

**UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR
JUDICIAL PANEL**

Decision No. JPH-07/08-21

Related Decision: JPS-07/08-21

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Complainant

and

[Student]

Respondent

Members of the Panel: Professor Charles James, Chair
 Dr. Linda Patrick, Faculty Member
 Mr. Wayne Girard, Student Member

Counsel for the University: Ms. Danielle Istl

This matter was first heard on June the 27, 2008 when it was set down for hearing on September 12. The Respondent has received notification of the hearings and has not participated in either. The Panel is satisfied that appropriate notice was provided to the Respondent and received by him and at the request of University heard the case against the Respondent in his absence as it is empowered to under Senate Bylaw 31.

The charge against the Respondent is that he forged the signature of a professor on a course add form. The course in question was Sociology/Anthropology course "Anthropology and Life Histories", taught in the winter term 2008 by [the professor] with the course a number 48/49-355. [The professor] gave evidence that there was an enrollment limit of 50 for this class and that he received a request from the Respondent to be placed on the waiting list for the class on November 14, 2007. When the class convened in January 2008 six students were signed into the class by the professor from the wait list and the Respondent was not among these six. The final date for a name to be included on the class list was January 18, 2008 and the Respondent's name was not on the list at that time. However the evidence indicates that the Respondent's name was added to the class list by the Office of the Registrar on January 24. When the professor saw the Respondent's name on the class list he knew immediately that he had not signed in the Respondent and wrote to the Respondent requesting him to indicate who had signed the form. The professor also checked with the departmental academic adviser to see whether she had signed in the Respondent and was informed that this had not occurred. The professor met with the Respondent who stated, and later confirmed in writing to the professor, that his name must have been included on the class list as a result of a mistake in the Office of the Registrar when he had indicated to the office staff that he wished to enroll in course number 353, "Women, Power and the Environment". [T]he professor who taught course number 353 gave evidence that the course enrollment was entirely female with the exception of one male and that she had no recollection of the Respondent either requesting to be included in the class list or attending any of the classes.

The Manager of Undergraduate Admissions from the Office of the Registrar gave evidence that the only way for a student to be included on a class list is for the student to produce to the Office of the Registrar a course add form signed by the professor for the course or another authorized official. It seems clear from the evidence that the Respondent's name was added to the class list for course number 355 on January 24. It is equally clear from the evidence that the professor for that course did not sign the form which the Office of the Registrar requires before it will include a name on the class list. The Respondent was asked on several occasions to produce the form but failed to do so.

The Panel is satisfied in light of all the evidence that the Respondent's assertion that a mistake was made in the routine practice followed by the staff in the registrar's office when he applied to enroll in course number 353 is not credible. What the evidence does point to is that a course add form for course number 355 carrying the professor's signature was

presented to the Office of the Registrar and that the Respondent's conduct as seen through the incredulous explanation contained in his e-mail, his failure to provide the form and the evidence of the professor for course number 353, clearly and convincingly confirms that he falsified that signature and is therefore guilty of the offense with which he is charged.

Dated this 24th day of October, 2008

[signature]

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Professor C. James

[signature]

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Dr. L. Patrick

[signature]

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Mr. W. Girard