Committee on Ethics and Institutional Integrity  
SUNY Oswego  
October 2012

Continuing Activities:
1. Survey of Ethics academic activities on all campuses  
   a. The re-survey of CAOs yield did not reach 100%  
      i. An aggressive follow up will occur to maximize participation  
   b. An ethics word search for ethics in SUNY programs has been undertaken through SUNY Institutional Research to augment the CAO survey—Questions are currently being addressed as to the completeness of the data  
      i. Further work will be done to turn this into a database for use as a resource for campuses to initiate and grow academic ethics programs and to facilitate research collaborations across the system
2. The committee was enthusiastic about pursuing policy as a methodology to implement ethical positions – Based on a presentation by Steve Worona to a UFS plenary  
   a. The first project is electronic privacy  
      i. The methodology adopted is for the committee to collaborate with system administration  
      ii. Several individuals at system have been identified to facilitate the process  
      iii. It is anticipated that policy initiative, if successful, will serve as a proto-type for setting policies that implement standards of ethics for SUNY
3. Proposal for an Ethics Forum available SUNY wide  
   i. The committee continues to investigate turning a workshop that it did for itself into a vehicle for providing a better understanding of ethics in the academic setting (“finding the good”)  
   ii. Consideration of webinar v. in person forum or both  
   iii. Strategy for proceeding is under discussion and would coordinate with new initiative #1

New Initiatives:
1. Taking a step back to move forward: Guiding Ethical Principles, a compass, for SUNY
a. Based on the mission of SUNY, the committee is considering developing a set of guiding principles that will set clear expectations that guide practice and continue to inspire professional excellence in SUNY

b. In addition, this would serve as an organizing principle for the committee’s work going forward

2. A proposal to build on the survey of SUNY wide academic ethics
   a. Build on this data base initiative to develop a broader resource for SUNY wide issues, current and as they develop
      i. There is a long and growing list of issues that would be prioritized

Committee Charter boundaries:
From time to time questions continue to arise about the committee being involved in specific campus ethical challenges and concerns. (This has never been part of the charge of the committee and has been discussed with the Expanded Executive Committee of the University Faculty Senate.) The committee is not an adjudicative body and not in a position to render opinions or judgments. The focus of the committee is on increasing the visibility and awareness of ethics education, research, expectations and policy across SUNY.