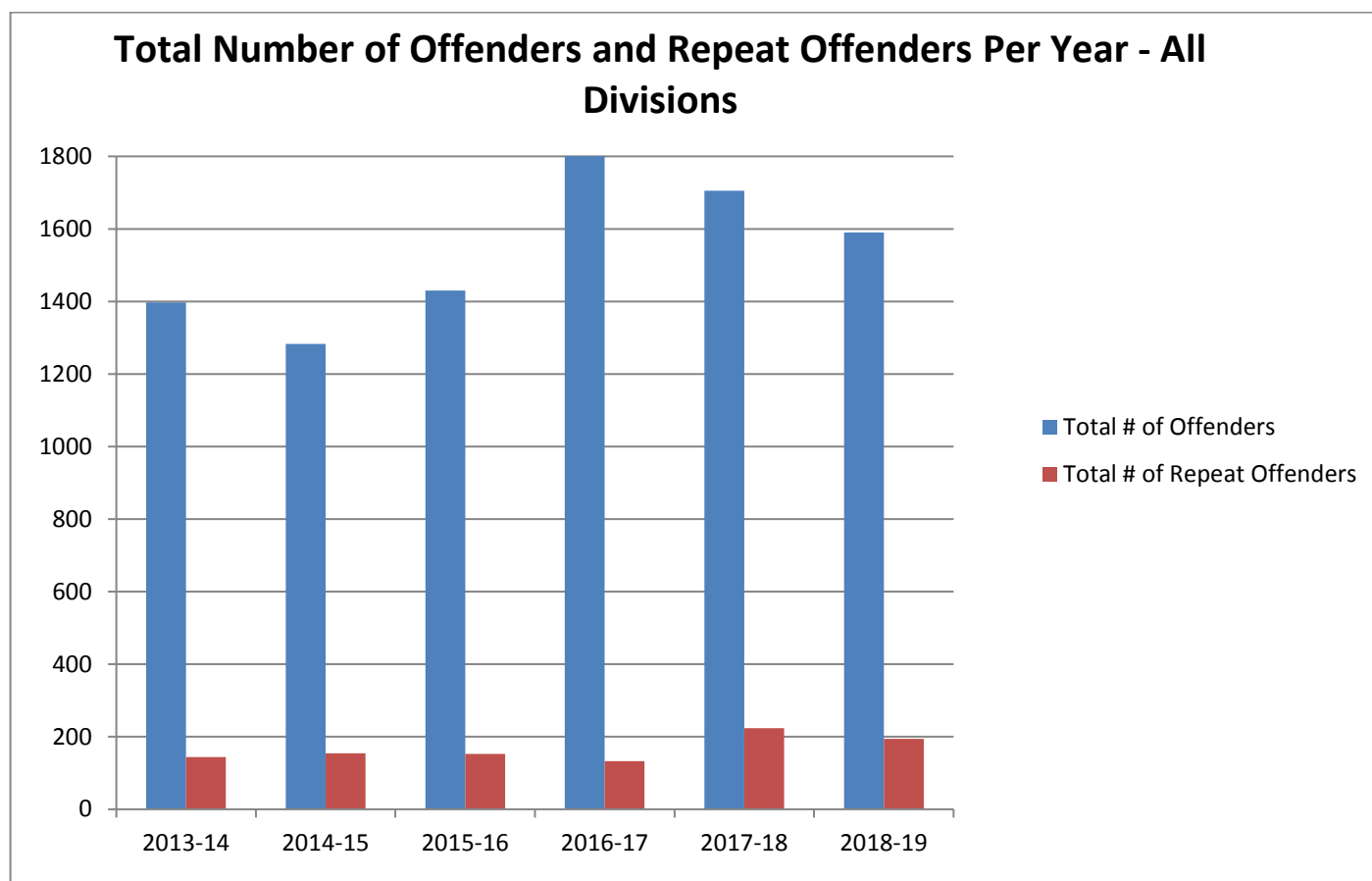
Division	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
	Total # of Student Offenders by Division	% of Offenders based on Student Population	Total # of Student Offenders by Division	% of Offenders based on Student Population	Total # of Student Offenders by Division	% of Offenders based on Student Population	Total # of Student Offenders by Division	% of Offenders based on Student Population	Total # of Student Offenders by Division	% of Offenders based on Student Population
Applied Science & Engineering	146	2.6%	99	1.7%	75	1.3%	57	1.1%	70	1.3%
Architecture	8	1.3%	7	0.8%	13	1.4%	29	2.8%	10	0.9%
Arts & Science	509	2.0%	590	2.1%	718	2.6%	535	1.9%	657	2.4%
Dentistry	1	0.2%	11	2.6%	7	1.6%	2	0.5%	3	0.7%
Graduate Studies	23	0.1%	44	0.3%	41	0.2%	51	0.3%	34	0.2%
Law	0	0%	2	0.3%	0	0%	2	0.3%	0	0%
Medicine	0	0%	2	0.04%	4	0.1%	0	0%	0	0%
Music	6	1.0%	4	0.7%	0	0%	8	1.5%	19	3.5%
Nursing	0	0%	4	1.1%	1	0.3%	3	0.9%	3	0.9%
OISE / UT	1	0.1%	1	0.3%	0	0%	0	0%	N/A	N/A <sup>1</sup>
Pharmacy	50	4.7%	12	1.1%	21	1.9%	7	0.6%	4	0.4%
Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education	8	0.9%	4	0.4%	21	2.0%	7	0.7%	16	1.5%
U of T Mississauga	382	3.0%	432	3.2%	503	3.6%	511	3.6%	582	4.0%
U of T Scarborough	149	1.3%	218	1.7%	414	3.2%	493	3.6%	192	1.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1283</b>	<b>1.5%<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>1430</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>1818</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>1705</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>1590</b>	<b>1.8%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Given that OISE no longer has undergraduate programs, OISE's statistics are now captured within the Graduate Studies statistics.

<sup>2</sup> This calculation for 2014-15 inadvertently did not include graduate students, but has been corrected for subsequent years.

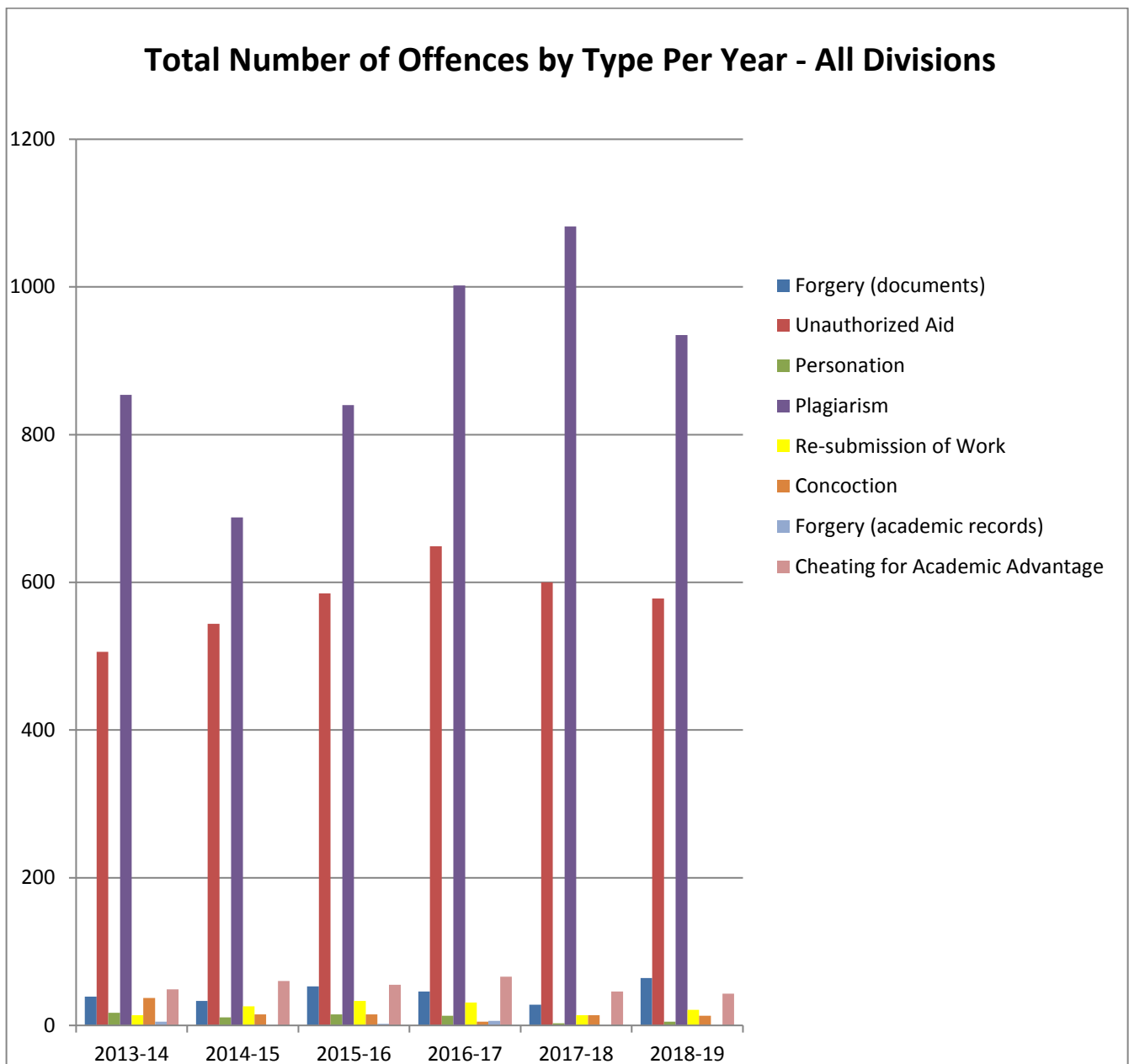
**Table 2: Total Number of Repeat Student Offenders by Division  
(only where sanction is imposed)**

Division	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Applied Science & Engineering	26	12	10	14	4
Architecture	0	0	0	2	3
Arts & Science	61	61	58	49	57
Dentistry	0	0	0	0	1
Graduate Studies	0	1	0	1	5
Law	0	0	0	0	0
Medicine	0	0	0	0	0
Music	1	0	0	0	0
Nursing	0	0	0	0	0
OISE / UT	0	0	0	0	N/A
Pharmacy	0	0	0	0	0
Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education	0	0	0	0	1
U of T Mississauga	37	62	54	79	94
U of T Scarborough	29	17	11	79	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>194</b>

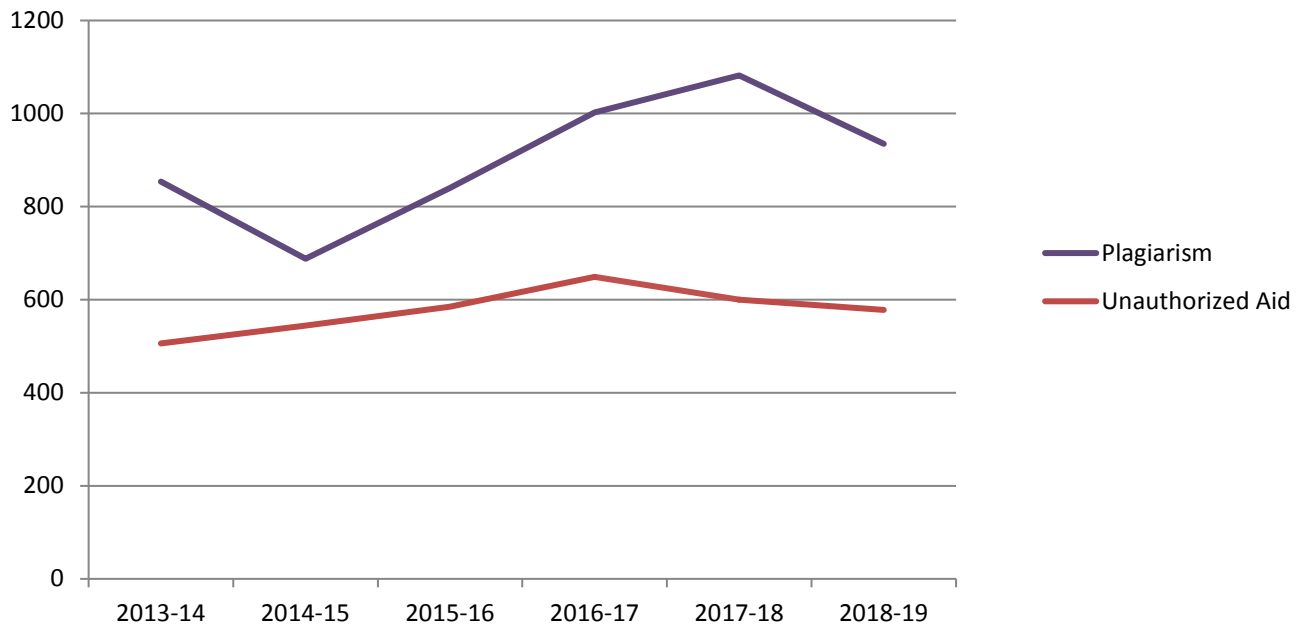


**Table 3: Total Number of Offences by Type – All Divisions**

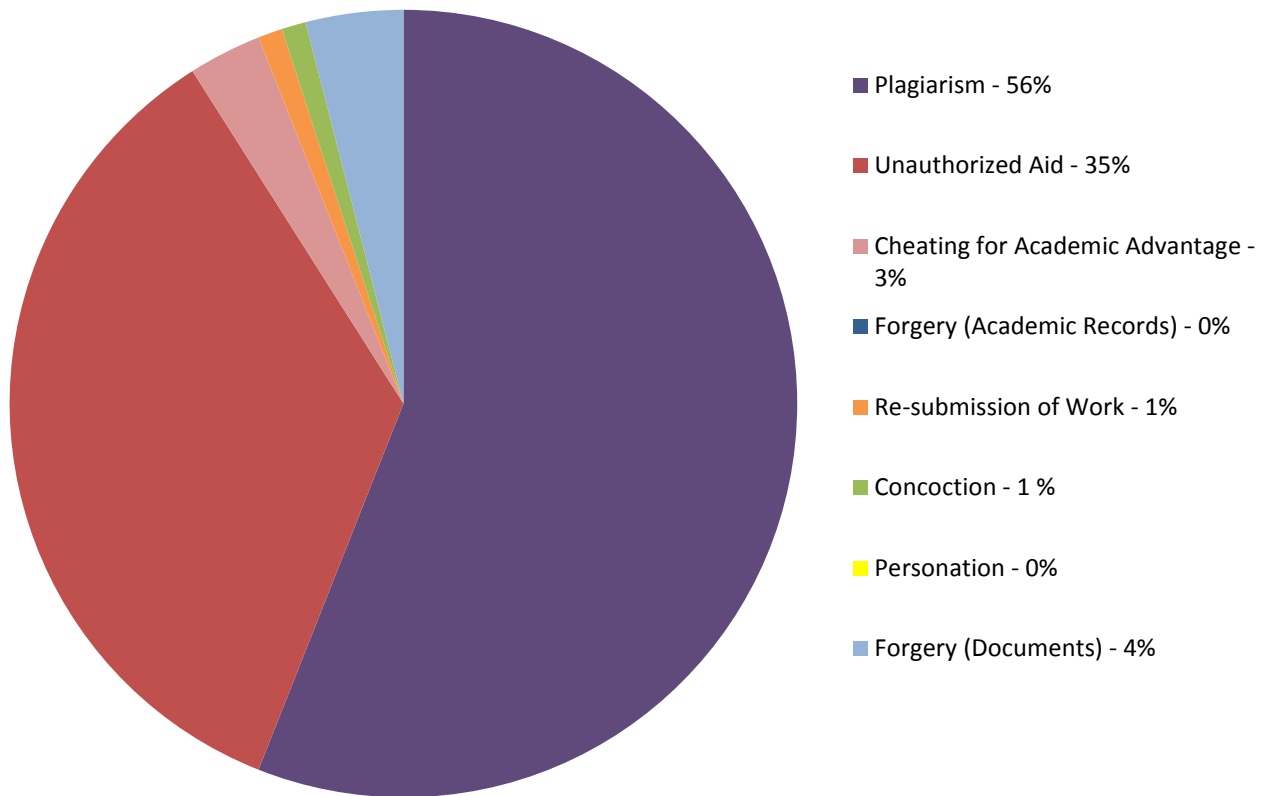
Charge Code	Charge Text	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
B.i.1(a)	Forgery (documents, not transcripts)	33	53	46	28	64
B.i.1(b)	Unauthorized aid	544	585	649	600	578
B.i.1(c)	Personation	11	15	13	3	5
B.i.1(d)	Plagiarism	688	840	1002	1082	935
B.i.1(e)	Re-submission of work	26	33	31	14	21
B.i.1(f)	Concoction	15	20	5	14	13
B.i.3(a)	Forgery (academic records)	0	2	6	0	0
B.i.3(b)	Cheating for academic advantage	60	55	66	46	43
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1377</b>	<b>1603</b>	<b>1818</b>	<b>1787</b>	<b>1659</b>



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



### Total Number of Offences by Type for 2018-2019 - 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
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%
2018-19	79.5%	8.7%	5.5%	6.3%	99.9%

**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
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%
2018-19	86.6%	5.2%	4.2%	3.9%	99.9%

**Table 4C: Timeliness for 2018-2019- By Division**

	2018-19				
Division	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	17%	0%	8%	67%	92%
Arts & Science	91%	7%	2%	0%	100%
Dentistry	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Graduate Studies	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Law	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Medicine	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Music	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Nursing	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Pharmacy	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kinesiology & Physical Education	81%	0%	13%	6%	100%
U of T Mississauga	60%	15%	11%	14%	100%
U of T Scarborough	89%	5%	3%	3%	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>79.5%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>99.9%</b>



**Table 4D: Timeliness for 2018-2019- By Division**

	2018-19				
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	17%	0%	8%	67%	92%
Arts & Science	98%	1%	0%	0%	99%
Dentistry	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Graduate Studies	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Law	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Medicine	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Music	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Nursing	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Pharmacy	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Kinesiology & Physical Education	81%	0%	13%	6%	100%
U of T Mississauga	71%	11%	10%	9%	101%
U of T Scarborough	91%	6%	1%	1%	99%
<b>Total</b>	86.6%	5.2%	4.2%	3.9%	99.9%

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

# Provost's Annual Report on Cases of Academic Discipline

## Appendix B: Summary of University Tribunal Cases 2018-2019

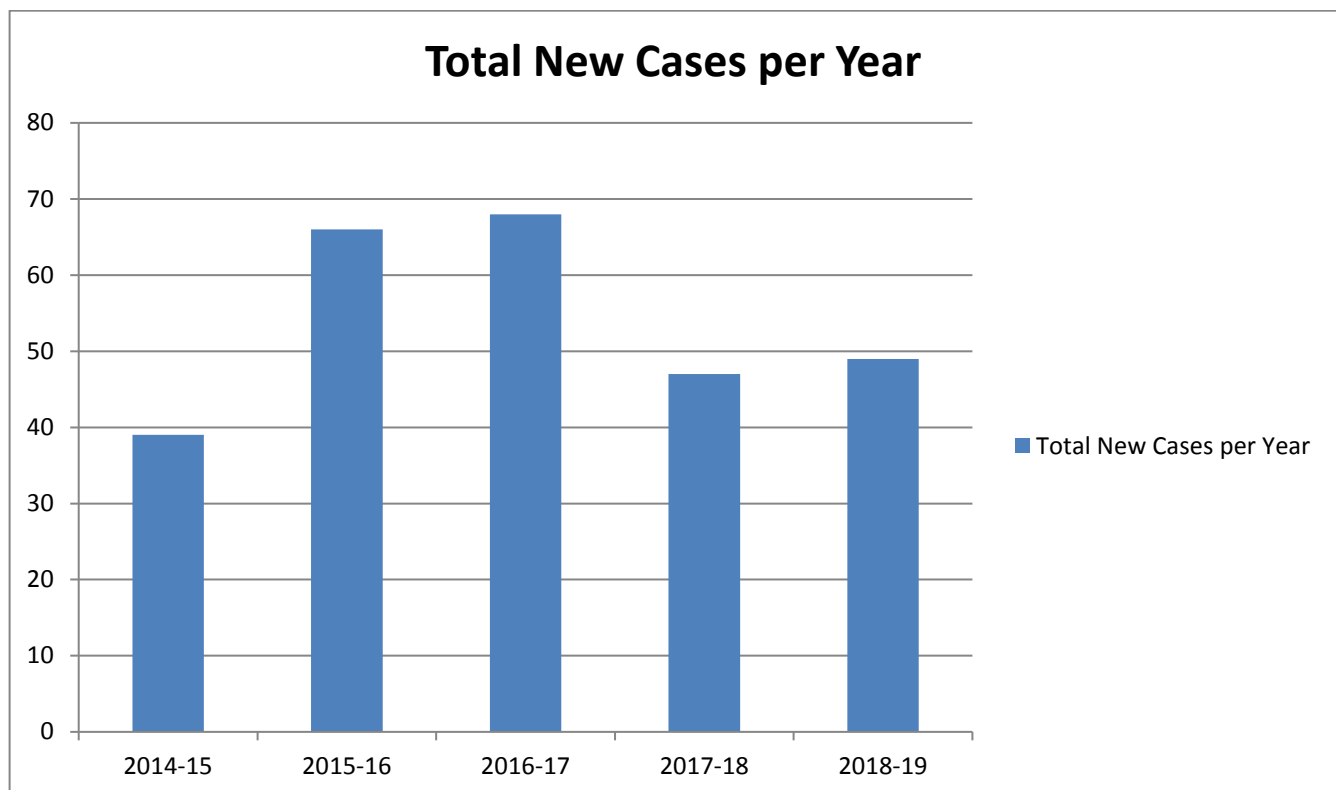
**Table 1: Overview of Open Cases**

<b>Year</b> July 1-June 30	<b>Cases Carried Forward</b> charges laid before July 1	<b>New Cases</b> charges laid	<b>Total Open Cases</b>	<b>Cases Resolved*</b>	<b>Cases Carried Forward **</b> (as of July 1, 2019)
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
2018-19	51	49***	100	49	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.

\*\*\*This number represents cases that went through the *Code of Behaviour*. In addition to these cases, there were two academic discipline cases where charges were laid, but not processed under the *Code of Behaviour*.



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

Outcome	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Acquittal*	0	1	0	1	0
Degree Recall	1	1	0	2	1
Degree Suspension**	0	0	0	0	1
Expulsion from University	6	8	8	16	13
Suspension	18	24	31	17	13
Returned to Decanal Level / Minutes of Settlement/Charges Withdrawn	11	19	22	21	21

\* This row refers to those acquitted of all charges, not those acquitted of partial charges.

\*\* The Degree Suspension column was added to the chart in 2018-19, when we recorded the first such sanction. There was an additional case where a student received both a degree suspension and a degree recall, because they had two separate offences, each related to a separate degree. In that case, we only counted the Degree Recall and not the Degree Suspension, to avoid duplication and double counting.

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

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Total	1	1	2	4	1

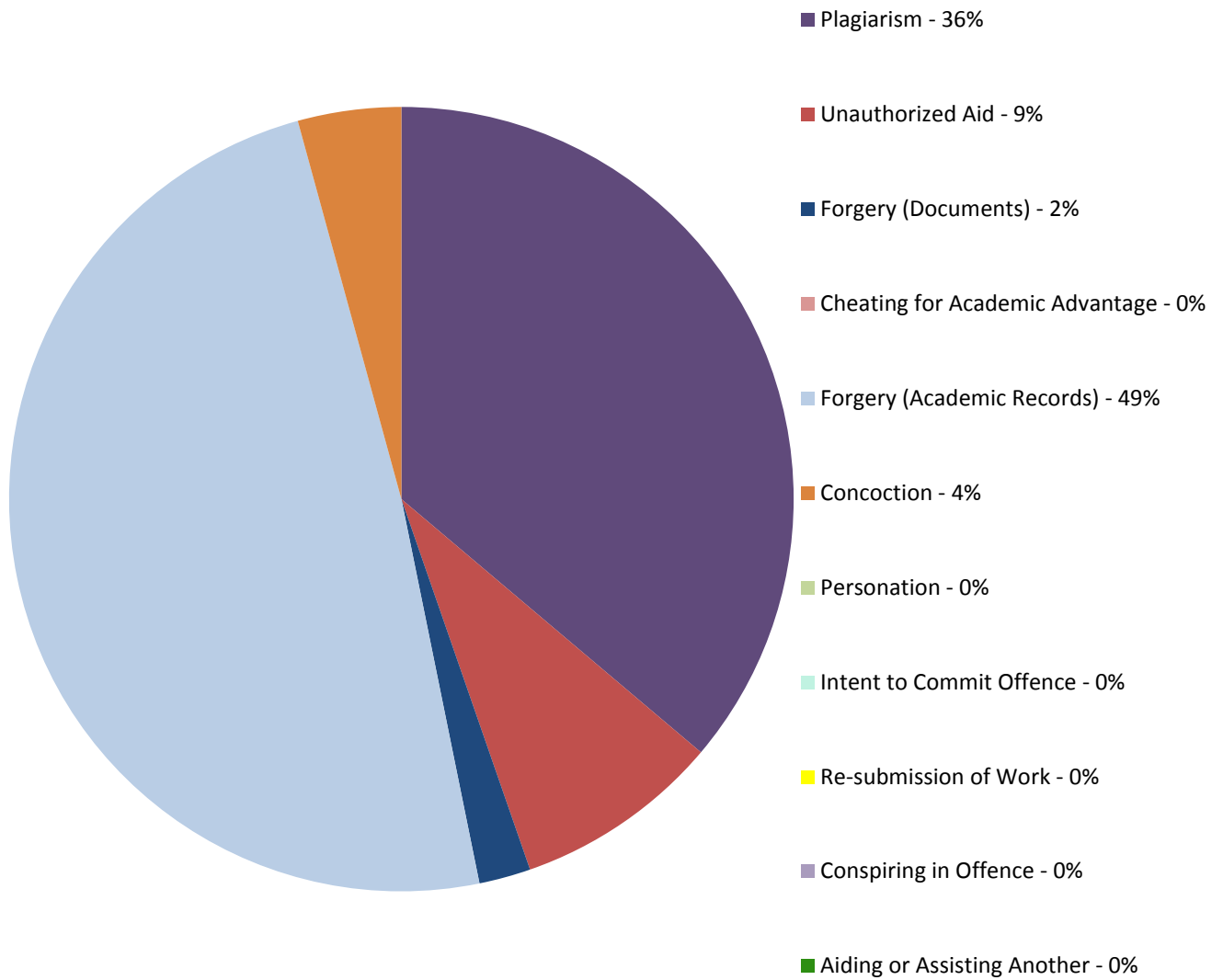
\* Appeal cases are reported in the year the decision is issued, and not in the year the appeal is filed.

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

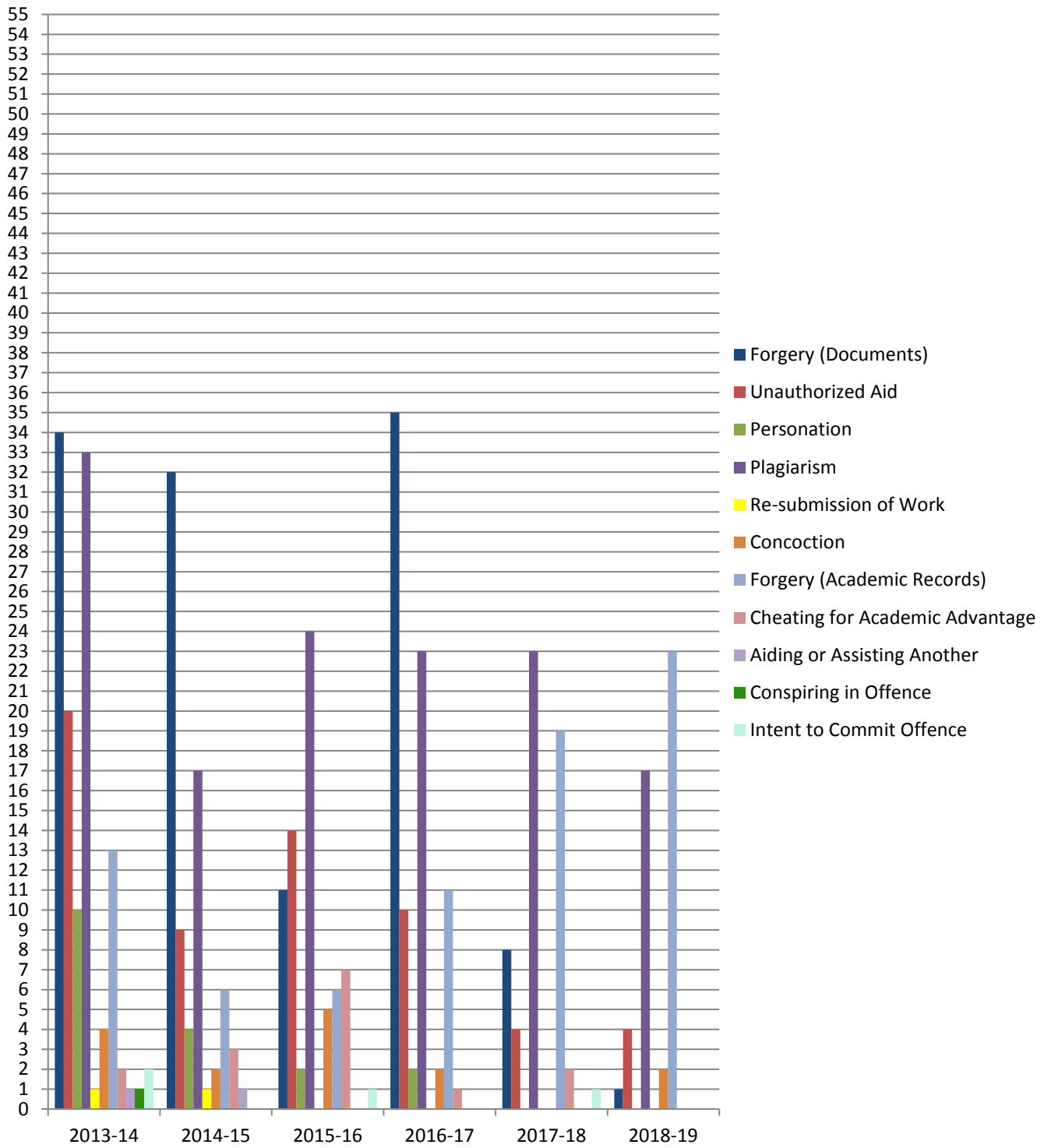
Charge Code	Charge Text	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
B.i.1(a)	Forgery (documents, not transcripts)	32	11	35	8	1
B.i.1(b)	Unauthorized aid or receiving assistance	9	14	10	4	4
B.i.1(c)	Personation	4	2	2	0	0
B.i.1(d)	Plagiarism	17	24	23	23	17
B.i.1(e)	Re-submission of work	1	0	0	0	0
B.i.1(f)	Concoction	2	5	2	0	2
B.i.3(a)	Forgery (academic records)	6	6	11	19	23
B.i.3(b)	Cheating for academic advantage	3	7	1	2	0
B.ii.1(a).ii	Aiding or assisting another	1	0	0	0	0
B.ii.1(a).iv	Conspiring in offence	0	0	0	0	0
B.ii.2	Intent to commit offence	0	1	0	1	0

\* This chart captures all offences for which the Tribunal made an official finding of guilt. Offences that went back to the decanal level are counted by the Division, in order to avoid double counting.

## Total Number of Offences by Type for 2018-2019



# Total Number of Offences by Type per Year



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

<b>Division*</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>
Applied Science & Engineering	2	2	2	0	2
Architecture, Landscape, Design	NA**	NA	2	0	1
Arts & Science	6	17	12	14	10
Dentistry	0	0	0	0	0
Graduate Studies	4	1	4	7	8
Law	0	0	0	0	0
Medicine	0	1	0	0	0
Music	0	0	0	0	0
Nursing	0	0	0	0	0
OISE / UT	0	0	0	0	0
Pharmacy	0	0	1	3	0
Kinesiology & Physical Education	0	0	0	0	0
U of T Mississauga	13	24	34	19	21
U of T Scarborough	11	8	6	13	7

\* This chart includes offenders whose cases went back to decanal level for resolution/settlement/withdrawal.

\*\* This division previously did not have undergraduate students, and its cases were captured solely under 'Graduate Studies'.

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

<b>Year</b> July 1-June 30	<b>Time between Charges Laid and Order Issued</b>				
	<b>Within 6 months</b>	<b>6-9 months</b>	<b>9-12 months</b>	<b>12-15 months</b>	<b>Total*</b>
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%
2018-19	70%	11%	15%	4%	100%

\* The total is calculated based on the total number of cases where an Order was issued. For 2018-19, an Order was issued in all but one case that went to a hearing.

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

<b>Year</b> July 1-June 30	<b>Time between Charges Laid and Written Reasons</b>				
	<b>Within 6 months</b>	<b>6-9 months</b>	<b>9-12 months</b>	<b>12-15 months</b>	<b>Total</b>
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%
2018-19	36%	43%	4%	14%	97%

**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 97% of cases that proceeded to a hearing, either an Order or written reasons were issued within 15 months. There was one case where the process took longer than 15 months, due to multiple appeals and adjournment requests by the student.