

AAC Committee: The UC Davis Campus Judicial Board
Annual Report for the 2015-2016 School Year

The UC Davis Campus Judicial Board had a busy and productive 2015-2016.

The Board conducted 8 formal hearings last year. Each case was adjudicated by a CJB panel consisting of two student members of the Board (one of whom chaired the Hearing) and a faculty member of CJB. Student members of the Board also served as advisors to either the reporting party or the reported student, and as recording monitors.

With the exception of sexual harassment, assault and stalking cases (which follow a completely different pathway through the disciplinary system and are heard by a Hearing Officer when a hearing is necessary), 95-97% of all reports of academic and social misconduct at UC Davis are resolved *informally* (meaning without the need for a formal hearing). In most of those cases, the student admits responsibility for the misconduct and agrees to disciplinary sanctions proposed by the University. The only cases that are referred on to a formal hearing are those cases in which the student denies wrongdoing yet there is enough evidence to warrant a hearing on the matter.

The Campus Judicial Board hears the 3-5% of cases where the misconduct (whether academic or social) is disputed. As always, the students on the Board received extensive training from the Office of Student Support & Judicial Affairs about how to “hear” these cases objectively and effectively. They learned about different kinds of evidence and how to evaluate them, as well as how to assess credibility and ask good questions during a formal hearing. This volunteer opportunity helps the students on the Board to develop their critical thinking and analysis abilities, and to develop and hone their leadership skills.

In terms of outreach, the student members of the Board were actively engaged with the campus community on multiple fronts. In tandem with the Office of Student Support & Judicial Affairs, they again took part in the EDU 98 class, “American Culture and Values.” In partnership with Judicial Officers from OSSJA, student members of the CJB helped to present one hour-long “class” for each section of EDU 98 during Fall Quarter. After each skit they asked questions of the international students and sought to engage them in discussion about academic honesty and integrity and why it is important. The aim of these skits and conversations is to disseminate information about specific policies regarding academic conduct and to make international students aware of the importance of this issue here at Davis.

CJB also put on multiple tabling events and participated in a variety of welcome fairs. They hosted several other small events as well, including another “Coffee & Integri-Tea” outside of Shields Library and a new event, “Do-nut Cheat.” Both events were big successes, especially the Do-nut Cheat event, at which they gave out free donuts along with information about University policies related to academic conduct and encouraged their peers to do their work honestly. In addition, they sponsored a “Birthday Party” on the Quad during Spring Quarter to celebrate the 40th anniversary of our *Code of Academic Conduct*. This was a beautiful, colorful event at which CJB students gave away 1,000 cupcakes, hosted a game geared towards increasing student awareness of the *Code* and educated other students and community members about the Aggie tradition of honor, which dates back to 1911.

During Winter Quarter we went through our recruitment process for the 2016-2017 school year and selected six new members to join the six returning students.

As always, the full impact of the outreach efforts of the Campus Judicial Board is difficult to assess, although research supports the contention that having students actively and visibly involved in promoting academic honesty on a college campus *does* reduce the incidence of dishonest conduct. All in all, the Campus Judicial Board continues to meet regularly, work hard, and fulfill its mission of promoting and upholding academic integrity on the UC Davis campus through outreach, education, and – when necessary – the fair adjudication of disputed cases of academic and social misconduct.