To the Haverford Community:

Last semester, in an abstract titled “Darwin and Professor Lyell,” the jury resolved that Darwin, having committed an act of plagiarism “will serve as a jury member on a case chosen by Honor Council.” Subsequently, Honor Council was confronted by two members of the class of 2007, Geddes Munson and Griffin Vanze, both of whom were deeply concerned since the jury for this trial would no longer be randomly chosen. After much deliberation, Honor Council has decided not to place Darwin on a trial. Here, we weighed the importance of ensuring the security of the constitution’s process for a fair trial against the importance of allowing Darwin to repair the breach of trust with the community in the path laid out by the jury, the only body constitutionally empowered to lay out such a path. Honor Council has met with Darwin to discuss other ways he might repair the breach of trust, however in the eyes of the members of council who met with him, the other resolutions of the jury seem to have been successful in repairing the breach of trust, holding him accountable for his actions, and fully educating him. Nonetheless, Honor Council would like to encourage Darwin to accept a place on a jury if his name arises through the random selection process currently used.

Respectfully,

Honor Council

Anastasia Nikolis '11 Sydney Keough '11
Robert Breckinridge '11 Sarina Schwartz '11
Jacob Waters '10 Amira Shulman-Kumin '10
Benjamin Amendolara '10 Carolyn Warner ‘10
Katie Estabrook ’10 Jamie van Opstal '09
Jackie Rodriguez '09 Meridith Sine '09
Cody Gertz ’08 Luke McNamara ’08
Katia Alexander ’08 Daniel Studenmund ’08