

# Bylaws of the Honor System of Stevens Institute of Technology

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## **Bylaw I. Scope of the Stevens Honor System**

### **Section I.1 Academic and Non-Academic Work**

The provisions of the Stevens Honor System shall apply to all undergraduate courses offered at Stevens Institute of Technology. They shall also apply to any and all assignments, meetings and hearings set by the Stevens Honor Board.

### **Section I.2 Membership**

- 1) All current and former students of Stevens Institute of Technology are members of the Stevens Honor System and subject to its jurisdiction.
- 2) Any member of the Stevens Honor System who commits a violation of the Stevens Honor System may be investigated and penalized.
- 3) Students who leave Stevens Institute of Technology prior to graduation may still be investigated for alleged violations which occurred before leaving the institute.

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## **Bylaw II. Pledge of the Stevens Honor System**

### **Section II.1 Pledge**

The following pledge shall be written in full and signed by every student on all submitted work (including, but not limited to, homework, projects, lab reports, code, quizzes, and exams) that is assigned by the instructor. Any references used toward the completion of a submitted assignment must be listed. Instructors reserve the right to refuse to accept any work that is not pledged.

**“I pledge my honor that I have abided by the Stevens Honor System.”**

### **Section II.2 Failure to Pledge**

Where a student fails to pledge submitted work, it will be assumed that the failure is an oversight and the student will be requested by the instructor and/or the IC of the Honor Board to supply the missing pledge. If, however, the omission was intentional, i.e. if the student refuses to sign the pledge when requested to do so, the action will be considered an admission of guilt, and the student will be subject to the appropriate penalties. No work shall be graded unless the pledge is written in full and signed.

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## **Bylaw III. Confidentiality**

### **Section III.1 Honor Board Members**

Honor Board members are required to keep all case-related information confidential regardless of the status of the case. Case-related information is defined as any information distributed through any medium that, when combined with publicly available knowledge or data, identifies a student as being involved in an Honor Board investigation as an accused, accuser, witness, or juror, or as having committing an Honor System violation, or having been accused thereof. No case-related information shall be made public during or after an investigation.

## Section III.2 Accused Students

Students who are under investigation by the Honor Board are required to keep all case related information confidential. Case-related information is defined as any information distributed through any medium that, when combined with publicly available knowledge or data, identifies a student as being involved in an Honor Board investigation as an accused, accuser, witness, or juror, or as having committing an Honor System violation, or having been accused thereof. During the investigation, no information shall be discussed with anyone outside the Honor Board or the Honor Board Advisor. This confidentiality is waived in the case that a student is taking their case to a hearing and is seeking witnesses or representation for said hearing. All individuals are required to keep all case information confidential until the completion of the case. Upon the completion of the entire case, the student involved is no longer bound to keep the information confidential.

## Section III.3 Members of the Community

All students, faculty, administrators and staff are required to keep case-related information confidential while involved in or with an Honor Board case. Upon completion of the case, all members of the community, with exception of the student(s) under investigation, must keep the case-related information confidential. No information shall be discussed with anyone outside the Honor Board or the Honor Board Advisor

## Section III.4 Provision for Confidentiality Release

The Stevens Honor Board and Honor Board Advisor reserve the right to confirm to senior Stevens officials, upon their request, if a student has been convicted of a violation of the Stevens Honor System. The student will be notified upon the release of the student's confidential Honor System violation information.

## Section III.5 Definition

Aid is any outside source used during the completion of a submitted work. It can be in the form of a book, website, tutor, classmate, or any other source in which a student may receive assistance in completing their assignment. For cooperative work, all students involved should be listed as references.

## Bylaw IV. Authorized and Unauthorized Aid

Authorized aid is any aid explicitly allowed by the instructor of the course, either in the syllabus, on the exam, or otherwise in writing distributed to all students before the exam. Unauthorized aid is any aid that is not authorized. Students may not use unauthorized aid on any submitted work.

## Bylaw V. Violations of the Stevens Honor System

An Honor System violation is when one:

uses or provides unauthorized aid, fails to cite aid at any place used, or presents others' ideas or experiences as one's own;

- commits fraud by "falsely [representing] a matter of fact, whether by words or by conduct, by false or misleading allegations, or by concealment of what should have been disclosed"<sup>1</sup>;
- willfully swears a false oath or affirmation to tell the truth, or subornation thereof; or
- purposefully discloses confidential information related to an Honor Board investigation to anybody other than members of the Honor Board, the Stevens administration, or the professor of a course the case involves, unless the case has been closed and explicit permission from all accused students involved has

been granted, or in the case of an accused student seeking witnesses or representation for an Honor Board hearing.

<sup>1</sup> "Fraud." West's Encyclopedia of American Law, edition 2. 2008. The Gale Group 10 Nov. 2013 <http://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/Fraud>

## **Bylaw VI. Penalties**

### **Section VI.1 Determination**

Following a conviction or confession, a particular penalty will be set by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

### **Section VI.2 Penalty Matrix**

The penalty ranges for violating the Honor System can be found in the Penalty Matrix document, which shall be considered a part of these Bylaws.

### **Section VI.3 Academic Sanction (Formerly known as Dean's Action Star)**

An Academic Sanction (formerly known as a Dean's Action Star) is a penalty levied by the Stevens Honor Board, which will be applied to a student's transcript. It is reserved for more serious violations of the Honor System and will be applied when deemed appropriate by the Honor Board. The Academic Sanction will include the following statement: "An Honor System violation was committed in Course XXX, Semester YY(S/F)". A removable Academic Sanction is an Academic Sanction that can be removed by fulfilling an educational assignment as specified by the Stevens Honor Board. To assign an Academic Sanction for a violation which occurs during a student's first or second academic year, or to assign a Removable Academic Sanction for a violation which occurs during or after a student's third academic year, the Board may follow the procedures for extraordinary penalties. Manuals outlining the requirements, timelines, and grounds for failure of these educational assignments shall be posted on the Stevens Honor Board website and shall be considered an extension of these bylaws.

A student assigned a Removable Academic Sanction will have between two and six months—as stipulated by the Honor Board—to complete his assignment to remove his Academic Sanction. If the assignment is not completed by the deadline, the Academic Sanction will be affixed to the student's transcript. The student may apply to the Honor Board for an extension of his deadline. These deadline extensions may be granted at the discretion of the Honor Board's Executive Board.

### **Section VI.4 Other Penalties**

Any violation not covered in the Penalty Matrix will be assigned an appropriate penalty by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

### **Section VI.5 Extraordinary Penalties**

A rendered penalty may be outside the recommended range for that specific violation upon approval of three-fourths majority of the votes cast.

### **Section VI.6 Stipulated Confessions**

A stipulated confession is a confession by an accused student to the charge as stated by the Honor Board, wherein the confession stipulates the penalty to be rendered by the Honor Board, and where the confession is only valid in rendering the penalty stipulated.

- (1) A stipulated confession may be proposed by the IC at any point during an investigation.
  - (a) The IC must receive approval for the penalty (through the appropriate voting procedures) by the Honor Board before the stipulated confession form is presented to the accused student.
    - (i) Only one stipulated penalty may be approved by the Board for a given case at any time.
      1. Upon the discovery of further evidence, the Board may vote to approve a new penalty for a stipulated confession. Such a vote shall always require three-fourths of the votes cast.
      2. If after two successive investigative meetings, an accused student has not agreed to a stipulated confession previously approved, that stipulated confession is nullified.
  - (b) Once an approved stipulated confession form is signed by an accused student, the penalty will be rendered by the Honor Board.
- (2) An accused student may request the Honor Board consider a stipulated confession for his/her investigation at any time.
  - (a) If such a request is made, the IC or a member of the Executive Board *must* propose a penalty for a stipulated confession at the next General Body Meeting.
    - (i) Discussion of a penalty for a stipulated confession form will follow the general procedures outlined for penalty discussion in the Rules of Order for Honor Board General Body Meetings.
  - (b) If the accused student does not accept the terms of the stipulated confession approved by the Honor Board, s/he may make further requests for a more lenient penalty, the Board is not required to hear them.
  - (c) An accused student requesting the Honor Board consider a penalty for a stipulated confession will not be treated as substantive evidence, and will be redacted from any meeting minutes prior to a hearing, should one occur.

## **Bylaw VII. Reporting a Violation**

### **Section VII.1 Procedure**

1. Students who believe a violation of the Honor System has been committed must report it within ten business days of the suspected violation. Reports may be made to an Honor Board member, to the Honor Board Advisor, or through the Honor Board's online form.
2. Faculty members who believe a violation of the Honor System has been committed must report it within ten business days of grading the assignment or examination. Reports may be made to an Honor Board member, to the Honor Board Advisor, or through the Honor Board's online form.
3. Any reports made by students more than ten business days after the violation or by faculty more than ten business days after grading an assignment or examination may only be investigated by the Honor Board by a three-fourths vote of the members of the Executive Board.
4. The names of the people reporting the violation and how they may be contacted must be included in the report. The following information should be included if available:

- a.) Names of the accused student(s) and witnesses.
- b.) Nature of the alleged violation committed, and in which course.
- c.) Any physical evidence of the violation.
- d.) Where and when the alleged infraction occurred.

## **Section VII.2 Confidential Reporting**

The name(s) of the person(s) reporting a suspected Honor System violation must be included with the report to the Honor Board in order for the case to be investigated. However, if the accuser is a member of the undergraduate student body, he/she has the option of having his/her name withheld from the accused during the investigation of the case. Should the case proceed to hearing, testimony from the accuser may only be used as evidence if the accuser agrees to reveal his/her identity to the accused.

## **Section VII.3 Designation of Charge**

When the case is assigned to the IC team, the Chair will determine the formal charge against the student(s) based on the submitted report. The charge against the student(s) may only be changed based on a vote by the membership.

## **Section VII.4 Grading Procedure**

Faculty must grade the material in question and assign a final grade in the course at the end of the semester if the case has not been concluded. A grade change can be made if necessary at the end of the investigation. The only exception to this is essays where plagiarism may be present throughout the entirety. The Honor Board reserves the right to decide if the assignment meets these requirements. If this is the case, the professor may choose to not grade the assignment until the conclusion of the investigation. The professor must communicate this circumstance to the Honor Board.

## **Bylaw VIII. Faculty Adjudicated Violations: The 13% Rule**

### **Section VIII.1 General**

Faculty may investigate alleged Honor System violations involving any required coursework valued at less than 13% of the final grade. If the student confesses to the faculty member, the faculty member may levy a penalty within Honor Board guidelines. Students retain the right to report the case to the Honor Board. Faculty must report Honor System violation and penalty to Honor Board within 5 business days of completion of the documentation. Honor Board reserves the right to reopen the case. Accused will receive the email within three business days from Honor Board after case will be reported by faculty.

### **Section VIII.2 Students' Rights**

Students have the right to appeal the instructor's decision. If a student wishes to appeal the decision, they shall refer the case to the Honor Board in writing within ten business days of the instructor's notification of penalty. If the student claims that the signature on the Faculty Adjudication Report Form was coerced or faked, then the Honor Board will reopen the case for a full investigation. However, if the student believes that the assigned penalty is too harsh, the Honor Board may, upon consideration of the appeal, vote to lower the student's assigned penalty. If Honor Board rejects the student's appeal, the student may appeal further to the Academic Appeals Committee.



The only grounds for appeal to the Academic Appeals Committee is that the student believes the Honor Board levied too harsh a penalty.

### Section VIII.3 Penalties

The Honor Board will provide the faculty with mandatory penalty guidelines based on Honor Board precedent. These guidelines are in the Honor Board's penalty matrix, and will be posted on the Honor Board website. If the professor does not adhere to the penalty matrix provided by the Honor Board by assigning a harsher penalty than the suggested maximum, the Honor Board must either reopen the case or vote on a penalty that is either within the penalty matrix, or less harsh than the agreed upon penalty. In the case that the professor assigns a penalty that is lower than the minimum suggested penalty in the penalty matrix, the Honor Board may approve the penalty, or vote on a penalty that is within the range of the penalty matrix.

### Section VIII.4 Final Case Reports

The Faculty Adjudication Report form will be made available on the Honor Board website. The faculty is responsible for completing the form and submitting it to the Honor Board upon the completion of the case, attaching all relevant information. This report will be recorded by the Honor Board and considered an Honor System violation against the student.

## Bylaw IX. Undergraduates in 500-level Graduate Courses

### Section IX.01 General

In any case where an undergraduate student enrolled in a 500-level graduate course is accused of a breach of academic integrity, the Honor Board acts as an appellate committee. If a faculty member finds a student guilty, they may assign a penalty in the same manner they would to a graduate student. The violation and faculty's action must be reported to the Honor Board within ten days.

### Section IX.02 Scope

- 1) The general provisions of the Stevens Honor System do not apply fully to graduate courses, 500 level or otherwise.
- 2) Any student who wishes to report an undergraduate for a violation in a 500-level course shall submit the report to the Honor Board following the protocol for undergraduate courses, and an investigation will be conducted following the same process for an appeal on false accusation described in Section 9.04.
- 3) Any student who wishes to report a graduate student may submit the report to the Dean of Graduate Academics or to the Honor Board, who will refer the report to the Dean.
- 4) The Honor Board Chair will give the Dean of Graduate Academics weekly updates on the progress of any casework relating to 500-level courses.

### Section IX.03 Penalties

The penalties selected by the faculty member do not need to follow the recommendations of the Stevens Honor Board's penalty matrix. When the Honor Board reviews the documentation submitted by the faculty, the penalty may not be altered to be less severe unless the student appeals based on harshness of penalty. However, the Honor Board may choose to assign the student a harsher penalty based on one of two factors:

- 1) The penalty selected by the faculty is less severe than that recommended for a similar violation at the undergraduate level.
- 2) The accused student was previously convicted of an Honor System violation, in either an undergraduate or graduate course.

### Section IX.04 Student's Rights

- 1) Students have the right to appeal the instructor's decision on two grounds: false accusation or penalty. If a student wishes to make such an appeal, their request must be submitted within ten days of receipt of notification of their penalty from the Honor Board.
- 2) Students have the right to request an Evidence Exchange adhering to the process outlined in the Hearing Procedures Manual in reference to undergraduate cases.
- 3) The Investigating Committee may accept a written confession from the accused student. This confession must be witnessed by two Honor Board members.

## **Section IX.05 Procedure for Deciding an Appeal**

When the Honor Board receives an appeal from the accused student based on either claiming they are not guilty of the breach of academic integrity or that the penalty rendered is exceedingly harsh, the Honor Board will proceed in the following manner.

- 1) The Honor Board Chair will assign an investigatory committee, which will have two weeks to collect evidence and witness statements from involved faculty and witnesses. The accused student will be informed of the investigation when the committee is formed, and may use the two week period to prepare his appeal.
  - a. In the case that all pertinent evidence cannot be collected within the two week period, the Honor Board Chair may grant the investigatory committee an extension. The accused student will be informed of any such extensions.
  - b. In the case that the accused student feels they cannot prepare for the appeal within two weeks, the Honor Board Chair may grant the accused an extension. The investigatory committee will be informed of any such extensions.
  - c. In the case that a confession form is signed, the case will not proceed to a hearing. The Honor Board will levy a penalty at the following general body meeting if needed.
- 2) At the conclusion of the two week period, the Honor Board will hold a hearing for the student during its weekly scheduled General Body meeting, the procedure of which is outlined below.
  - a. The Honor Board Chair shall either act as Judge or name a suitable replacement from the Honor Board membership.
    - i. Prior to commencing the hearing, the Judge will recuse any Honor Board member who is deemed biased for or against the student. The Judge will choose seven members to form the Appeals Committee from the remaining Honor Board members.
    - ii. At least a week prior to the date of the hearing, the Judge will inform the accused student of the date, time, and location of the hearing and will invite him/her to attend to speak on his or her behalf.
  - b. The hearing shall commence by the Judge explaining to the appeals committee the grounds for appeal, upon which time the Investigative Committee shall be called upon to enter the hearing chamber to present and explain all of the evidence gathered to the Appeals Committee.
    - i. Witnesses may be called to speak during evidence presentation -- the Investigative Committee shall be given the first right to question any witnesses, and the Judge shall be given the chance to ask any further questions s/he deems necessary on behalf of the Appeals Committee.
  - c. When the Investigative Committee has finished presenting their evidence, the appellant shall be called upon to enter the hearing chamber to present and explain any evidence s/he has collected.
    - i. Witnesses may be called to speak during evidence presentation -- the appellant shall be given the first right to question any witnesses, and the Judge shall be given the chance to ask any further questions s/he deems necessary on behalf of the Appeals Committee.
  - d. When the appellant has finished arguing his/her case, s/he will be excused and the Appeals Committee will enter discussion of the appeal.
    - i. The Judge will facilitate discussion as a moderator only -- they may not add any personal opinion; only explaining precedent or procedure as necessary.
- 3) When no member of the Appeals Committee wishes for further discussion, the Judge shall take a vote by roll call, with each member casting a vote of "grant" or "deny." It shall require four votes of "grant" for the appeal to be granted. Should the student be found not guilty on appeal, the case will be closed against him, and no penalty will be rendered.

- 4) Should it be found that the penalty rendered to the student was exceedingly harsh, and was not in line with the Professor's syllabus, the Honor Board will vote on a suitable penalty. Otherwise, the penalty rendered will stand.

Further appeals may be made under the provisions of Bylaw XII

## **Section IX.06 Case Documentation**

All cases involving undergraduate students enrolled in graduate courses will be documented in accordance with the Honor Board's overall policy. These violations will be counted as prior offenses in the case that a student is later found guilty of an Honor System violation at the undergraduate level.

## **Bylaw X. Investigative Committees (IC)**

### **Section X.1 Creation of Investigative Committee**

Upon written receipt of a suspected violation the Honor Board Chair shall appoint an Investigative Committee (IC) composed of at least two Honor Board members.

### **Section X.2 Role of the Investigative Committee**

All rules and procedures followed by the Honor Board during investigations are detailed in the Investigation Procedures Manual, which shall be considered a part of these bylaws.

## **Bylaw XI. Appeals**

### **Section XI.1 General**

If the panel of students at the hearing makes a decision that affirms the occurrence of an Honor System violation or if a student confesses to a violation, the Honor Board will render a penalty at its next meeting. After a penalty has been rendered, the Corresponding secretary will notify the accused and the Honor Board Advisor. The accused will retain the right to an appeal of the penalty rendered by the Honor Board or an appeal of the case outcome if it is suspected that the Investigative Committee violated these bylaws. The procedures for appeals are summarized below and are stated in the Hearing Procedures Manual.

### **Section XI.2 Process for Seeking Appeals**

1. Submit a letter to the Dean of Undergraduate Academics with the reasons for the appeal up to 14 calendar days after the date of the rendered penalty.
2. The Dean of Undergraduate Academics will look over the appeal and based on appeal criteria, decide if an appeal is warranted. If warranted, the Dean of Undergraduate Academics will give the appeal to the Academic Appeals committee.

### **Section XI.3 Appeal Criteria**

1. Penalty: The Honor board levied too harsh a penalty.
2. Investigation: The procedures for Honor Board investigations were not properly followed and/or the rights of the accused student were not protected.
3. Hearing: The procedures for Honor Board hearings were not properly followed and/or the rights of the accused student were not protected.
4. Other appeals may be heard if, in the opinion of the Dean of Undergraduate Academics, an accused student's rights were mishandled and/or the procedures followed by the Honor Board are deemed unfair to the students involved.

5. The Academic Appeals committee may meet with the accused, the hearing chair, an Honor Board Representative and/or anyone else deemed necessary by the Academic Appeals committee.
6. The Academic Appeals committee will decide to uphold the outcome of the Honor Board proceedings or overrule the outcome and/or penalty rendered by the Honor Board based on the grounds upon which the appeal was requested. The decision will be submitted to the Dean of Undergraduate Academics with an explanation of the findings of the Academic Appeals committee and a recommendation for the final disposition of the case. The Dean of Undergraduate Academics will send a copy of the Academic Appeals Committee's findings to the Honor Board Advisor and the Honor Board Chair.
7. The Honor Board and the student will retain the right to appeal the decision of the Academic Appeals committee to the Provost of the University. Either party can do so by submitting a request in writing stating the reasons for an appeal of the Academic Appeals Committee's decision.
8. The Provost may, at his discretion, delegate the authority to oversee the appeals. All further references to the Provost ought to be read as "the Provost or his delegate."
9. The Provost will look over the request and if warranted, will meet with the requestor. The request must be submitted within 14 days of the Academic Appeals committee's decision.
10. The Provost will have the final say in an appeal and both the Honor Board and student will uphold the decision.
11. No appeal request will be accepted by the Dean of Undergraduate Academics or the Provost after the 14- day period.
12. A penalty which is appealed will not be implemented until the conclusion of the first appeal to the Academic Appeals committee. Once the committee has ruled on the penalty, it will be implemented, but may be modified afterwards on appeal to the Provost.

## **Bylaw XII. Membership of the Stevens Honor Board**

### **Section XII.1 Class Definition**

A Class shall be defined as any group of members of the Student Body that entered the Institute during the same year with the following exceptions:

1. Any student, who is enrolled as an undergraduate student in the Institute for more than four years, will be counted with the fifth year class.
2. Incoming transfer students shall be members of the second year Class.

### **Section XII.2 Membership**

1. The number of seats on the Honor Board shall be allocated as follows:
  - a. first year: 8 seats (See point 3)
  - b. second year: 10 seats
  - c. third year: 10 seats
  - d. fourth year: 10 seats
  - e. fifth year: 10 seats
2. Any Honor Board representative, once elected, shall hold that position until graduation, granted they maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 and barring any circumstance that results in an early resignation or termination from the Honor Board.
3. In the first year class, six seats will be open in the Fall semester, and the remaining two seats will open in the Spring semester. Therefore, there will always be open seats for the first three semesters after a new class enters.
4. Not more than four representatives can be affiliated with the same social fraternity, social sorority, or Varsity athletic team.
5. No executive officer from SGA, Inter-fraternity Council, or Pan Hellenic Council shall be eligible to be an active Honor Board representative, but may request to be suspended for the duration of their upcoming

term. Such a request must be approved by a two-thirds vote with previous notice. If such a request is not made, or the vote fails, the representative shall be removed from the Honor Board.

6. Officers: The officers of the Honor Board shall be a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Recording Secretary. Their duties are described herein, and expounded upon in the Officer Guide.
7. Vacancies in the Honor Board shall be filled by the class to which the opening belongs. A new election shall be held at least once a semester as well as any time deemed necessary by the Honor Board.
8. Students graduating within one semester of the election are not eligible to run for open seats.

## **Bylaw XIII. Elections**

### **Section XIII.1 Nominations**

Nominations for Honor Board Representatives shall be held according to the following provisions:

1. Nominations for Honor Board Elections shall be held within two weeks of the middle of the semester except when deemed necessary by the Honor Board. Elections should occur every semester unless the Board is at maximum capacity.
2. The Executive Board will review the applicants and will require the following:
  - a. A formal written application and/or essay that can be reasonably completed individually by the applicant.
  - b. The written application will be presented to the Board.
  - c. The applicant to appear before all or part of the Honor Board for an interview of character.
  - d. The applicant cannot currently be on academic probation.
  - e. If not a first semester student, the applicant has a cumulative GPA of 2.75.
3. All Candidates must pass a majority fitness for candidacy vote. If the applicant does not receive a majority vote from the Honor Board, the candidate will be found unfit. All candidates determined fit will be voted on by the general student body.
4. Every member of each class may submit at most one vote for each candidate in his class and may not submit more votes than there are open positions in his class.
5. The nominees will be accepted to the Board based on a plurality vote.
6. A new officer training shall be held to acquaint the new members with their positions.

### **Section XIII.2 Internal Elections**

Internal Elections shall be held in the following manner

1. The officers of the Honor Board shall be a Chair, Vice Chair, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary, and shall be elected by ballot in that order.
2. The committee chairs of the Honor Board shall be Governance Chair, Outreach Chair, Events Chair and Web Chair, and shall be elected by ballot in that order.
3. The Impeachment Investigative Committee of the Honor Board shall be Chair and Assistant, and shall be elected by ballot in that order.
4. The procedures for elections are outlined in the Honor Board Meeting Rules of Order, which are considered an extension of these bylaws.
5. The last regular meeting occurring at least one month prior to new acceptance to the Board shall be known as the annual meeting. Internal elections shall be held at the annual meeting and the Honor Board members shall be notified of this meeting date two weeks prior.
6. Beginning at the regular meeting prior to the annual meeting, officer, committee chair, and impeachment committee nominations from the floor and by mail will be accepted up until the time of the election.
7. A new officer training and transition period shall be held to acquaint the new officers with their positions.

8. Officers, committee chairs, and Impeachment Investigative Committee chair and assistant shall be elected for a term of one year or until their successors are elected, beginning three weeks after their election or immediately after the current member serving vacates their position, whichever comes first.
9. Members who are on academic probation or, if elected, would graduate or otherwise leave the Stevens community during their one-year term are not eligible to serve.
10. No member shall hold more than one position at a time. This does not apply to members of the impeachment committee. The chair and vice-chair cannot be a part the impeachment committee.
11. In the event of more than two members running for a single position, if no candidate receives a majority vote, the candidate with the least votes will be eliminated from the ballot and the Board will vote again.

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## **Bylaw XIV. Conduct of Honor Board members**

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### **Section XIV.1 Duties of Honor Board members**

1. Members shall be required to attend weekly general body meetings.
  - a. Members who must miss the general body meetings shall notify the executive board at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. If the absence is not excused, the absence shall count as two absences.
  - b. Members shall make every reasonable effort to arrive at a general body meeting promptly. If a member arrives more than five minutes late or leaves more than five minutes prior to the meeting being adjourned without previous notice, the member will have accrued one-half an absence. If the member gives the Executive Board previous notice, it shall be at the discretion of the Executive Board as to whether or not the instance shall count for one-half of an absence.
2. Members shall assist with all education initiatives of the Honor Board
  - a. Members of the Honor Board shall assist with the education of the Stevens community by participating in Orientation, Induction, faculty training, student education events and Honor Board events as planned by the executive board and committees.
3. Members shall sit on committees, both annual standing and ad hoc. Each member must fulfill the membership requirements of at least one standing committee as determined by the committee chair
4. Members of the Honor Board must participate in casework, including serving on Investigating Committees, serving as Procedural Advisors, and fulfilling hearing roles, as appointed by the Chair.
5. Members shall represent the Honor Board with professionalism and integrity at all times.

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### **Section XIV.2 Leave of Absence**

1. An Honor Board member who feels that they are unable to perform their duties during a particular period of time for a specific reason, including but not limited to academic reasons or medical reasons, but still wishes to remain an Honor Board Member may request a Leave of Absence from the Board.
2. The Leave of Absence must be approved by two-thirds of the voting membership.
3. Members will be permitted a maximum of two leaves of absence during their time on the Honor Board.
4. The Leave of Absence must not be consecutive Fall and Spring or Spring and Fall semesters.
5. During a leave of absence, a member may attend Honor Board meetings, but will not have voting rights, and shall be counted neither towards quorum nor calculating quorum.
6. Members of a leave of absence will be excused from their duties as an Honor Board member.

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### **Section XIV.3 Suspended Members**

1. Members on suspension are still bound by all rules and policies as Honor Board members in good standing. Suspended members must hold all case-related information confidentially and maintain the ethical conduct of Honor Board members.
2. During a suspension, a member may not attend Honor Board meetings and shall not be counted towards calculating quorum.
3. A suspended member will have no access to any Honor Board files or case information.
4. Suspended members will be excused from their duties as an Honor Board member.

#### **Section XIV.4 Impeachment and Removal of Members and Officers**

1. "Impeachment" is defined as charging a member or officer of the Honor Board with improper conduct, including, but not limited to, violations of the Honor System and its bylaws, violations of university policies for conduct, failure to comply with these Bylaws and/or other Honor Board policies, and/or negligence in the performance of their duties as a member or officer of the Honor Board.
2. Any member of the Honor Board may initiate impeachment proceedings against a member or officer by informing the Chair or the Honor Board advisor(s), in which case the student's anonymity will be guaranteed. The Chair or an appointee of the Honor Board advisor will then inform the impeached member and the general body of the impeachment.
3. The Chair (or Vice chair if the Chair is to be impeached) shall impeach all members who meet one or more of the following criteria:
  - a. Accrue four absences from General Body Meetings over the previous 120 days;
  - b. Fail to attend one investigatory meeting at which the member's attendance was scheduled;
  - c. Fail to submit three weekly case updates when required over a semester;
  - d. Are recommended for impeachment by one of the acting advisors to the board;
  - e. Represent the Honor Board unprofessionally either publicly or electronically;
  - f. Commit a breach of confidentiality;
  - g. Fail two consecutive internal reviews;
  - h. Violate the university policies for conduct.
4. Impeachment Proceedings
  - a. Upon initiation of impeachment proceedings, the impeachment investigative committee of two appointed and elected Honor Board members will rise. In the event that a member of the impeachment committee is impeached, an alternate member will be appointed by the Chair or Vice-Chair.
  - b. The impeachment investigative committee will have a maximum of two weeks to investigate the accusation against the impeached member. The committee will rise at the discretion of the committee, the demand of the Honor Board, or after the two week time limit, whichever comes first.
  - c. When the impeachment investigative committee rises, the committee shall deliver a report and recommend either dropping the impeachment or preferring charges against the member. In the latter case, the recommendation shall be to suspend the impeached member from the Honor Board, list the charges and at least one specification for each charge, and a date and time for an adjourned meeting for processing the charges, which may be the current meeting if the impeached member is present.
  - d. When processing the charges, the impeachment investigative committee shall present its full report, after which the impeached member will defend themselves against the charges. After presentation of the case, the investigative committee and impeached member shall leave the room during discussion and voting.

- e. All discussion shall be kept strictly confidential. All votes shall be done by a secret ballot.
5. Vote on Removal of an Officer or Committee Chair
  - a. Removal from office shall require a minimum of two-thirds vote for approval.
  - b. Removal from office shall not constitute removal from the Honor Board. An additional discussion and vote on removal from Honor Board must be conducted for an officer to be removed from the Honor Board, just the same as any other member, and per the rules contained in these Bylaws for removal from the Honor Board.
6. Vote on Removal of a Member from the Honor Board
  - a. Removal from the Honor Board shall require a minimum of three-fourths vote for approval.
  - b. If the vote for removal fails, the Honor Board will vote on an appropriate penalty regarding the membership of the member in question. The vote will require a two-thirds majority.

## **Bylaw XV. Meetings of the Honor Board**

### **Section XV.1 Frequency**

The meetings of the Honor Board shall be held whenever necessary, at least eight meetings per semester.

### **Section XV.2 Quorum**

1. Two-thirds of the membership of the Honor Board, not including those on suspension or leave of absence, shall constitute quorum.
2. A quorum is necessary for all voting done at a meeting.
3. A majority vote of the Honor Board quorum is required to pass a motion unless otherwise specified in the Bylaws or Constitution of the Stevens Honor System.

## **Bylaw XVI. Procedural Advisors**

### **Section XVI.1 Appointment**

The Chair of the Honor Board shall appoint a Procedural Advisor (PA) for each accused reported to the Honor Board.

### **Section XVI.2 Purpose**

The purpose of the PA is to provide counsel and mentoring to a student accused of an Honor System violation. The PA shall provide counsel and mentoring in the form of explaining the rights of the accused student and the process of Honor Board proceedings. To maintain due process, the PA and the accused student will have a confidential relationship regarding case related details.

1. Should the accused student's case go to a hearing, the PA will attend the hearing and fulfill the responsibilities specified in the Hearing Procedures Manual, which shall serve as an extension of these bylaws.

## **Bylaw XVII. The Honor Board Advisor**

### **Section XVII.1 Role and Responsibilities**



1. Advisors reserve the right to veto the penalty rendered by the Honor Board. If vetoed, the Honor Board has the ability to overturn the decision with 80% vote.

## **Section XVII.2 Procedure for Selecting an Honor Board Advisor**

1. In the event that an Honor Board Advisor is no longer able to serve in their position, a new advisor shall be selected.
2. The Administration member shall be selected by the Office of Student Life and Development with input from the current Chair of the Honor Board based on dedication to the school, experience in the field and interest in the role.

## **Bylaw XVIII. Membership and Role of the Honor Board Advisory Council**

### **Section XVIII.1 Membership**

The Honor Board Advisory Council is to be made up of students, faculty, administrators, and alumni with the following breakdown:

1. Student representatives of the Honor Board Advisory Council shall be selected by the Honor Chair of the Gear and Triangle Honors Society.
2. Four faculty members serving a one-year term: One from each of the academic schools appointed by the Dean of that academic school at the beginning of the academic year.
3. Two administrators serving a one-year term: Any combination of administrators from the undergraduate school selected by the Honor Board Advisor and the Honor Board Chair at the beginning of the academic year. The Honor Board Advisor is not eligible to be a member of the Honor Advisory Council.
4. The Honor Board advisor may appoint a member of the Stevens community to the Honor Advisory Council. This member will not count towards the limitations specified above.
5. Honor Board alumni are always eligible to attend Honor Board Advisory Council meetings, and may request the Honor Board Advisory Council Secretary inform them of meeting dates.

### **Section XVIII.2 Role and Responsibilities**

The responsibilities of the Honor Board Advisory Council will be as follows:

- a) Meet with the membership of the Honor Board at least once per semester.
- b) Advise the Honor Board and Administration by making specific recommendations to improve the Honor System.
- c) At the request of the Honor Board Chair, contribute a section to the annual report on the state of the Honor System to the President of the Institute at the end of the academic year

### **Section XVIII.3 Organization**

The Honor Board Advisory Council should select from its membership a Chairperson and a Secretary.

1. The chairperson shall be elected annually from the selected membership and is responsible for the completion of the responsibilities of the Honor Board Advisory Council.
2. The secretary shall be elected annually from the selected membership and is responsible for taking minutes at every joint Honor Board/Honor Board Advisory Council Meeting along with contacting the membership of upcoming meetings and events.

### **Section XVIII.4 Confidentiality**

The members of the Honor Board Advisory Council shall be bound by the same rules and confidentiality as the members of the Honor Board.

### **Section XVIII.5 Meetings**

The Honor Board and the Honor Board Advisory Council shall meet at least once every semester for the improvement of the Honor System in the community.

## **Bylaw XIX. Exam/Quiz Procedures**

### **Section XIX.1 Proctoring**

Proctoring shall be defined as a professor, teaching assistant, course assistant, or other instructor or faculty excessively watching, hovering over, or otherwise monitoring a student taking a quiz or examination to the point that such observation distracts the student or is noticeable by other students, or initiating communication with such a student except when such communication is necessary to fulfill exam- or Honor System-related procedures and policies, including, but not limited to, distributing exams, and filling out seating charts.

### **Section XIX.2 Students**

1. Seating: A student may choose to sit in any open seat in the assigned exam room.
2. Seating Chart: A student will be responsible to sign a seating chart if requested to do so.
3. Electronic Devices: Electronic Device use is defined by the professor in the course outline or syllabus. The electronic devices cannot be programmed in any manner that would give a student an unfair advantage over his classmates.
4. Leaving the exam room: The student may leave the exam room during an exam, however they are not permitted to leave the premises (building or complex).
5. A student, who witnesses a suspected honor system violation during an exam, should alert the Instructor or Teaching Assistant immediately. Following the exam, the student should report any suspected honor system violations.

### **Section XIX.3 Faculty/ Teaching Assistants**

1. Proctoring: The Instructor or Teaching Assistant (TA) will not proctor the students in the exam.
2. Availability: The Instructor or TA will be available within the building or complex to answer questions regarding the material on the exam.
3. Electronic Devices: The Instructor or TA will clearly define the policy on electronic device use before distributing the exam to the students.
4. Seating Chart: The Instructor or TA must use a seating chart for every test or examination. The Instructor or TA should ensure that the seating chart is correctly filled out.
5. The Instructor or TA must report any suspected honor system violations during an exam to the Honor Board.

## **Bylaw XX. Provisions for Summer Sessions, Final Exam Sessions, Intercessions**

At the last scheduled meeting before the beginning of a summer session, final exam session, or intercession, the Honor Board may use a two-thirds vote with previous notice to reduce quorum to seven members during the following summer session, final exam session, or intercession. This reduction of quorum expires at the beginning of the next Fall or Spring session.

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**Bylaw XXI. Interpretation**

In any case where the bylaws are unclear or do not adequately explain protocol, their interpretation shall be at the discretion of the Chair. If any member of the Board believes that the Chair is misinterpreting the bylaws, they may raise a vote to overrule the Chair's interpretation, which shall require a majority vote to pass. In the case that such a vote passes, any member may propose an alternate interpretation, which shall require a majority vote to be approved. If, within one hour from the Chair's interpretation being contested, no proposed interpretation has been approved, the proper interpretation shall default back to the Chair.

**Bylaw XXII. Extensions of these Bylaws**

The following documents shall be considered an extension of these bylaws:

1. Hearing Procedure Manual of the Honor Board
2. Investigation Procedures Manual of the Stevens Honor System
3. Stevens Honor Board Officer's Guide
4. Meeting Rules of Order

**Bylaw XXIII. Amendments**

A two-thirds vote with previous notice shall be required for the amendment of the Bylaws.