HONOR COUNCIL INQUIRY ABSTRACT

TABITHA

Samantha confronted Tabitha for a possible violation of the Honor Code. The situation was brought to the attention of the Honor Council who determined that an inquiry was needed to address the incident.

After the Chairperson read the relevant parts of the Code, the factual portion of the inquiry began as Samantha recounted the events which had passed. It was during finals week, in the middle of an exam period. She went to the bathroom and while therein, heard the sound of papers rustling in the other stall. Samantha thought something was odd but did nothing. After returning her completely finished exam, she went back to the bathroom. The person was still there so Samantha asked if everything were OK. A voice replied that everything was fine. Samantha left the room and asked Darren, the proctor, who was in the bathroom, but he did not know. A few minutes later Tabitha emerged and asked Darren who had knocked. She explained that she had started feeling ill during the middle of the exam but had not felt sick enough to warrant going to the infirmary either to finish her exam there or to be temporarily excused from it. Thus, she had completed it in the bathroom. Samantha told Tabitha that she should have confirmed, with the proctor, that the bathroom was an acceptable alternative exam taking location to a classroom. She was not saying that Tabitha had cheated but that taking an exam in a bathroom is not proper behavior and reflects a lack of good judgement. It was at this point that Samantha notified Honor Council.

Tabitha was asked to elaborate. She re-iterated that she had been feeling ill and added that she thought that any place in Stokes, but for the Library, was an approved location to take an exam. There were no posted signs to the contrary, and she did not ask Darren if this were, in fact, true because she did not think that it was an issue.

The jury decided that a violation of the Honor Code, with respect to exam taking procedures, had not occurred. Tabitha was reprimanded for her lack of judgement and a recommendation was made, that exam regulations should be better publicized and displayed, to the Honor Council and the Office of the Recorder.