HONOR COUNCIL TRIAL ABSTRACT

A new jury was convened to discuss Alice's role described in the last abstract. The facts for this trial were much less clear despite Julie's presence. Alice had received a call from Julie during exam week in which the latter expressed her desire to borrow the former's car. This occurred fairly frequently, and did occur that day. When Julie arrived, Alice was taking a study-break in her bedroom. They began to talk. At first, Alice did not know that Julie had yet to take the exam. Alice told Julie about their mutual Physics final. Jury members questioned that at no time during the discussion did this fact dawn on Alice. After Julie had left, Alice resumed her studying for the History exam in the living room. During this interim, it occurred to Alice that her friend had not taken the Physics exam. At this time, the feeling that she had broken the Honor Code did not exist or was very minimal. The Honor Code prohibits any discussion of exams during exam week. Upon Julie's return, Alice again initiated a discussion. This time she brought up their joint History exam for which she had been studying and which Julie had, as both knew, taken earlier that week. The discussion started with an appraisal of former tests and filtered into topics which had appeared on the exam. When Alice's roommate casually asked how the studying was going that same night, Alice mentioned to her that she knew which topics to study for the History exam because Julie had told her. The roommate told another friend, David, but nothing further happened until after vacation.

Three weeks after vacation, Alice's roommate finally confronted her. Alice had not reported herself to Honor Council. She believed that she was moral and ethical enough to deal with the situation herself. Alice's roommate, who was present for part of the trial, pointed out that at the time of the confrontation Alice still did not see "what the big deal was." Alice did take Honor Council seriously, though, and after learning that Julie had already done so, she went to see the professors involved and her dean. The dean also provided reference for the trial by means of several interviews with the Honor Council chairperson and phone calls.

During the trial, the afore-mentioned facts were generally determined, and with Alice's admittance, it was convened that a violation of the Code had occurred. The circumstantial portion of the trial investigated the actions and motives previously stated. When questioned as to what resolutions she deemed necessary, Alice at first passed the option but later suggested some type of community involvement. She expressed that there was a need for better freshman orientation, but neither she nor the jury felt that her understanding of the Code placed her in a position to receive, such responsibility. Some of the other possible resolutions which were discussed were separation from the college, failing the course in History and/or Physics, failing the exam in History and/or Physics, and community
service. At this point, Alice and David left the room, and the
jury began to reach a temporary resolution. Separation from the
college for a semester was the most widely discussed option. The
jury was not convinced that Alice had a good understanding of
either the Code or its sense of community. This view was
substantiated by the dialogue which had occurred earlier in the
trial. Nobody on the jury could really come up with any
appropriate community service or involvement which would foster a
better understanding of the Code than a temporary separation from
it. The jury did not and still does not believe that this
resolution was vindictive. Rather, it was believed that this
course of action would best benefit both Alice and the community.
In addition to separation, Alice was to receive failing marks in
both History and Physics in which she already had low final
grades.

The jury reconvened the next morning, and reconvened on
their resolution adopted the night before. One member of the
jury chose to stand outside of consensus at this time, though
agreeing with the resolution. That person did not feel qualified
to decide whether separation from the college was appropriate for
anyone. At this point, Alice and David returned. After having
been informed of the resolution, both Alice and David expressed
their concerns that a separation from the college would not help
her to better understand the Honor Code. *Alice* wondered what she
could do instead of separation, but she had no suggestions of her
own. Alice was upset with the resolution. *Alice* will continue
to remain in contact with Honor Council between spring break,
when her separation begins, and next fall. She will have to
satisfactorily reapply through the Admissions office and Honor
Council before returning.