

## **Advisory on Prior Disciplinary Record from another Academic Institution**

When a student has been charged with a violation of the University Code of Student Conduct and either accepts responsibility or is found responsible, a sanction is recommended and implemented. The following advisory addresses the effect a prior disciplinary history from another academic institution may have in the sanctioning phase.

“Past disciplinary record” is defined in footnote 34 of the University Code of Student Conduct (UCSC) to mean “only those incidents where the student either has admitted responsibility or has been determined to be responsible for a previous violation of the University Code of Student Conduct, whether by college or university hearing, disciplinary conference, or other appropriate administrative action”. The Policy on Academic Integrity for Undergraduate and Graduate Students is a little more ambiguous, making a level 4 violation out of “all academic infractions committed after return from suspension for a previous academic honesty violation”. Since the two must be read together, a similar violation evidenced to have occurred at another academic institution is not a prior violation of the University Code of Student Conduct, and may not be considered a “repeat” offense.

The sanctioning guidelines for the UCSC do expressly permit “aggravating” and “mitigating” circumstances to be considered. Therefore, the prior record may be considered as an aggravating circumstance and would be cause to increase the baseline sanction.