

Policy and Procedures for Resolving Allegations of Academic Misconduct Against Former Students

The Provost (or the Provost's designee) has the authority to investigate and impose sanctions in cases involving allegations of academic misconduct against former students. Due to the rarity of such cases, the retroactive and permanent nature of potential sanctions, and the special circumstances surrounding each case, the following procedures shall apply in such cases.

The Provost will conduct an initial review to determine whether allegations of academic misconduct against a former student warrant an investigation. In conducting this initial review, the Provost should consider the following:

- a. Whether the alleged misconduct occurred while the student was registered at WPI, and whether the alleged misconduct violated WPI policy at that time.
- b. Whether the allegations, if true, would have resulted in the student's failure to complete one or more degree requirements in place when the misconduct occurred.
- c. Whether the allegations include new information and whether WPI was aware of the information before the student's graduation.
- d. Whether the student has a continuing relationship with WPI.
- e. WPI's need to maintain integrity in its academic programs.
- f. The need to correct ongoing misconduct.
- g. Any other factors relevant to the specific situation.

The Provost's decision whether to investigate allegations is final and is not subject to appeal.

If the Provost decides that allegations should be investigated, the Provost has wide discretion in terms of how the investigation should be conducted. The Provost may decide to appoint an investigator or a committee, and whether the investigator/committee should make recommendations about whether the student is responsible for the misconduct and, if so, an appropriate sanction. Any investigation should include reasonable efforts to provide the former student with an opportunity to respond to the allegations.

The Provost may impose any sanction upon the student, including revocation of the student's degree(s). In cases where the Provost decides to revoke a degree, the former student may appeal the sanction to the President whose decision shall be final. In all other cases, the Provost's decision shall be final.