

Department of Psychology

May 4, 1990

MEMORANDUM

TO: Psychology Department Faculty
FROM: Harold Schuckman
SUBJECT: Suspicions of academic dishonesty

At the last meeting of the Department, we discussed what actions on the part of the instructor were appropriate when the instructor suspected that a student might be cheating on an examination. It was agreed that the following guidelines should be employed:

- 1. Students suspected of cheating on an examination should be separated from other students taking the examination and, if it is suspected that ancillary material is being used (books, notes, etc.), these materials should be removed. These actions should take place as soon as the instructor suspects that cheating is taking place.
2. Unless there is firm evidence that cheating has occurred, the student should be permitted to continue with the examination.
3. Students should not be covertly penalized without accusation. If evidence of cheating is available, and a penalty is to be assigned, the student should be notified of the contemplated action in a private meeting.

The Department does not suggest that actions such as those described in a recent issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education be employed (see below).

Professor Suspended in Assault of Student

KALAMAZOO, MICH.—The administration of Western Michigan University recommended last week that two professors be suspended without pay for allegedly assaulting a student they believed was cheating on a test.

Campus police are investigating an assault complaint filed by the student, Toyoda Norwono, against Edgar Inceberg, an associate professor of biology, and his wife, Rachel Inceberg, who is a professor of education.

Mr. Inceberg was helping her husband administer a test to 250 students when they reportedly scuffled with Ms. Norwono over her notebook. They charged she was using the notebook to cheat. Ms. Norwono alleged that Mr. Inceberg hit her in the notebook and that Mrs. Inceberg bit her.

Mr. Inceberg, 42, is a professor of biology at Kalamazoo. Mrs. Inceberg, 40, is a professor of education. Mr. Inceberg has been suspended without pay pending a disciplinary hearing. Mrs. Inceberg has been suspended without pay pending a disciplinary hearing. Mrs. Inceberg has been suspended without pay pending a disciplinary hearing.