Secondary Council Comments on AAPC Draft of Policy 138: Student Misuse of Course Materials

IT Council

1. Is this policy (as written) congruent with policies regarding copyright and “fair use”?
2. May a student not reproduce or use an instructor’s materials in any way (unless explicit consent has been granted), including simply sharing lecture notes with another student?
3. Can this policy be enforced?
4. Perhaps this policy should focus more specifically on distribution (for profit) and not so much on simple reproduction.
5. We need much clearer definitions on what is acceptable in terms of student use of instructor materials.
6. The discipline component of this policy seems a bit harsh. The student is presumed “guilty?” Further, if the Department Chair finds the student to be guilty, he / she notifies the VPAA who then convenes an expulsion panel? Is there no room for error here? What about a first offense? Can an instructor simply talk to the student about the offense and elect not to impose a penalty?
7. Several members of the committee noted that there is entirely acceptable (legal?) for students to audio tape lectures even without the instructor’s consent.
8. Have we looked at other colleges / universities to review their policy on use / misuse of faculty materials?

FA Council

Under “B” – Is this the only decision the instructor makes is whether or not a violation occurred? Appears no decision is made as to consequences based upon the severity of the violation or if it was an “honest mistake”.

Under “C” – again, is it all or nothing? Violation of any type the only choice is expulsion? That is the way it reads . . .

Under “5” – Is the Dean just deciding if there is an expulsion panel or what? That seems to be the only choice in this process.

Is there a timeframe as to how quickly that panel needs to be convened? Who is on it? Is it in or out or can anyone along the lines in the process make a judgment as to punishment based upon type of violation other than expulsion???

Policy needs major review and rework.