

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT, FALL 2014

Yale undergraduates are called before the Executive Committee of Yale College when they are charged with possible violations of the *Undergraduate Regulations*.

The Executive Committee is composed of 3 tenured faculty, 3 junior faculty, 3 undergraduates and the Dean of Yale College Designee, with 3 members (non-student) serving as officers of the Committee: the Chair, the Fact-Finder and the Secretary.

In the majority of cases, students admit the validity of the charge(s) made against them and choose a disposition without a formal hearing before the full Executive Committee. Disposition hearings, held weekly, make up the bulk of Committee work and are conducted by the Coordinating Group which is composed of the 3 officers of the Executive Committee (the Chair, Fact-finder, and Secretary) and 1 of the 3 student members, who rotate in this capacity throughout the term. If the student contests the charge(s), then the case is considered further for a formal hearing before the full Executive Committee.

There has been a procedural change since the Spring 2014 term. The Executive Committee no longer receives referrals/complaints for routine alcohol violations that involve no additional charges, which are now referred to the Alcohol and Other Drugs Harm Reduction Initiative, AODHRI. However, as secretary of the Executive Committee, Dean George meets weekly with AODHRI directors to discuss cases that might require referral for disposition.

In Fall 2014 there were 43 transports for intoxication compared with 25 in Spring 2014 and 31 transports in Fall 2013, so a notable increase.

Dispositions Without a Formal Hearing

In the case of disposition without a formal hearing, the charged student appears before the Coordinating Group of the Executive Committee along with his/her advisor (typically the Dean or Master of his/her residential college). The student is read guidelines for the proceedings and may present an opening oral statement followed by a question/answer period based on this statement and on the student's previously submitted written statement and other documentation such as police reports, e-mail correspondence, papers/exams and other records pertinent to the case. The student's advisor is invited to make a statement on the student's behalf followed by closing remarks by the student after which the Coordinating Group deliberates to reach a decision on the penalty. A full dismissal of charges is rare, and standard penalties include: reprimand, probation, suspension and expulsion. Students may also be required to meet additional conditions such as paying for damages to property, restricting use of specific buildings or entryways on campus, seeking counseling for substance abuse or mental health, submitting written reflections or formal written guidelines, (for example, a risk-management plan for groups and organizations hosting parties and other social events).

In Fall 2014 there were 33 dispositions without formal hearings involving 41 students; a significant (28%) decrease from the Spring 2014 term, which may reflect the new

procedures for handling alcohol-related cases. In addition, there were 2 formal hearings and 1 penalty hearing.

Penalties from dispositions and formal hearings were assigned to 43 students as follows: 5 suspensions, 10 probations, 24 reprimands and in 4 cases, charges were withdrawn.

Penalty Hearings

In cases where students wish to dispute the penalty resulting from a disposition without a formal hearing, they may petition for a Penalty Hearing which is brought before the full Executive Committee.

There was 1 penalty hearing in Fall 2014 involving a junior charged with academic dishonesty for plagiarizing a final paper. The penalty of 2 terms suspension was upheld by the Executive Committee.

Formal Hearings

Although most students admit the validity of the charge(s) made against them and opt for a disposition without a Formal Hearing, if the student contests the charge(s) they will have their case heard by the full Executive Committee in a Formal Hearing. The full committee is composed of three tenured and three untenured faculty members, three undergraduates and the Dean's designate. The Secretary of the committee also attends full hearings, but is not a voting member.

In Fall 2014 there were 2 formal hearings involving 2 students. One involved a senior charged with imperiling the integrity of the university and other acts of violence or threats made to other undergraduates and university officials, and the charge was withdrawn. The other formal hearing involved a freshman charged with Academic Dishonesty for changing answers on a returned exam and then requesting regrading. The charge was also withdrawn.

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism

In Fall 2014, 18 students were charged with academic dishonesty, a slight decrease from the Spring 2014 semester in which 20 students were charged with academic dishonesty. Seven of the 18 academic dishonesty cases, 39%, involved plagiarism, compared to 45% of cases involving plagiarism in Spring 2014.

In my previous reports for both Spring 2014 and Fall 2013 it was noted that academic dishonesty cases overall were down by ~30% and plagiarism down by ~60% compared with Spring 2012, and that these significant drops in cases of academic dishonesty and plagiarism held steady through the Spring 2014 term. These additional decreases in both overall academic dishonesty and plagiarism from Spring 2014 to Fall 2014 further bolster the conclusion that there has been a firm downward trend in academic dishonesty cases since 2012 and that a "steady-state" has not yet been reached.

Other Forms of Academic Dishonesty

The 11 cases of academic dishonesty that did not involve plagiarism involved variable charges including: referring to notes during an exam, submitting significantly similar laboratory reports, changing answers on a returned exam then requesting re-grading, lying to an instructor about a missed exam, collaborating on an assignment and submitting the same paper for 2 courses.

Alcohol and Illicit Drugs

As stated above, the Executive Committee no longer receives referrals/ complaints for routine alcohol violations that involve no additional charges. These cases are now referred to AODHRI as in (“Audrey.”)

There was notable decrease in drug-related cases in Fall 2014. There was only 1 drug-related charge compared to 33 charges in Spring 2014. The single drug-related case in Fall 2014 involved a freshman selling pot brownies to other undergraduates.

Other Violations

Also in Spring 2014, there were cases involving charges of: theft of wallets, bank cards and gift cards, trespassing and defiance for unauthorized entrance into restricted areas of Harkness Tower, defiance for not cooperating with police, falsification of documents/false I.D., hazing, defiance and acts of violence while intoxicated and returning to campus during a period of suspension.

Referred Cases:

In Fall 2014, 47 students were referred to their residential colleges and 45 of the 47 cases involved students who were intoxicated; 43 were transported to YNHH or University Health Services.

Thanks

I sincerely thank all of the members of the Executive Committee for their commitment to service and very thoughtful consideration of all cases brought before the Committee. Very special thanks to the Secretary of the Committee, Dean Pamela George, the Fact-Finder of the committee, Professor Thomas Near and to the student members James Volz SY '15, Hans Kassier JE '16 and Susannah Krapf SY '17 for their excellent input and service each week as part of the Coordinating Group as well as at full hearings and penalty hearings.

I thank Lisa Miller, Lisa Pitoniak and other staff in the Yale Dean's office for their assistance with organizing cases, communications, distributing documentation and with the day-to-day logistics that allow the Committee to function smoothly. I am also thankful to Susan Sawyer in the General Counsel's office and Dr. Lorraine Siggins for their critical input and expertise as consultants to the Committee.

Last but not least, I am deeply thankful to each of the residential college Deans, Masters and other advisors who have appeared before the Committee. The value of their most critical role in advising, preparing, counseling and supporting the students who appear before the Executive Committee is immeasurable.

Ruth Blake

Chair of the Yale College Executive Committee Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015

Professor of Geology & Geophysics

Professor of Forestry & Environmental Studies

Fall 2014

Formal Hearings 2 formal hearing, involving 2 students

Penalty Hearings 1 penalty hearing involving 1 student

Dispositions without Formal Hearings 33 dispositions without formal hearings, involving 41 students

Penalties from dispositions and formal hearings

The following penalties were assigned to 43 students:

expulsions - 0

suspensions - 5

probations - 10

reprimands - 24

charge withdrawn - 4

withhold degree - 0

Academic Dishonesty Charges, including pending cases

18 students were charged with Academic Dishonesty which resulted in:

suspensions - 2

probations - 4

reprimands - 5

charge withdrawn - 4

withhold degree - 0

carried over to spring term - 3

Plagiarism

7 of the 18 cheating cases were plagiarism which resulted in:

suspensions - 2

probations - 1

reprimands - 2

charges withdrawn - 0

withhold degree - 0 *carried over to the spring term* - 2

Other Cheating of the remaining cheating cases were other forms of cheating:

- 2 Collaborated on an assignment
- 2 Submitted significantly similar lab reports
- 1 Changed answers on a returned exam and then requested regrading
- 3 Copied answers from other student
- 1 Referred to notes during an exam
- 1 Lied to an instructor about missing an exam
- 1 Submitted the same paper for 2 courses

Referred Cases

47 students were referred to their residential colleges.

45 of the 47 cases involved students who were intoxicated; 43 were transported to YNHH

Fall 2014 Chair Report Summaries

Formal Hearings

In a formal hearing, Senior, charged with imperiling the integrity of the university and other acts of violence for threats made to other undergraduates and university officials, had charges withdrawn.

In a formal hearing, Freshman, charged with Academic Dishonesty for changing answers on a returned exam and then requesting regrading, had charge withdrawn.

Penalty Hearing

In a penalty hearing, Junior, charged with Academic Dishonesty for plagiarizing a final paper, had penalty of 2 terms suspension upheld.

Dispositions without Formal Hearings

Freshman, charged with Academic Dishonesty for plagiarizing a paper, was suspended for 2 terms.

Junior, charged with Academic Dishonesty for plagiarizing a final paper, was suspended for 2 terms.

Freshman, charged with Academic Dishonesty for plagiarizing a final paper, was reprimanded.

Junior, charged with Academic Dishonesty for plagiarizing a final paper, was placed on probation for 2 terms.

Sophomore, charged with Theft for wallets, bank cards and gift cards from another undergraduate and a Yale employee, was suspended for 1 term.

Sophomore, charged with Defiance, Acts of Violence and violating alcohol regulations for fighting with the staff while intoxicated when asked to leave Toad's Place and resisting police offers and AMR medical personnel while being transported to YNHH, was reprimanded.

Junior, charged with Defiance for interfering with a police officer on Old Campus, was reprimanded.

Freshman, charged with Defiance, Falsification of Documents and violating alcohol regulations for not cooperating with police when found intoxicated on Elm Street while having a fake i.d., was reprimanded. He was transported to YNHH by Nelson Ambulance.

Junior, charged with Defiance and misuse of University Facilities for defying instructions regarding an undergraduate production, was reprimanded.

3 Juniors, charged with Trespassing & Defiance for unauthorized entrance to a restricted area in Harkness Tower and lying to police about his identity, were reprimanded.

Junior, charged with Hazing for a milk-chugging incident involving a Freshman in front of Bingham Hall, had charge withdrawn.

Junior, charged with Defiance and Imperiling the integrity of the university for publicly urinating in the entryway of Davenport College and not cooperating with the Master of Davenport, was reprimanded.

Freshman, charged with violating Alcohol & Social Function regulations and Defiance for hosting a party in his Ezra Stiles suite where alcohol was served, was reprimanded.

Freshman, charged with violating Drug regulations for selling pot brownies to other undergraduates, was placed on probation for the remainder of his time at Yale.

Senior, charged with defiance for returning to campus during a period of suspension, was placed on probation for the remainder of his time at Yale.

Freshman, charged with Academic Dishonesty for copying exam answers from another student, was placed on probation for 2 terms.

Junior, charged with Trespassing & Defiance for unauthorized entrance to a restricted area in Harkness Tower and lying to police about his identity, was placed on probation for the remainder of his time at Yale.

Senior, charged with Falsification of Documents for submitting false information on blue forms, was placed on probation for 2 terms.

Junior, charged with Defiance and Trespassing for participating in Yale activities while on suspension, was reprimanded.

Junior, charged with Willful Property Damage and violating alcohol and fire safety regulations for discharging a fire extinguisher in Timothy Dwight College while under the influence of alcohol, was placed on probation for 2 terms.

Sophomore, charged with Academic Dishonesty for collaborating on an assignment, was reprimanded.

Sophomore, charged with Academic Dishonesty for collaborating on an assignment, had charge withdrawn.

Junior, charged with Falsification of Documents for possession of a fake i.d., was reprimanded.

Junior, charged with Academic Dishonesty for lying to an instructor about missing an exam, was placed on probation for the remainder of his time at Yale.

Freshman, charged with violating alcohol regulations for 2 ambulance transports to the hospital for intoxication within 2 months, was placed on probation for 3 terms.

Sophomore, charged with Defiance and violating alcohol regulations for failing to make an appointment with a mental health counselor after being transported to the hospital for alcohol intoxication, was reprimanded.

Freshman, charged with Defiance for not cooperating with police officers when detained for public urination, was reprimanded.

Senior, charged with Academic Dishonesty for plagiarizing a midterm paper, was reprimanded.

Freshman, charged with Defiance for not cooperating with police officers when detained for public urination, was reprimanded.

Freshman, charged with Defiance for not cooperating with police officers when detained for public urination, was reprimanded.

Senior, charged with Defiance of Authority and violating alcohol regulations for not cooperating with a residential college dean when asked for his i.d. after becoming belligerent when a flask of alcohol was taken from him at the Yale Bowl, was reprimanded.

2 Sophomores, charged with Falsification of Documents for possession of false i.d.'s at 1883 Chapel Street after purchasing alcohol as minors were reprimanded.

Freshman, 18 y.o., charged with Falsification of Documents for possession of a false i.d. at 1883 Chapel Street after purchasing alcohol as a minor, was reprimanded.

Junior, charged with violating Other Services and Facilities regulations for failure to complete the summer study abroad for which he received an International Summer Award, was suspended for 1 term.

2 Sophomores, charged with Academic Dishonesty for submitting significantly similar lab reports, were reprimanded.

Sophomore, charged with Theft and Defiance for attempting to steal another undergraduate's wallet and attending functions on campus while suspended, was suspended for 1 additional term.

Senior, charged with Academic Dishonesty for referring to notes during an exam, was placed on probation for the remainder of her time at Yale.

Referrals

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated in Calhoun College. AMR evaluated student but transport not needed.

Sophomore, 18 y.o., found intoxicated in Trumbull College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated in Pierson College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 18 y.o., found intoxicated at 36 High Street. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 17 y.o., found intoxicated at 395 Crown Street. Nelson Ambulance Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated in Pierson College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Junior, 19 y.o., found intoxicated near the entrance to Ezra Stiles College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Junior, 20 y.o., found intoxicated in Calhoun College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated at 210 Park Street. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated at Phelps Gate. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Senior, 21 y.o., found intoxicated in Ezra Stiles courtyard. Yale Security transport to Yale Health.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated Vanderbilt Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated in Trumbull College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated at the intersection of York and Elm Street. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Junior, 21 y.o., found intoxicated at Yorkside Pizza, 288 York Street. No transport needed.

Sophomore, 18 y.o., found intoxicated in Davenport College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated Wright Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated at 55 Lock Street, was transported by Yale Security (no location given).

Senior, 22 y.o., found intoxicated at 210 Park St. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated in Vanderbilt Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated in Wright Hall. Yale Security Transport to Yale Health.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated in Timothy Dwight College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated in Rosenfeld Hall. Yale University Security transport to Yale Health.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated at Phelps Gate. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated at 1143 Chapel Street. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated in Lawrence Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 19 y.o., reprimanded and referred to his residential college dean for violating alcohol regulations for possession of alcohol while underage on Park Street near Chapel Street.

Sophomore, 18 y.o., reprimanded and referred to his residential college dean for violating alcohol regulations for possession of alcohol while underage at 1183 Chapel Street.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated at Bingham Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated at Yale Parking Lot #35, Legion Avenue. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 18 y.o., found intoxicated at 80 High Street. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, 19 y.o., found intoxicated at 350 Crown Street. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated at Woolsey Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 17 y.o., found intoxicated at Bingham Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Sophomore, age unknown, found intoxicated at the corner of Elm & College Street. Yale Transit to Yale Health.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated at Welch Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated at Durfee Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Senior, 22 y.o., found intoxicated at 1176 Chapel St. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 19 y.o., found intoxicated at 79 Lake Place. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 19 y.o., found intoxicated in Lawrence Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated on Elm Street. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated in Timothy Dwight College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated at Lawrence Hall. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 19 y.o., found intoxicated in Morse College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Junior, 20 y.o., found intoxicated in Silliman College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated in Branford College. AMR Transport to YNHH.

Freshman, 18 y.o., found intoxicated in Old Campus, 261 Park Street. AMR Transport to YNHH.