

Dear Colleagues,

The new Rutgers University Academic Integrity Policy, approved by the University Senate in January 2011, is being implemented this semester. The Policy was written by a committee of faculty, staff, and students from all three Rutgers Campuses, chaired by Professor Martha Cotter. Many thanks to the Academic Integrity Committee and to the many members of the University community who provided input and feedback to the Committee during its work.

The new Academic Integrity Policy seeks to foster a stronger culture of academic integrity on our campuses by adopting an honor pledge to be written on examinations and major course assignments submitted for grading, and by requiring students to take an online tutorial and pass an online examination on academic integrity in their first semester at Rutgers. The policy also gives students a substantially increased role in and responsibility for the implementation of academic integrity policies and procedures through the establishment of a student Honor Council on each geographic campus. On a more procedural level, the new policy and procedures:

- simplify the process for reporting and addressing violations of academic integrity.
- permit, but do not require, faculty to investigate and adjudicate allegations of less serious (nonseparable) violations of academic integrity and provide clear guidelines for doing so.
- provide more options and enhanced support for faculty who report students for alleged more serious (separable) violations of academic integrity, particularly when the allegations lead to a University Hearing.
- establish a new group of highly trained advisers from the Honor Council to assist students accused of a violation of academic integrity at any level.

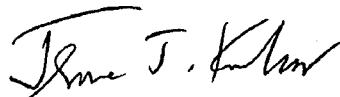
An ad-hoc Academic Integrity Implementation Committee has created new guidelines, forms, and flowcharts to help faculty better understand the new policy. These materials are available on the academic integrity website at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu> or on the Office of Student Conduct website at <http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu>. Staff members in the Office of Student Conduct and members of the Academic Integrity Committee are available to speak with departments about the new Academic Integrity Policy and its implementation. In addition, students from the Honor Council are available to speak to classes regarding academic integrity and the Academic Integrity Policy. More information about setting up a session can be obtained by e-mailing conduct@rci.rutgers.edu.

We urge you all to visit the Student Conduct website and become familiar with the new Academic Integrity Policy, to put a link to the new policy on your course syllabi, and to discuss academic integrity with your students.

With best wishes for a productive academic year,



Barry V. Qualls
Vice President for Undergraduate Education



Jerome J. Kukor,
Dean of the Graduate School-New Brunswick