THE UNIVERSITY TRIBUNAL THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

IN THE MATTER OF charges of academic dishonesty filed on July 12, 2012,

AND IN THE MATTER OF the University of Toronto *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*, 1995,

AND IN THE MATTER OF the *University of Toronto Act, 1971*, S.O. 1971, c.56 as amended S.O. 1978, c. 88

BETWEEN:

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

- AND -



Hearing Date: March 4, 2014

Members of the Panel:

Ms. Sana Halwani, Barrister and Solicitor, Chair

Dr. Joel Kirsh, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty Panel Member

Ms. Jenna Jacobson, Student Panel Member

Appearances:

Ms. Lily Harmer, Assistant Discipline Counsel, Paliare Roland Barrister

Ms. Sylvia Schumacher, Lawyer for the Student, Stuart Law

In Attendance:

Ms. Of Karana, the Student

Ms. Natalie Ramtahal, Coordinator, Appeals, Discipline and Faculty Grievances, Office of the

Governing Council

Mr. David Walders, Acting Secretary, Governing Council Secretariat, Observer

I. Charges and Procedural History

- 1. The Trial Division of the Tribunal held a hearing on March 4, 2014 to address the following charges brought by the University of Toronto (the "University") against Office Kutter (the "Student") under the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (the "Code"):
 - On or about January 18, 2012, you knowingly represented as your own an idea or expression of an idea, and/or work of another in connection with a form of academic work, namely an assignment submitted to fulfill the course requirements of PHL333H5S, contrary to section B.I.1(d) of the Code.
 - 2) In the alternative, on or about January 18, 2012, you knowingly engaged in a form of cheating, academic dishonesty or misconduct, fraud or misrepresentation in order to obtain academic credit or other academic advantage of any kind in an assignment submitted to fulfill course requirements in PHL333H5S, contrary to section B.I.3(b) of the Code.
- This matter first came to hearing on January 10, 2013 before a different panel chaired by Mr. Jeffrey Leon. At that time, the Student attended unrepresented and made a request for an adjournment in order to retain counsel.
- The request for an adjournment was granted by the panel, and the Student subsequently retained counsel, Ms. Schumacher, who represented her at the hearing on March 4, 2014.
- 4. In December 2013, a second Notice of Hearing was issued which identified a new panel for the hearing of this matter. On the basis of a joint request by the University and the Student, Mr. Leon ordered that the matter could proceed before a new panel as the original panel had not heard any evidence.

II. Agreed Statement of Facts

5. At the outset of the hearing, the Panel was advised that the Student was pleading guilty to the charges and that the matter would proceed on the basis of an Agreed Statement of Facts (attached as Appendix A to this decision). The Panel was also advised that if the Student's plea was accepted, that the University would withdraw the second, alternative charge.

- 6. The Panel received into evidence a Joint Book of Documents that is referred to in the Agreed Statement of Facts.
- 7. As is set out in more detail in the Agreed Statement of Facts, the charges arose out of an assignment that the Student submitted on January 18, 2012 in PHL333H5S: Issues in Epistemology (the "Course"), which was taught by Professor Jonathan Weisberg.
- 8. The assignment was submitted in both hardcopy and through Turnitin.com, a website that detects potential plagiarism by comparing assignments against a database. Turnitin identified significant similarities between the Student's assignment and a particular student paper submitted to the University of Cape Town. A Google search also revealed that a section of the text of the Assignment was taken from another online source, without attribution.
- 9. The Panel was provided with an annotated version of the assignment identifying the portions that were taken from these sources. From this annotated version it is evident that more than 50% of the assignment was taken verbatim or near verbatim from these sources. The analysis also showed that the Student had changed certain words within phrases taken from these sources, from which the Panel inferred that the Student had taken intentional steps to avoid detection of her copying from these sources.
- 10. Professor Weisberg met with the Student on March 27, 2012 to discuss the similarities between the Assignment and the above-mentioned source materials. He subsequently referred the case to the Office of the Dean.
- 11. On April 17, 2012, the Student attended a Dean's Designate meeting with Professor Sidney Aster to discuss the allegations that she had violated the Code. At the Dean's meeting, the Student indicated that she had not intentionally plagiarized and that she had been distracted because of family celebrations taking place during that time. When asked whether she would like to plead guilty or not guilty, the Student was uncertain how to plead and therefore abstained from pleading. Professor Aster then forwarded the matter to the Provost for resolution.

III. Finding on Charges

12. Following deliberation and based on the facts in the Agreed Statement of Facts and Joint Book of Documents, the Panel concluded that charge 1 had been proven and accepted

the guilty plea of the Student in respect of that charge. Given that finding of guilt the University withdrew charge 2.

IV. Penalty

- The Panel was provided with a further Agreed Statement of Facts for Sanction, which is attached as Appendix B.
- 14. The Student had committed two previous offences. The first took place in Winter 2007 in GGR117Y5Y: Where on Earth (the "Geography Course") and the second took place in Winter 2008 in PHL277Y5Y: Moral Social & Political Philosophy (the "Philosophy Course").
- 15. On April 4, 2007, the Student submitted an assignment worth 6% of her final grade in the Geography Course. When the assignments were corrected, the Teaching Assistant for the course noticed similarities between the Student's assignment and that of another student. When the Student met with the instructor of the Geography Course about this assignment, the Student admitted to having been involved in plagiarism and explained that she had been pressed for time. The Student was given a penalty of a 50% mark reduction for her assignment and warned that any future offences would automatically be forwarded to the VP-Academic's Office.
- 16. On February 27, 2008, the Student submitted an assignment worth 25% of her final grade in the Philosophy Course on Turnitin. A Turnitin Originality Report revealed an Overall Similarity Index of 47% with a 40% match to a paper found on the internet that was submitted at Texas A&M University. When the Student met with the Dean's Designate about this assignment she admitted that she was guilty of plagiarizing the assignment and cited carelessness and family and personal issues to explain her conduct. The Student was given a mark of zero in the Philosophy Course and an annotation on her transcript of "Mark of zero [...] due to academic misconduct" for one year. She was further warned that any subsequent allegations of academic offences would be referred directly to the Tribunal for investigation, which is how she came to be before the Panel on this latest academic offence.
- 17. The Panel was also advised that the Student had entered into an Undertaking to complete eight Academic Skills Workshops totalling a minimum of 7.5 hours of instruction through

- the University's College Writing Centres Academic Skills Workshops (attached as Appendix C). As part of the Undertaking, the Student agreed that she would not be eligible to graduate from the University until she fulfills the Undertaking.
- 18. This Undertaking formed the basis for the Joint Submission on Penalty, which contemplated *inter alia* a three year suspension. The cases indicate that a two year suspension is a threshold penalty for plagiarism (*The University of Toronto and Mr. A*, dated May 13, 2011, para. 29 [Case No. 591]), and given that this was the Student's third plagiarism offence, three years is on the light end of the spectrum.
- 19. The use of these kinds of undertakings is relatively recent. Discipline Counsel took the Panel to the first case in which such an undertaking was considered by the Tribunal in *The University of Toronto and Ms. H ("Ms. H.")*, dated February 16, 2010 [Case No. 490], and to several subsequent cases in which a similar approach has been taken.
- 20. In that decision, the Tribunal noted (at para. 9) that "the panel was satisfied that the University and the Student had approached the concept of the undertaking in a conscientious way by selecting a course of study that would achieve the rehabilitative end required." The Tribunal in Ms. H also noted (at para. 11) that "previous penalties imposed [for previous plagiarism offences of Ms. H] did little to help change behaviour." Taken together these statements echo the views of the Panel that these kinds of undertakings are to be commended, but would likely have a greater impact if they were used at the discovery of a first offence, rather than waiting until a Student is facing suspension or expulsion. The Tribunal clearly has no jurisdiction until a student is before it, but the Panel would urge the University to consider using such undertakings at a student's first brush with academic discipline.
- 21. For similar reasons, the Panel would also recommend that future undertakings contemplate a student completing Academic Skills Workshops or other relevant courses before enrolling in further coursework at the University, if such a staged approach is feasible.
- 22. The Student asked to say a few words to the Panel and was granted the opportunity to do so. She expressed remorse and appeared visibly distressed by the proceedings.
- 23. Counsel for the Student provided submissions on the factors to be taken into consideration in coming to penalty (the factors enunciated in *The University of Toronto*

and Mr. C, dated November 5, 1976 at p. 12 [Case No. 1976/77-3]), including submissions on the character of the Student and extenuating circumstances. However, the Panel could not take the majority of these submissions into consideration because the facts on which they were based were not in evidence.¹

- 24. In the result, little turns on these submissions given the high threshold for rejecting a joint submission. The Panel found that this threshold had not been met in this case. Taking the prior offences and the Undertaking into consideration, the penalty proposed by both parties is in line with penalties ordered in similar circumstances. Certainly, the Panel was of the view that accepting the joint submission on penalty would not bring the administration of justice into disrepute.
- 25. The Panel therefore accepted the joint submission on penalty.

V. <u>Decision of the Panel</u>

- 26. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Panel conferred and made the following order:
 - a. the Student is guilty of one count of plagiarism, contrary to section B.I.1(d) of the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters;
 - the Student shall receive a final grade of zero in PHL333H5S in the 2012 Winter
 Term;
 - c. the Student be suspended from the University for a period of three years, commencing on March 4, 2014 and ending on March 3, 2017;
 - d. the sanction be recorded on the Student's academic record and transcript to the effect that she was sanctioned for academic misconduct, for a period of four years from the date of this Order, to March 3, 2018, or until her graduation from the University, whichever is earlier; and
 - e. this case shall be reported to the Provost for publication of a notice of the decision of the Tribunal and the sanction or sanctions imposed, with the name of the student withheld.

¹ The only facts in evidence were the two Agreed Statements of Facts and the Joint Book of Documents. Although the Student addressed the Tribunal, she was not sworn, and no witnesses were called.

DATED at Toronto, April 23, 2014

Sana Halwani, Co-Chair

APPENDIX A

THE UNIVERSITY TRIBUNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

IN THE MATTER OF charges of academic dishonesty filed on July 12, 2012,

AND IN THE MATTER OF the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters, 1995,

AND IN THE MATTER OF the University of Toronto Act, 1971, S.O. 1971, c. 56 as am. S.O. 1978, c. 88

BETWEEN:

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

- AND -



AGREED STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 1. This hearing arises out of charges of academic misconduct filed by the Provost of the University of Toronto (the "Provost") under the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters ("Code"). For the purposes of this hearing, the Provost and O ("Ms. K") have prepared this Agreed Statement of Facts ("ASF") which references documents in a Book of Documents which has previously been marked in these proceedings as Exhibit 1. The Provost and Ms. K agree that:
 - (a) each document contained in Exhibit 1 may be admitted into evidence at the Tribunal for all purposes, including to prove the truth of the document's contents, without further need to prove the document; and
 - (b) if a document indicates that it was sent or received by someone, that is prima facie proof that the document was sent and received as indicated.

- 2. Ms. Karama admits that she received reasonable notice of the hearing. The notice of hearing is included in Exhibit 1 at Tab 1.
- 3. Ms. K admits that she received a copy of the charges filed by the Provost on July 12, 2012. The charges are included in Exhibit 1 at Tab 2.
- 4. A copy of Ms. Karana 's academic record dated November 30, 2012, is included in Exhibit 1 at Tab 3. At all material times, Ms. Karana was a student at the University of Toronto Mississauga. Ms. Karana acknowledges that the University Tribunal has jurisdiction over her and that the Code applies to her conduct in this case.
- 5. An updated version of Ms. Karana's academic record dated February 24, 2014 is attached to this ASF.
- 6. In Winter 2012 Ms. Keeping enrolled in PHL333H5S: Issues in Epistemology (the "Course"), which was taught by Professor Jonathan Weisberg. A copy of the syllabus for the Course is included in Exhibit 1 at Tab 4.
- 7. The grading scheme for the Course included five short writing assignments that were each worth 11% of the final grade in the Course. A copy of the assignment handout for Assignment #1 is included in Exhibit 1 at Tab 5.
- 8. The issue of plagiarism, how to avoid it, and its consequences had been brought to the attention of the class in the course syllabus and the assignment handout.

- 9. On January 18, 2012, Ms. K submitted Assignment #1 (the "Assignment") in both hardcopy and through Turnitin.com. A copy of the Assignment is included in Exhibit 1 at Tab 6.
- 10. Turnitin identified a 29% similarity index with a number of student papers submitted to other universities. A copy of the Turnitin Originality Report is included in Exhibit 1 at Tab 7.
- 11. Turnitin identified a 23% similarity index with a particular student paper submitted to the University of Cape Town. A copy of this paper, titled "Lecture 10: Goldman's Causal Theory of Knowledge", is included in Exhibit 1 at Tab 8. This paper can be retrieved online at http://isites.harvard.edu/fs/docs/icb.topic535514.files/phil159-09-lec10-causal.pdf.
- 12. A Google search also revealed that a section of the text of the Assignment was taken from another online source. The second source from which Ms. K has taken both ideas and words without attributing these ideas and words to the author of the source material is titled "Hauptli's Lectures on Goldman's 'A Causal Theory of Knowing'". This paper can be retrieved online at http://www2.fiu.edu/~hauptli/Goldman'sACausalTheoryofKnowing.htm.
- 13. Highlighted and annotated copies of the Assignment, as well as highlighted and annotated copies of the two unattributed source materials described in paragraphs 11 and 12 of this ASF are included in Exhibit 1 at Tab 9. The highlighting and annotations on these documents indicate which sections of the Assignment have been plagiarized.

- 14. Professor Weisberg met with Ms. Karran on March 27, 2012 to discuss the similarities between the Assignment and the above-mentioned source materials. He subsequently referred the case to the Office of the Dean.
- 15. On April 17, 2012, Ms. K attended a Dean's Designate meeting with Professor Sidney Aster to discuss the allegations that she had violated the Code. At the Dean's meeting, Ms. K indicated that she had not intentionally plagiarized and that she had been distracted because of family celebrations taking place during that time. When asked whether she would like to plead guilty or not guilty, Ms. K was uncertain how to plead and therefore abstained from pleading. Professor Aster forwarded the matter to the Provost for resolution.
- 16. Ms. K admits that in submitting the Assignment in PHL333H5S in Winter 2012 she knowingly submitted academic work in which she represented as her own an idea or expression of an idea, or work of another contrary to section B.I.1(d) of the Code.
- 17. Ms. K acknowledges that she is signing this ASF freely and voluntarily, and knowing the potential consequences she faces. Ms. K acknowledges that before she signed this ASF, the Provost provided her with the opportunity to obtain legal advice. Ms. K agrees that she has either obtained legal advice or has deliberately waived her right to do so.
- 18. Ms. Karana acknowledges that the Provost has provided her with no assurances regarding what sanction the Provost may request the Tribunal to impose in this case.

Signed on March 4, 2014.



Signed on March 4, 2014.

Lily Harmer

Assistant Discipline Counsel University of Toronto

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Page: 1 of 4 Birth Month/Day: May 1 Record as of: 2014-02-24

Graduation Request: None

Registration History

2006 Fall-2008 Winter: University of Toronto Mississauga 2009 Fall-2012 Summer: University of Toronto Mississauga 2013 Fall-2014 Winter: University of Toronto Mississauga

University of Toronto Mississauga

2009 Fall - ERMAJ0231 - MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY Active 2009 Fall - ERMIN0652 - MINOR - HISTORY Active

2009 Fall - ERMIN2015 - MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE Active

2006 Fall - ER HUM1 - 1st Year Studies in Humanities Post Requirement Session: 20069

Sessional	GPA 1.70 Cumulative GPA 1.70		
Crs Code	Title	Wgt Mrk	Grd CrsAvg
GGR117Y5	Where on Earth?	1.00	IPR
PHL105Y5	Introduction to Philosophy	1.00	IPR
POL111H5	Canada in Comparative Perspective	0.50 60	C- C
PSY100Y5	Introductory Psychology	1.00	IPR
SOC101Y5	Introduction to Sociology	1.00	IPR
Credits E	arned: 0.50 (ER HUM1)		

2007 Winter - ER HUM1 - 1st Year Studies in Humanities GGR117Y5-MARK REDUCTION OF 50 PERCENT FOR ASSIGNMENT #7.(ASSIGNMENT 7 IS WORTH 6 PERCENT)

Sessional	GPA 1.14 Annual GPA	1.20	Cumulative	GPA	1.20	
Status: 0	n academic probation					
Crs Code	Title		Wgt	Mrk	Grd	CrsAvg
GGR117Y5	Where on Earth?		1.00	52	D-	C-
HIS101H5	Introduction to Historical	Studies	.0.50	72	B-	C
PHL105Y5	Introduction to Philosophy		1.00	50	D-	C+
PSY100Y5	Introductory Psychology		1.00	50	D-	C
	Introduction to Sociology		1.00	61	C-	C
Credite P	Trmed. 4 En /PD WIMI					

2007 Fall - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program

Post Requirement Session: 20069 MAJOR - HISTORY

MINOR - PHILOSOPHY

MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE

Sessional GPA 2.15 Cumulative GPA 1.36 Crs Code Title Wgt Mrk Grd CrsAvg HIS250H5 Introduction to Russian History 0.50 63 C B-PHL271H5 Ethics and the law 0.50 67 C+ PHL277Y5 Moral, Social, and Political Philosophy 1.00 IPR POL203Y5 Politics and Government of the United 1.00 IPR States POL214Y5 Canadian Government and Politics 1.00 IPR Credits Earned: 1.00 (ER HUM1)

Name: K , O: Student Number:

Page: 2 of 4 Birth Month/Day: May 1 Record as of: 2014-02-24

2008 Winter - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program PHL277Y5-ZERO IN COURSE MAJOR - HISTORY MINOR - PHILOSOPHY MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE Sessional GPA 1.20 Annual GPA 1.44 Cumulative GPA 1.31 Status: Suspended for one year Crs Code Title Wgt Mrk Grd CrsAvg PHL277Y5 Moral, Social, and Political Philosophy 1.00 0 F C POL203Y5 Politics and Government of the United 1.00 57 D+ C States POL214Y5 Canadian Government and Politics 1.00 69 C+ C Credits Earned: 2.00 (ER HUM1) 2009 Fall - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY MINOR - HISTORY MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE Sessional GPA 2.30 Cumulative GPA 1.36 Crs Code Title Wgt Mrk Grd CrsAvg PHL243H5 Philosophy of Human Sexuality
POL200Y5 Political Theory
POL316Y1 Canadian Federalism 0.50 68 C+ 1.00 IPR 1.00 IPR POL336Y5 Ontario Politics 1.00 IPR Credits Earned: 0.50 (ER HUM1) 2010 Winter - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program ****** 2010-04-10 20101 HIS363H1S - MAY WRITE A SPECIAL DEFERRED EXAM DURING AUGUST EXAM PERIOD. SUCH SPECIAL CONSIDERATION WILL NOT BE GRANTED AGAIN. MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY MINOR - HISTORY MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE Sessional GPA 1.85 Annual GPA 1.90 Cumulative GPA 1.50 Status: In good standing Wgt Mrk Grd CrsAvg Crs Code Title HIS261H5 Introduction to Canadian History 0.50 66 C C HIS363H1 Gender in Can His 0.50 65 C B-POL200Y5 Political Theory POL316Y1 Canadian Federalism 1.00 61 C-C 1.00 60 C-C+ POL336Y5 Ontario Politics 1.00 66 C Credits Earned: 4.00 (ER HUM1) 2010 Fall - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY MINOR - HISTORY MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE Sessional GPA 1.70 Cumulative GPA 1.51 Wgt Mrk Grd CrsAvg Crs Code Title PHL210Y5 17th and 18th Century Philosophy 1.00 IPR

Page: 3 of 4 Birth Month/Day: May 1 Record as of: 2014-02-24

	Re	ecord	as c	f: 2014-0
PHL220H5 Introduction to Existentialism PHL277Y5 Moral, Social, and Political Philosophy POL355Y5 Multiculturalism and Citizenship Credits Earned: 0.50 (ER HUM1)	0.50 1.00 1.00	diam'r.	C- IPR IPR	C+
2011 Winter - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY MINOR - HISTORY MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE				
Sessional GPA 2.81 Annual GPA 2.69 Cumuli Status: In good standing	ative (3PA	1.80	
Crs Code Title	When	Marle	C	Crahen
DUI 01005 17th and 10th Continue Philadenha	Wgt	Mrk	Grd	CrsAvg C+
PHL210Y5 17th and 18th Century Philosophy PHL274H5 Contemporary Social Issues PHL277Y5 Moral, Social, and Political Philosophy PHL370H5 Issues in Philosophy of Law	1.00	71	B-	B-
DUI 277VE Moral Social and Political Philosophy	1.00	64	C .	C+
DUI 2700E Tagues in Philosophy of Low	0.50	76	P	B-
POL355Y5 Multiculturalism and Citizenship	1.00	90	y -	В-
Credits Earned: 4.00 (ER HUM1)	1.00	80	A-	ъ-
2011 Summer - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY MINOR - HISTORY MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE				
Sessional GPA 1.50 Cumulative GPA 1.78				
Status: In good standing			0 - 1	-
Crs Code Title				CrsAvg
HIS312Hl Immigration to Can PHL365Hl Political Phil	0.50		D- C+	
Credits Earned: 1.00 (ER HUM1)	0.50	69	C+	e
2011 Fall - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY MINOR - HISTORY MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE				
Sessional GPA 2.30 Cumulative GPA 1.85			553	
Crs Code Title	Wgt			
HIS236H5 Introduction to British History	0.50			C+
HIS366H5 Diasporic Histories & Cultures	0.50			
PHL202H5 Ancient Philosophy	0.50	11	B- LWD	B- B-
PHL245H5 Modern Symbolic Logic	0.50	60	TWD.	C÷
PHL325H5 Early Analytic Philosophy PHL332H5 Issues in Metaphysics	0.50			
PHL342H5 Issues in Metaphysics PHL341H5 Practical Reason and Human Action	0.50			B-
Credits Earned: 3.00 (ER HUM1)	0.50		D -	-

2012 Winter - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY MINOR - HISTORY MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE

Sessional GPA 2.70 Annual GPA 2.36 Cumulative GPA 1.87 Status: In good standing Crs Code Title Wgt Mrk Grd

Wgt Mrk Grd CrsAvg

Name: K Student Number:

Page: 4 of 4 Birth Month/Day: May 1 Record as of: 2014-02-24

Wgt Mrk Grd CrsAvg 0.50 38 F

Wgt Mrk Grd CrsAvg

B-

0.50 60 C-

HIS295H5 Introduction to African History 0.50 72 B-0.50 LWD C+ PHL245H5 Modern Symbolic Logic PHL333H5 Issues in Epistemology 0.50 GWR C-Credits Earned: 0.50 (ER HUM1)

2012 Summer - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program

MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY

MINOR - HISTORY

MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE

Sessional GPA 0.00 Cumulative GPA 1.83

Status: In good standing

Crs Code Title

PHL245H1 Mod Symbolic Logic

Credits Earned: 0.00 (ER HUM1)

2013 Fall - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program

MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY

MINOR - HISTORY

MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE

Sessional GPA 1.70 Cumulative GPA 1.83

Crs Code Title

PHL245H5 Modern Symbolic Logic Credits Earned: 0.50 (ER HUM1)

2014 Winter - ER HBA - Bachelor's Degree Program

MAJOR - PHILOSOPHY

MINOR - HISTORY

MINOR - POLITICAL SCIENCE

Credits Earned: 0.00 (ER HUM1)

Accumulated Credits Earned: 22.00 (ER HUM1 20069)

APPENDIX B

THE UNIVERSITY TRIBUNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

IN THE MATTER OF charges of academic dishonesty filed on July 12, 2012.

AND IN THE MATTER OF the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters, 1995,

AND IN THE MATTER OF the University of Toronto Act, 1971, S.O. 1971, c. 56 as am. S.O. 1978, c. 88

BETWEEN:

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

- AND -

AGREED STATEMENT OF FACTS FOR SANCTION

First offence: GGR117Y5Y

- 1. In Fall 2006 and Winter 2007, Ms. O K was enrolled in GGR117Y5Y: Where on Earth? (the "Geography Course"). On April 4, 2007, Ms. K submitted Assignment #7, which was worth 6% of her final grade in the Geography Course.
- 2. When correcting the assignments, Teaching Assistant Magda Biesiada (the "TA") noticed that Ms. Karasas assignment was very similar to that of another student in the Geography Course, "L. T.". The TA brought this to the attention of the Geography Course instructor, Ms. Kathi Wilson (the "Geography Instructor").
- When the Geography Instructor met with Ms. K to discuss the assignment, Ms. K admitted to having been involved in plagiarism in this case. Ms. K explained to the Instructor that she and L. T. were pressed for time to complete the assignment and did not want to incur a late penalty, so they sat beside each other at the library and shared answers. Ms. K

when she finished an answer, she shared it with L. T. and that L. T. did the same for her.

4. Ms. K was given a penalty of a 50% mark reduction for her assignment, and a warning that any future offences would automatically be forwarded to the VP-Academic's Office. A copy of a letter sent from Professor Daniere, Chair of the Department of Geography at the University of Toronto Mississauga, to Ms.
K imposing the penalty for plagiarism on Assignment #7 is attached to this Agreed Statement of Facts for Sanction.

Second offence: PHL277Y5Y

- 5. In Fall 2007 and Winter 2008, Ms. Karama was enrolled in PHL277Y5Y: Moral, Social & Political Philosophy (the "Philosophy Course"). In Winter 2008, Ms. Karama submitted an assignment worth 25% of her final grade in the Philosophy Course.
- 6. The assignment was submitted on Turnitin and was processed on February 27, 2008. A Turnitin Originality Report revealed an Overall Similarity Index of 47%. The Turnitin Originality Report indicated a 40% match to a paper found on the Internet that was submitted at Texas A&M University.
- 7. On April 15, 2008, Ms. Karama attended a meeting with the Dean's Designate, Professor Roger Beck. At the Dean's meeting, Ms. Karama admitted that she was guilty of plagiarizing the 25% assignment that she had submitted for credit in the Philosophy Course. She cited carelessness and family and personal issues to explain her conduct.
- 8. Ms. K was given a mark of zero in the Philosophy Course and an annotation on her transcript of "Mark of zero in PHL277Y5Y, 2007 (9) due to academic misconduct" for one year, from February 15, 2008 to February 14, 2009. She was further warned that any subsequent allegations of academic offences would generally be referred directly to the Tribunal for investigation. A copy of a letter sent from Lynn Snowden, Assistant Dean at the University of

Toronto Mississauga, to Ms. Karama imposing the penalty for plagiarism of the 25% Philosophy Course assignment is attached to this Agreed Statement of Facts for Sanction.

- 9. Ms. K acknowledges that she is signing this Agreed Statement of Facts for Sanction freely and voluntarily, and knowing the potential consequences she faces. Ms. K acknowledges that before she signed this Agreed Statement of Facts for Sanction, the Provost provided her with the opportunity to obtain legal advice. Ms. K agrees that she has either obtained legal advice or has deliberately waived her right to do so.
- 10. Ms. K acknowledges that the Provost has provided her with no assurances regarding what sanction the Provost may request the Tribunal to impose in this case.

Signed on March 4, 2014

Lily Harmer
Assistant Discipline Counsel
University of Toronto

NO. 6

The University of Toronto

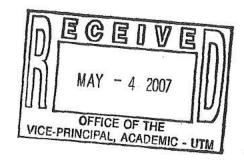
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DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

May 2, 2007





Dear Ms. K

I received a report from Prof. K. Wilson regarding a suspected case of plagiarism in GGR117Y on Assignment 7. Based on the evidence presented to me I have decided to impose a penalty of a 50% mark reduction for your assignment 7. I also need to warn you that we hold the highest standards of academic integrity; therefore, any future offences will automatically be forwarded to the VP- Academic's office.

If you have any questions or require clarification, please feel free to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Amrita Daniere

Chair.

Department of Geography

assignment one

Department of Geography University of Toronto at Mississauga South Building Room A3106 3359 Mississauga Road N. Mississauga, ON Canada L5L IC6

http://geog.utm.utoronto.ca



OFFICE OF THE DEAN

April 24, 2008

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL



Dear Miss K

In your interview with Professor Roger Beck on April 15, 2008, and in the presence of Professor Sergio Tenenbaum you admitted that you were guilty of plagiarizing an assignment which you submitted for credit in PHL277Y5Y. Under section C.I.(a) 8 of the *University's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*, I therefore impose the following sanctions:

- a final grade of zero (0) for the course; and
- an annotation on your transcript of "Mark of zero in PHL277Y5Y, 2007 (9)
 due to academic misconduct" from February 15, 2008 to February 14, 2009.

I trust that you have had time to reflect on the seriousness of this incident and will not commit another academic offence again. Please be advised that any subsequent allegations of offence are usually referred directly to the Tribunal for investigation.

Yours sincerely,

Lynn Snowden Assistant Dean

Student Number:

/lg

Cc.:

Professor Sergio Tenenbaum

Professor Amy Mullin

Robert Gardin

3359 Mississauga Road N. 3125, SB Mississauga, ON Canada L5L 1C6

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APPENDIX C

University of Toronto and O

UNDERTAKING

- 1. Ms. Karama undertakes to complete the Academic Skills Workshops described below, or their equivalent, through the University of Toronto St. George Campus College Writing Centres Academic Skills Workshops ("Undertaking").
- 2. Ms. K will fulfill the Undertaking by taking the following eight workshops, which amount to a minimum of 7.5 hours of instruction:
 - Understanding the Assignment
 - Finding Scholarly Sources
 - Reading Scholarly Sources
 - 4. Using Sources Effectively (90 minutes)
 - Developing Your Thesis
 - Making Your Essay Flow
 - Making Your Sentences Flow
 - 8. Citing Sources Correctly (90 minutes)
- 3. In the event that these workshops are not available at the time Ms. Katternate attempts to complete them, the University will, acting reasonably, propose an alternate and equivalent program that Ms. Katternate shall complete to fulfill the Undertaking.
- 4. Ms. Karama acknowledges that the Provost of the University of Toronto intends to seek a sanction which includes a 3 year suspension and a 4 year notation before the University Tribunal. Ms. Karama further acknowledges that the Provost takes this position, in part, in reliance on Ms. Karama supposition, and, without it, the Provost would not seek a sanction before the University Tribunal that included a suspension of

only 3 years and a notation of only 4 years.

5. Ms. K agrees and accepts that she will not be eligible to graduate from the University until she fulfills the Undertaking and the University may rely on this Undertaking to deny her the ability to graduate until it is fulfilled.

6. Ms. K acknowledges that the Provost of the University of Toronto has advised her to obtain independent legal advice before signing this document and that she has done so.

Signed in Toronto on March 4, 2014.

Signed in Toronto on March 4, 2014.

Lily Harmer

Assistant Discipline Counsel

University of Toronto

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THE UNIVERSITY TRIBUTAL

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This Exhibit to produced by

theUNIVERSITY

this A day of MANELH, 20.14.

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