

FOR INFORMATION PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

TO: UTM Academic Affairs Committee

SPONSOR:Professor William Gough, Vice-Principal Academic & DeanCONTACT INFO:vpad@utm.utoronto.ca

PRESENTER: CONTACT INFO:

- **DATE:** May 1, 2025 for May 8, 2025
- AGENDA ITEM: 9

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Annual Report: Academic Integrity, 2023-24

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Under section 5.7 of its Terms of Reference, the Committee receives, annually from its assessors, reports on matters within its areas of responsibility, including statements of current issues, opportunities and problems, and recommendations for changes in policies, plans or priorities that would address such issues.

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. UTM Academic Affairs Committee [For Information] (May 8, 2025)

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The annual report was provided to the Academic Affairs Committee on May 6, 2024.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Academic Integrity Unit (AIU) in the Office of the Vice-Principal Academic & Dean (OVPAD) is responsible for managing all allegations of undergraduate academic misconduct, under the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (the Code). The AIU offers guidance to faculty, staff, and students on matters and procedures concerning academic integrity.

This report spans from September 1, 2023, to August 31, 2024, and outlines the outcomes of cases resolved at the departmental, divisional, and Tribunal levels. It presents statistics on the number of cases per ademic year, distribution across academic units, offences categorized by

year of student, and types of offences. The data encompasses cases resolved with sanctions, as well as those dismissed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no financial implications.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Information

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

2023-2024 Annual Report on Academic Integrity.



Annual Report to the Academic Affairs Committee (September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024)

The Academic Integrity Unit (AIU) in the Office of the Vice-Principal Academic & Dean (OVPAD) assumes responsibility for addressing all allegations of undergraduate academic misconduct at the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM), under the University's <u>Code of Behaviour on Academic</u> <u>Matters</u> (*the Code*).

Aligned with the principles outlined by the International Centre for Academic Integrity, UTM defines academic integrity as a commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage across all academic endeavours. Upholding these values not only fosters a culture of integrity, but also reinforces UofT's reputation as a leading teaching and research institution. The expectations for integrity are described in *the Code*, which outlines the responsibilities of every member of the University.

The AIU fulfills several functions, including:

- 1. Addressing all instances of academic misconduct at UTM, in accordance with *the Code*.
- 2. Educating faculty, staff, and students on matters pertaining to academic integrity and the related processes.
- 3. Cultivating a culture of academic integrity and intellectual honesty within the UTM community.

Collaborating closely with students, staff, and faculty, the AIU actively promotes, through a wide range educational outreach events, awareness about academic integrity. We encourage all members of the University community to engage with these resources and join us in nurturing a positive learning environment that prioritizes the importance of academic integrity.

Count of Cases by Academic Year:

This graph illustrates the total number of academic integrity cases across academic years spanning from 2013-2014 to 2023-2024. The most notable surge in cases was observed during the 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22 academic years, coinciding with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the transition to remote learning. After this peak, the number of cases has decreased, but remained relatively high compared pre-pandemic conditions, with 969 in 2023-24.



Source: Academic Integrity Database. Data pulled April 10, 2025

Count of Cases by Year of Study:

This graph illustrates the distribution of cases across different years of student. The highest number of offences occurred in Year 1. This number decreases significantly in subsequent years, suggesting that the number of cases tends to decline as students' progress through their years of study.



Source: Academic Integrity Database. Data pulled April 10, 2025

Count of Cases by Academic Unit:

This breakdown highlights the distribution of academic integrity cases across the academic units during the 2023-24 academic year. The Department of Mathematical and Computational Sciences reported the highest number of cases, with 332. This is followed by Visual Students with 85 cases and Sociology with 76 cases.



Source: Academic Integrity Database. Data pulled April 10, 2025

Count of Cases by Type of Offence:

This breakdown outlines academic integrity cases by offence type for the 2023-2024 academic year. The most prevalent offence type was "unauthorized aids or assistance," with plagiarism also standing out as a notable offence.



Academic Integrity Full Course Equivalent (FCE) Data:

The Divisional Research, Analysis, and Assessment team in the OVPAD provided the following comparative data between Full Course Equivalents (FCEs) and AI cases per unit for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Department	FCE	Number of Cases	FCE/Number of Cases
Anthropology	3582	24	149.3
Biology	4378.75	33	132.7
Chemical and Physical Sciences	3470.5	23	150.9
Economics	4325.5	33	131.1
English and Drama	1872.5	37	50.6
Geography	3453.5	18	191.9
Historical Studies		38	63.7
Institute for the Study of University Pedagogy	1530	7	218.6

Institute of Communication and Culture	4671.5	48	97.3
Language Studies	3598	45	80.0
Management	4194.5	19	220.8
Mathematical and Computational Sciences	11108	332	33.5
Philosophy	2234.5	61	36.6
Political Science	2601	52	50.0
Psychology	4077.25	34	119.9
Registrar's Office	0	4	0.0
Sociology	3886.5	76	51.1
Visual Studies	1705.5	85	20.1
Total	63,109	969	1797.9

FCE count per AI case. For example, FCE per AI case for MCS is 33.5, meaning that there is, on average, one AI case reported for every 33.5 FCE.