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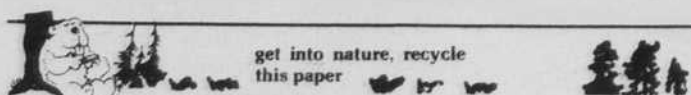
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# Recent cheating incidents raise University eyebrows

By Harry Esteve  
Of the Emerald

A sudden rise in the number of students caught cheating on exams and papers is causing some merited paranoia on behalf of University faculty and administrators.

For the second time this year, the chair of the Student Conduct Committee has sent a memo to faculty suggesting ways they can make life a little tougher on students who are caught cheating. The letter that law prof. William Randolph mailed to faculty was in response to 11 reported cases of cheating this year, compared to a total of 16 last year.

Most of the 11 happened during fall-term finals, according to Vernon Barkhurst, University conduct coordinator. The rise in reported cheating cases is not due to an increase in instructors reporting incidents, but is tied directly to an increase in student cheating, Barkhurst says. He and Randolph agree that as much as 95 percent of academic cheating goes unnoticed.

Academic cheating falls into three main categories — copying during an exam, plagiarizing information for a paper or collaborating on a take-home test.

What Barkhurst described as "quite a rash" of cheating incidents this year may mean stricter proctoring during winter term finals, if some of Randolph's suggestions are taken by faculty.

Randolph recommends that professors "require students to display their identity cards on their desks throughout the exam, so that the proctor can check the identity card with the name on the exam paper and physiognomy of the writer."

And he recommends that faculty take advantage of recent University legislation that prohibits a student from dropping a class in which he has been caught cheating. Instructors who catch a cheater have to notify their department head immediately for the new rule to be valid.

In a recent case, a student admitted to cheating on an exam and was told he would be given a failing grade in the course. The student then promptly dropped the course, before the instructor notified the department head.

Randolph urged instructors to make it harder for students to copy other students' tests by using at least two different exam forms and scrambling the questions.

From a law school perspective, Randolph says he doesn't have to worry much about academic cheating.

"In the law school where tests are taken on the honor system there is probably a very low incidence of cheating," he says. "The risks are so extreme."

A law student who is caught cheating on an exam or paper stands a lower chance of being hired after graduation, or may not be allowed to take the bar exam.

## Retired University official honored

Kenneth Erickson, director of the Field Training and Service Bureau at the University's Col-

lege of Education from 1967 to 1981, will receive a Distinguished Service Award Friday from the American Association of School Administrators.

He is one of five school administrators who will receive the award at the AASA annual meeting in New Orleans. The award is given to "retired school administrators who have brought honor to themselves

and to the profession during their active years and have been in the vanguard of education in America," according to the association.

Erickson, who continues to work part-time for the University, also served as executive secretary of the Oregon School Study Council and has been on the board of directors of the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory in Portland and of the National School Development Council.

A native of Portland, he has been president of the Oregon Association of Secondary School Principals and has served on the executive committee of the Oregon Association of School Administrators.

Erickson is a 1941 graduate of the University of Oregon, and holds his master's and doctoral degrees from Washington State University.

The bureau, once known as the Bureau of Educational Research, is now known as Information and Field Services in the Division of Educational Policy and Management.

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