

Duke University
DURHAM
NORTH CAROLINA
27708-0042

LEE D. BAKER
DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
TRINITY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

114 ALLEN BUILDING
BOX 90042
(919) 684-3465
FAX (919) 681-6280

August 26, 2008

Faculty of Arts & Sciences
Nicholas School of the Environment
Pratt School of Engineering

Dear Colleagues:

As we begin a new academic year, there are several initiatives that I would like to bring to your attention.

First, I have enclosed a copy of a letter of welcome that I have sent to each first-year student that delineates the values of the University community and expectations regarding academic integrity in particular. The letter provides the web locations for resource guides regarding documentation and acknowledgement of sources. You may want to refer students to these sites:

"Citing Sources and Avoiding Plagiarism: Documentation Guidelines"
www.lib.duke.edu/libguide/citing.htm

"Plagiarism: Its Nature and Consequences"
www.lib.duke.edu/libguide/plagiarism.htm

The Writing Studio
<http://uwp.duke.edu/wstudio/>

The Writing Studio is also a resource for students to obtain consultation regarding questions or ambiguities they might have about their writing assignments.

In addition, within a few weeks students will be sent an on-line tutorial designed to help them recognize and avoid plagiarism. Many of the vignettes used in the tutorial are based on actual judicial board cases.

Second, I encourage you at the outset of the semester to take a few moments during one of your classes to convey expectations for your course regarding academic integrity. Students indicate that there is ambiguity across courses and professors with regard to four specific matters: (1) the degree of collaboration allowed in homework assignments, problem sets, and papers; (2) citation conventions and methods to be utilized; (3) whether tests/exams used in previous years can be reviewed in preparation for tests; and (4) whether a paper developed in one course can be submitted in a different course.

Finally, I would remind you of another resource, the Academic Integrity Council, which was created by a joint resolution of the Arts & Sciences and Engineering Faculty Councils on April 12, 2001, to help promote academic integrity at Duke University. The Academic Integrity Council's website at www.integrity.duke.edu provides useful tips for faculty. In addition, you may address questions or comments about integrity policies and practices to the AIC email address: academic-integrity@duke.edu.

Thank you for your attention to these academic integrity initiatives.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee D. Baker", written in a cursive style.

Lee D. Baker