

Academic Integrity *Ambassadors Luncheon*

Welcome!

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Macquarie University Department of Computing, 28 Feb 2014

‘Academic Integrity in Australia’

- 18-month project funded by the Australian Government Office for Learning and Teaching **(OLT)**
- **MQ (lead institution)** + USYD, ACU, Rutgers Uni
- Part of **4 x national Academic Integrity projects**
- Our brief? To find out **what students think about AI** at their uni and facilitate a way for them to **promote AI among their peers.**

Our Project Team

- **MQ Project Leader** – A/Prof Abhaya Nayak (Dept. of Computing)
- **MQ team members**– Prof Deborah Richards (Comp), A/Prof Judi Homewood (Psych), A/Prof Ian Solomonides (Dir. LTC), Nicholas McGuigan (FBE), Meredith Taylor (Comp, Research Officer) & Sonia Saddiqui (Comp & Edu, Project Manager)
- **USYD** – A/Prof Fiona White & Dr Caleb Owens (Psych)
- **ACU** – Dr Roger Vallance & Leanne Cameron (Edu)
- **Rutgers** – Professor Donald McCabe

We surveyed **5538** students

- *Many* of you participated in the survey
- *Some* of you attended focus groups/interviews
- *Some* of you indicated an interest in joining an AI student society
- We wanted to know what *you* thought about academic integrity at this university

What does
Academic Integrity
mean to you?



Students **said...**



“Well, my interpretation of AI values would be fairness, trust, honesty, being responsible for one's own work.”

Students **said...**



“Respect for other people's work,
how you present it.”

Students **said...**



“I think playing by the rules.”

Students **said...**



“I think any person who gets their degree or qualification from the university should have actually earned it, that it hasn't been kind of given to them on a platter or like it doesn't come in a cornflakes box....and integrity means that we can be certain that the people coming from university have actually earned their degrees.”

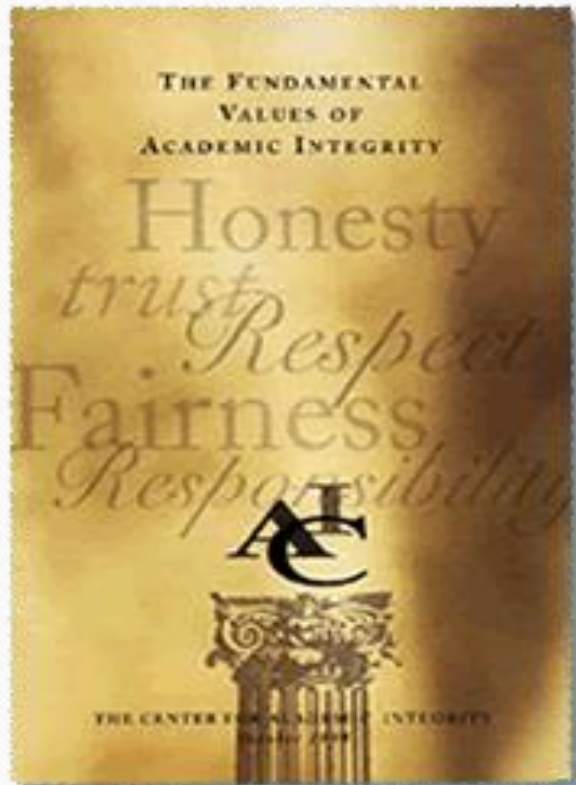
Academic Integrity is:



A mixture of values,
behaviours, actions and
aspirations.

International Center for Academic Integrity

5 Fundamental Values



“The International Center for Academic Integrity defines academic integrity as a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to five fundamental values: **honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.**”

(ICAI, 2014)

What happens in the
Absence of
Academic Integrity?



The **harm** of academic integrity breaches:

- Hampers the effectiveness of programs
- Undermines good scholarship
- Breeds distrust
- Damages reputation (uni's + program's)
- Breach behaviour at uni has been linked to unethical behaviour in the workplace (Sims, 1993; Thompson 2000)
- It's not fair!

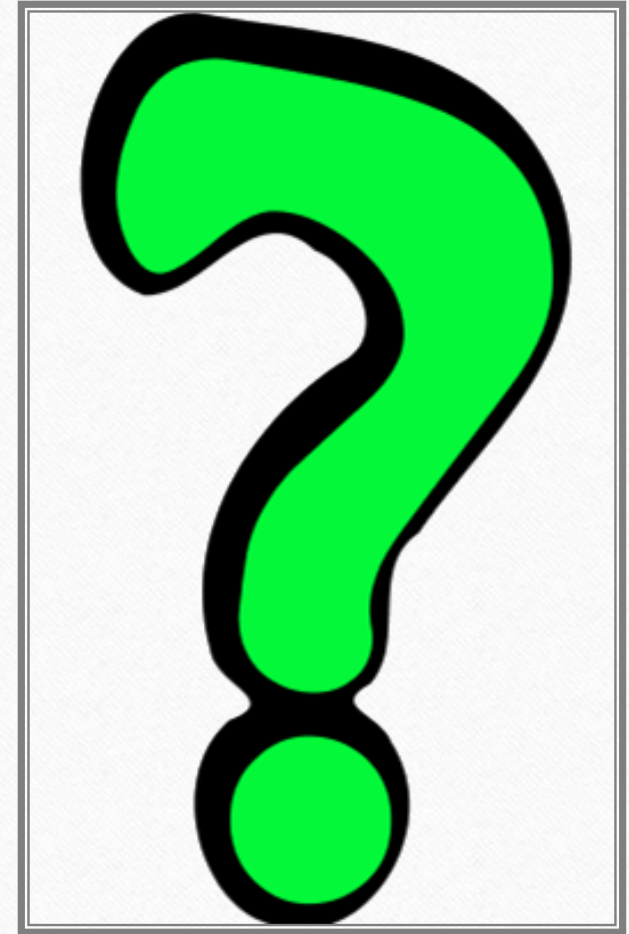
Are AI breaches a big problem?

- Rates among students in the US have been as high as **64%** (McCabe & Trevino, 1996)
- **70%** of US college students self-reported breach behaviours (Whitley, 1998)
- **55%** of surveyed **Australian uni students** selected 'agree' when asked if breaches are a serious problem (Nayak et al., 2013)

Are there any **Special Circumstances** where it is OK to be dishonest?

Special circumstances to be dishonest?	%
No	69.1%
Very few	26.4%
Some	4%
A lot	0.5%

What are the
Contributing
Factors
to AI breaches?



Students indicated the following Contributing Factors (time pressures)



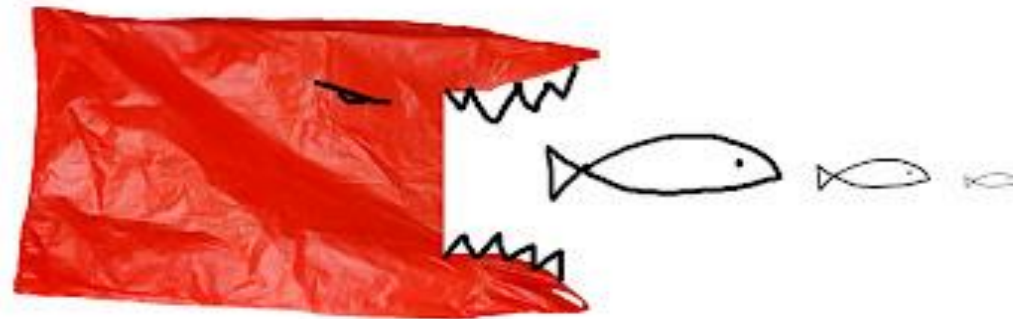
Image source:
<http://www.smsu.edu/campuslife/studentsuccess/?id=7518>

Students indicated the following Contributing Factors (financial pressures)



Image source:
<http://itsfruitcakeweather.wordpress.com/2013/09/21/10-signs-youre-under-significant-financial-pressure/>

Students indicated the following Contributing Factors (pressure to succeed)



Survival OF The Fittest

Image source: "Survival of the Fittest" by
Justin Nowak obtained from
<http://theplasticpropagandaposterproject.blogspot.com.au/2012/03/survival-of-fittest-by-justin-nowak.html>

Students indicated the following Contributing Factors (competing priorities)



Image source:
[http://www.cio.co.nz/article/528354/_innovate_your_job_depended_it_/](http://www.cio.co.nz/article/528354/_innovate_your_job_depended_it/)

One possible way to **address** the problem of AI breaches:

Create a **society of students** who will:

- Champion
- Promote
- Be the voice of student AI at MQ
- Represent MQ's AI interests in a national and international context



But what did **students** think of this idea?

- **1488** students across 4 institutions supported the idea
- **491** students supported the idea at MQ

What **activities** would students like the Society to run?

Some suggestions from students:

- Provide advice
- Provide feedback and suggestions to University staff
- Info booths during O-week
- Marketing campaign
- Emphasise the positive aspects of academic integrity
- Reward students for good practice

Students' suggestions:

“Regularly raising the importance of academic integrity (as per the law foundation subject) is an excellent way of embedding the issue in students’ minds. Providing examples of cases and their outcome[s] has also been extremely helpful.”

Students' suggestions:

“Something more engaging than just information-giving. It would be interesting to frame these issues in wider discussions about what kind of professional[s] students want to be when they graduate, how they want to engage with their workforce and the wider world. Academic, business, corporate, etc. Integrity is reflected in all work places, even though they may differ in the specifics.”

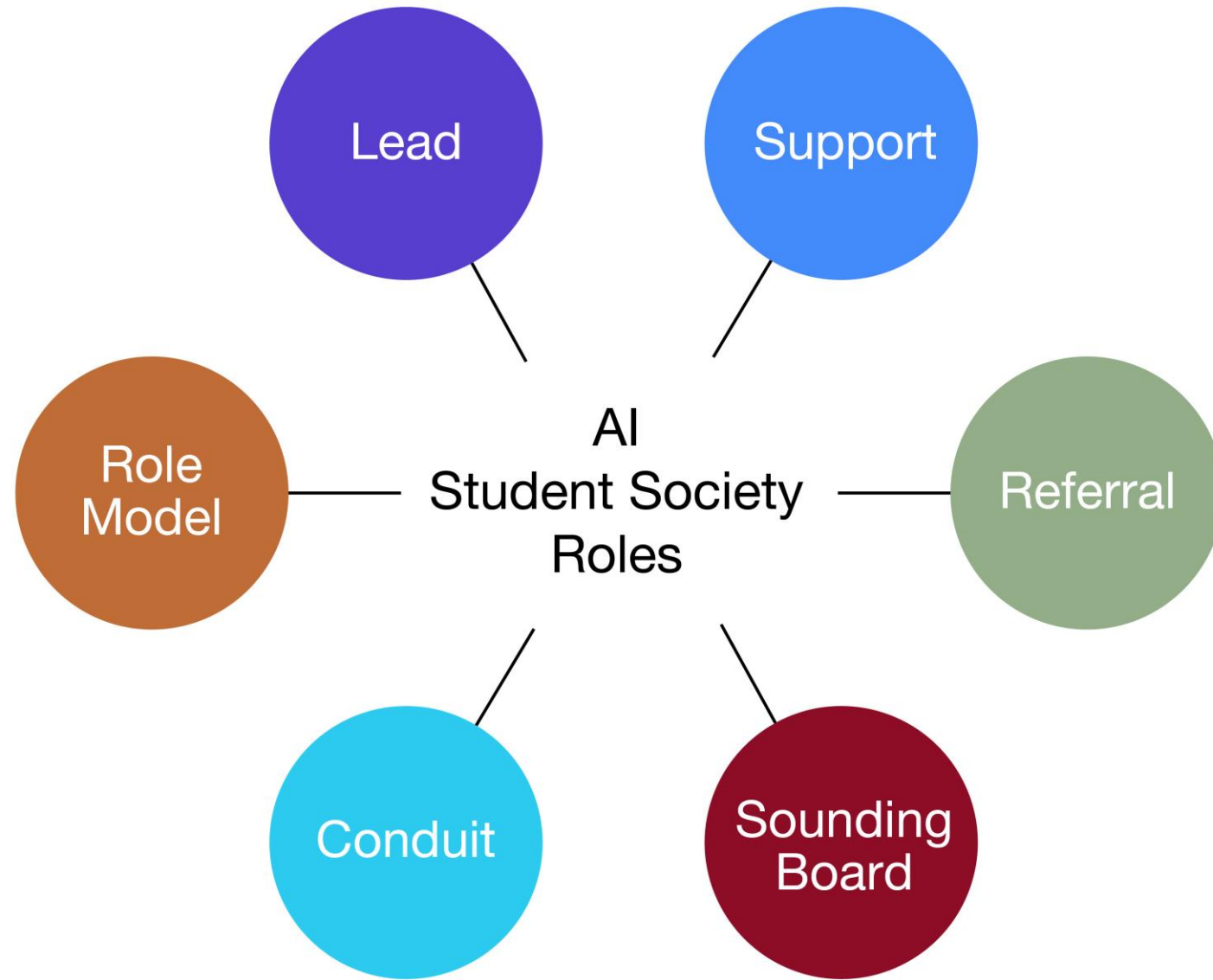
Students' suggestions:

“Travelling display and seminar to high schools.”

“Run games on academic integrity, e.g. your assignment is running late, you can do X or Y.
Z happens and consequences are A...”

Other **Suggestions:**

- Invite guest speakers relevant to your discipline
- Hold seminars or workshops
- Be a guest speaker
- Organise social activities and competitions
- Outreach - speak at high schools and other universities
- Work with other student organisations



And what do AI Ambassadors get in **return?**

-
- Assistance and facilitation from the project team (and some modest funding, too!)
 - You'll become an expert in AI issues
 - You'll gain experience in networking, organisational and event management, & public speaking
 - Opportunity to build contacts in industry
 - The profile of your university and program is raised
 - All these experiences and achievements go on your CV!

Are there already similar,
existing **AI societies?**

Not currently in Australia.
But we've been invite to *start* one....

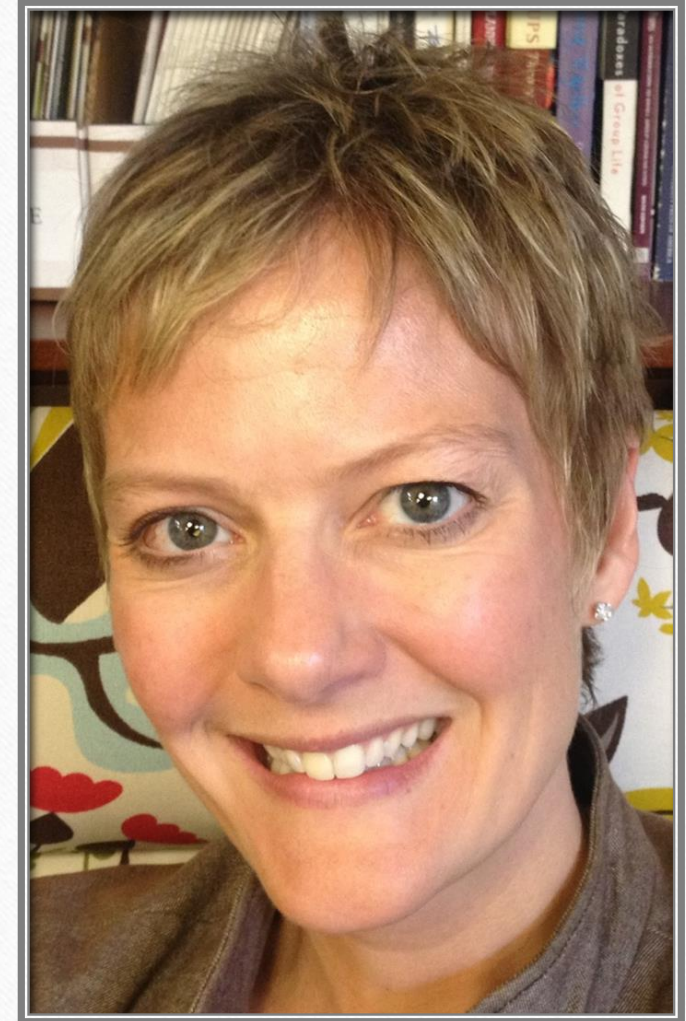
IAIMSO

The International Academic Integrity
Matters Student Organisation



Dr Tricia Bertram Gallant

Director, UC San Diego
Academic Integrity Office



Dr Tricia Bertram-Gallant on 'IAIMSO'
Director, UC San Diego Academic Integrity Office
Past Chair on the Advisory Council of the ICAI



IAIMSO.org

International Academic Integrity Matters Student Organization



ABOUT US

WHY ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

STARTING A CHAPTER

PRODUCTS TO PURCHASE

CHAPTER RESOURCES

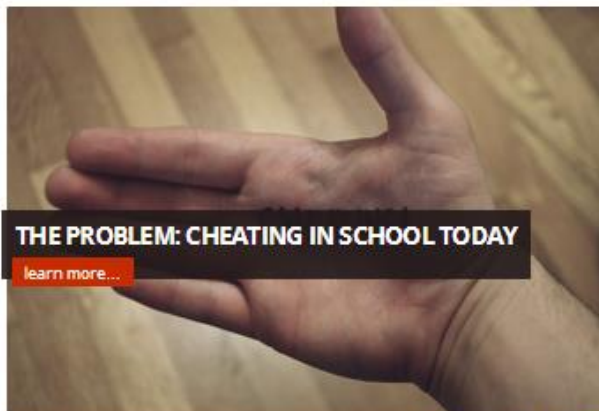
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UCSD AIM

WHY ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

We, the students, are the future workers and leaders. We will enter into trusted positions and professions. Society needs to know that they can trust educated people to do what it is they promise to do. Academic integrity is the foundation of that trust.

Academic integrity is a promise. Just like doctors must promise to "do no harm" and lawyers promise to uphold truth and justice, those of us with academic integrity promise to uphold five fundamental values in our academic work: honesty, trustworthiness, respect, responsibility and fairness - academicintegrity.org



THE PROBLEM: CHEATING IN SCHOOL TODAY

[learn more...](#)



WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING ABOUT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

[learn more...](#)



WHAT TEACHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

[learn more...](#)



THE PROBLEM: CHEATING IN SCHOOL, CHEATING IN THE WORKPLACE

[learn more...](#)



THE SOLUTION: ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL INTEGRITY

[learn more...](#)

We need **AI Ambassadors**
to form a team here at MQ!

How to join?

1. Complete the form on the back of your handout
2. If you have a minute, please help us by filling out the participant feedback form



All done! Let's eat!



References

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- McCabe, D., & Trevino, L. (1996), *What we know about cheating in college: Longitudinal trends and recent developments*, Change 28, 28-33
 - Whitley, B. E. (1998), *Factors associated with cheating among college students: A review*, Research in Higher Education, 39(3), 235-274
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 - Thompson, N. (2000), *Survey Finds 1 in 3 Workers Sees Abuses*, The Sun, C1–C3, 14 June 2000