Good afternoon Academic Integrity Task Force (AITF for short),

Our first meeting was held on Thursday, February 28, 2013 from 3:30-5:00 at Rock Creek. We had some really interesting discussion about academic integrity issues in a general sense as well as some particular matters related to academic integrity at PCC. Here are some highlights:

I would like to propose the following as our mission statement. If you have any questions or comments for changes, please let me know.

- The Academic Integrity Task Force is dedicated to investigating PCC’s current practices and values as related to issues of student academic integrity, with the goal of promoting and sustaining a culture of academic integrity at the college. The task force will bring recommendations to the EAC in 2014.

Academic integrity is definitely a multifaceted and complex topic. We decided that having subgroups dedicated to examining particular issues would be the most effective way to carry out our work. The following list are the subgroups that we propose with some suggested areas of focus for each:

- **Distance Learning** (how to educate students on what constitutes an academic integrity violation and best practices for preventing and addressing academic integrity violations in online classes; issues in proctoring exams)
- **Creating a culture of integrity** (Why do students cheat and how can we prevent it? Best practices for reducing motivation/temptation/opportunity to cheat. Best practices for addressing academic integrity violations. What are we doing already to foster a culture of integrity at PCC and what could we do better?)
- **PCC’s Academic Integrity Process** (What policies and practices are currently in place to address violations of academic integrity? How effective are these policies? Suggest improvements to make the process more efficient and effective)
- **Plagiarism Detection Tools** (Last year, Rock Creek piloted the use of plagiarism detection software called Turnitin. The college did not extend the software's use beyond the pilot period. This subgroup would look into the use of such tools and the pros and cons)

If you are interested in joining one of these subgroups, please let me know so I can help connect those with similar interests.

We still need student representation in this task force. If you know of any students that might be interested, please ask them to contact me.

Lastly, with the end of the term rapidly approaching, I would like to suggest that we meet the second week of Spring term. If there are no objections, I will send out a Meeting Wizard invitation soon. In the meantime, I encourage you to take a look at this article from The Chronic of Higher Ed. on creating a culture of academic integrity: [http://0-chronicle.com.library.pcc.edu/article/Toward-a-Culture-of-Academic/15639/](http://0-chronicle.com.library.pcc.edu/article/Toward-a-Culture-of-Academic/15639/). Also, The Center for Academic Integrity published a document entitled “The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity” that I think can help to guide us: [http://www.academicintegrity.org/ica/assets/FVproject.pdf](http://www.academicintegrity.org/ica/assets/FVproject.pdf)

Thank you and I wish you all the best for a smooth end of the term!

Best,

Stephanie