

The Institute for Learning and Teaching

Academic Integrity Task Force



Key Question: What isn't being done (that should be)?

1. Pay students not to cheat.
2. Create an anonymous cheaters tipline.
3. Create competitions between groups (e.g., departments, colleges, fraternities and sororities) for lowest levels of reported academic dishonesty.
4. Establish an Academic Integrity Awareness week.
5. Create awards celebrating academic integrity.
6. Produce television shows, radio shows, newspaper articles, and so on that call attention to the importance of academic integrity (or the evils of academic dishonesty).
7. Develop an early warning systems to identify students who might be heading toward a place where they will feel that cheating or plagiarizing is a reasonable option (i.e., a least bad option). Perhaps build something into RamCT's instructor tools that allows faculty to report students who might be showing signs of falling behind in a course. An extension of this would be to create workshops for instructors that help them identify warning signs.
8. Create a social norms campaign that
 - a. helps students understand that the actual amount of cheating in a given class is typically quite low (nothing near the 85 percent of college students cheat figure that commonly circulates, and more likely between 0 and 3 percent in a given class)
 - b. helps students understand the consequences of academic dishonesty
 - c. helps instructors view incidents of academic dishonesty as a reflection of inadequate students skills or a cry for help
 - d. helps faculty understand the shades of gray in academic dishonesty (that this isn't a black and white, guilty or innocent issue)
9. Provide opportunities for restorative actions.