Summary: Jane brought herself to Honor Council for an academic violation of the Honor Code. She had looked at her textbook during all but two of several take-home, closed-book exams. At the inquiry, the jury determined this was a violation, and came up with the following four-part resolution:
1) Jane should fail (0.7) the course;
2) Jane and Professor Mattos should reconcile the breach of trust between them. It was left to the professor's discretion as to how this would be done;
3) Jane should keep a journal concerning any reflections she has on the Honor Code, and meet with two members of the jury periodically to discuss her thoughts. After the summer break, she is to write a letter summarizing her experience;
4) Jane should go through the Honor Code Orienteer training program, to explore her own realizations about the Honor Code.

I. FACT-FINDING

Confronting/Confronted party: At the inquiry, Jane said that she had regularly had a take-home, closed-book exam in her chemistry class. After the first exam, when the work became more difficult, she began to refer to her text on every exam. She herself felt it was wrong to do so, since the formulas she was referring to were supposed to have been memorized. This continued until finals week, when she recognized her violation of the Honor Code. She took her final exam without cheating and decided to bring herself to Honor Council.

The jury came to consensus that these episodes had been a violation of the Honor Code. Jane violated Professor Mattos's specific instructions regarding the closed-book conditions of the exams.

II. CIRCUMSTANTIAL

Jane explained the circumstances. While taking an exam she would panic and look at the text for confirmation of the formulas about which she felt uncertain. At the time she rationalized her actions by thinking it was not a large transgression and that no one would know. The formulas were "common knowledge"; one could look them up anytime in "the real world". She disagreed with her professor's instructions about closed book exams and his insistence that the formulas be memorized, since she felt it wasn't worth the extra time or effort. She did not approach Professor Mattos with her objections but continued to glance at her textbook until "it became a habit".
Jane said she would only look at the textbook for confirmation; if she had no idea how to answer the question, she would leave it blank. She was careful to make a note indicating if she had spent more time on the exam than was allowed. As the semester progressed, she felt worse about her actions yet found it easier to cheat. She admitted that she spent less time studying as a result of cheating.

At the meeting with her HCO (Honor Code Orienteer) and other freshmen just before finals week, she felt very alienated although no one else knew about her cheating. As "a knowing transgressor" she felt she had to turn herself in to be able to put herself back in the community. Jane took her final exam without cheating by leaving her books in her room and taking the exam in a different one.

III. RESOLUTION

Tentative: 1. Jane said she did not think she merited any grade in the course. The jury considered separation from the college, not as a punitive measure but in order to give her an opportunity to step back from the problem and see the larger picture. The jury recognized that she had not cheated on the first exam, and that her action on the final exam suggested a concerted effort toward re-entering the community. Nevertheless, the jury agreed that she should fail (0.7) the entire course, because she had violated the professor's explicit instructions that the exams were closed-book.

2. The jury felt she should meet with Professor Mattos. The length and duration of their meetings were left to his discretion.

3. The jury felt that Jane would benefit from a long term, comprehensive experience about the Honor Code. Toward this end, Jane was to begin a journal on any reflections she has on the Honor Code or of being in the community. These could be based on past abstracts, or any other aspect of the Honor Code. She would meet with two members of the jury every three weeks until the end of the semester to discuss the journal. It was then suggested she could write a letter in summary and present it to Honor Council.

4. The jury felt that the Honor Code Orienteer Training program was a useful way for her to discuss and deepen her understanding of the Honor Code.

Final: Jane had a generally positive reaction to the tentative resolution. She felt apprehensive about writing a journal because she did not wish to dwell on the whole experience, but agreed it would be useful. Jane chose the two members of the jury with whom she wanted to meet over
the semester. The tentative resolution became the final resolution and the trial ended with a moment of silent reflection.