

Jocelyn, a Bryn Mawr junior, enrolled in Professor Frist's intermediate English course, required for the major, which stressed peer review of the student's work. One assignment was a 1200 to 1700 word paper. The first draft was to be given to two classmates for review. The final paper was due two weeks later to Professor Frist.

When Professor Frist received Jocelyn's final paper, he felt that it was not her work because of the style and the level of writing. He "googled" certain sections and found the paper Jocelyn had submitted as her own for sale on two internet websites. Professor Frist went back to her rough draft and did another internet search. He found that paper for sale as well.

Professor Frist asked Jocelyn to meet with him. She admitted she had bought both papers and submitted them as her own work. The Dean's Office purchased the second paper for evidence in the hearing.

Jocelyn said that she was under a lot of pressure, personal and academic (she was taking five courses). She had two writing assignments due on the same day as Professor Frist's course and she did not originally intend to purchase the papers; she went to the internet for inspiration. She apologized to Professor Frist and the Honor Board.

The Honor Board decided on the appropriate course of action:

1. Failure of the course.
2. Recommend that she spend her next semester away from Bryn Mawr in order to cope with her personal stresses.
3. Regularly go to the Writing Center to become comfortable with peer review of her writing.
4. Meet with her Dean in order to more appropriately handle her stress.