

September 24, 2003

Dear Members of the Swarthmore College Community,

On Tuesday, September 23, the College Judiciary Committee met to consider a charge of academic misconduct brought against a student by faculty members. The case was from a course taken last spring semester, but was discovered by the professors after the student had left for the summer. The College Judiciary Committee was convened by Dean of the College Robert Gross and was comprised of Associate Professor of French Jean-Vincent Blanchard, Professor of Classics Rosaria Munson, Director of Computing and Communication Services Judy Downing, Maria Alvarez '04, and Matthew Wallaert '04. Associate Dean Tedd Goundie was the Observer to the hearing.

This case involved a charge of plagiarism, in which the student was accused of submitting for the class a paper that contained passages from secondary sources, including some passages that were verbatim, that were not given proper attribution.

In testimony, the student recognized that what she had done constituted plagiarism and took responsibility for her actions, but contended that there was not intent to deceive. The Committee found the student guilty of plagiarism, but took into consideration that there was not evidence to suggest intentional dishonesty. As the sanction, the CJC recommended to the professors that the student be given no credit, i.e., a "0," for the assignment, with whatever attendant consequences this action brings to bear on the final grade for the course.

The sanction is non-notational.

Robert Gross, Dean of the College  
Convener of the College Judiciary Committee

xc: *The Phoenix*