

Graduate Honor System Report of Activities 2000-2001

In accordance with our Constitution, and to inform the University community of our activities, I am pleased to report the actions of the Graduate Honor System during the 2000-2001 academic year. The primary activities of the Graduate Honor System include investigation of alleged violations of the Graduate Honor Code, education of students and faculty about the Graduate Honor System, and training of student and faculty panel members.

During the academic year 2000-2001, the Graduate Honor System investigated 12 cases involving 22 graduate students. Three cases involving six students are still pending. Of the completed cases, three were from Fall 2000, seven were from Spring 2001, and two were from Summer 2001.

- 12 students were found guilty, three were found not guilty, one student's case was handled internally by Dean John Eaton, and cases involving six students are still pending.
- 11 students received a penalty of zero on the assignment in question and honor system probation, and one student was permanently dismissed from the University.
- Seven students found guilty were enrolled at the Blacksburg campus and five students found guilty were enrolled at the Northern Virginia Center.
- Five guilty students were from Computer Science, four were from Electrical and Computer Engineering, two were from Industrial and Systems Engineering, and one was from Teaching and Learning.

The Graduate Honor System continued its tradition of contributing to the orientation of new graduate students. We provided information at the orientation for new graduate students, and we spoke at the orientation for new international graduate students, as well as nine orientations for a variety of departmental sessions and individual classes, upon request.

We also traveled to the Northern Virginia campus to speak to graduate students and faculty there. Approximately 25 faculty members and staff were present for the faculty meeting. Only four graduate students were present for the student meeting. The low student turnout was likely due to the fact that the only students present at the meeting were ones that had class that evening. It is also possible that many students were in class during the meeting, preventing them from being present. We are working on producing a videotaped overview of the Graduate Honor System that may be placed on a University web page for all students to access at their convenience.

In Fall 2000, we recruited approximately 35 new panel members. Of these, about 25 were students and about 10 were faculty.

Two of our investigators, Marquee King and Chris Heine, resigned from their positions at the end of Spring 2001. Marquee served for six semesters (Fall 1998 to Spring 2001), and Chris served for one semester (Spring 2001). Greg Lemmond continued to serve as an investigator. Dean Martha

Reifsnider continued her support as the Advisor to the Graduate Honor System throughout the academic year.

Should you need additional information about the activities of the Graduate Honor System, please contact me at 231-3981 or ghs@vt.edu.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jay Khare". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jay Khare
Chief Justice, Graduate Honor System