OASES Graduate School

Academic and non-Academic Misconduct Policy

Approved by:	Academic Council
Last reviewed:	08 December 2014

Preamble

OASES values and encourages collaborative forms of learning and inquiry in a mutually supportive environment that values intellectual integrity and critical inquiry as well as multiple ways of knowing, including relational knowing, and applying our knowing in/to practice. We wish to encourage a culture of reflection, mindfulness and critical thinking. Our participants are selected on the basis that they are able to engage with this approach to learning. Accounting for learning as an ongoing process in which reflection on what is learned and how it makes a difference in practice militates against the forms of academic misconduct that might occur in a larger institution with greater emphasis on the private production of only essay type assessment tasks.

Work submitted for assessment/accounting for learning purposes takes many forms (see Policy on Assessment). Academic misconduct is this context means engaging in unethical practices in terms of research or scholarly practices including making fraudulent claims in relation to work created for assessment/ accounting for learning purposes For an overview of our understanding of ethical behaviour see our Ethical Guidelines/reminders document. Generally misconduct includes violation of OASES policies and ethical guidelines

Plagiarism

We expect and encourage our participants to engage with each other, with people and practices in their place of work, with relevant literature and forms of knowledge creation and media of various kinds. In considering plagiarism our focus is on reverencing and referring and referencing and resonating and reflecting on where/who/what are the sources/bases of our knowing and how to ensure that participants understand these concepts. Again we see inexperience with this approach to referencing and reverencing as an opportunity to enhance understanding of knowledge creation as a social process. Since much of our accounting for learning requires reflective practice, reflective reading and exegesis, and presentational forms that include not only the written but poetic, visul image and other aesthetic forms of presentation, as well as interview/conversations in which accounting for learning or a particular assessment task is discussed, plagiarism is less likely to occur.

OASES' Responsibilities

It is our responsibility as OASES facilitators, academic board members, together with Head of School and Chair of Academic Board to ensure that all policies relevant to academic misconduct are known to participants e.g. Ethical Guidelines, Assessment Policy.

The Participant handbook Part 2 which is given to each new participant discusses our approach to successful engagement in the OASES program.

The project handbook which specifically discusses the design and implementation of the project outlines the appropriate ways of referencing for written work as well as Ethics approval processes.

All issues around problems with plagiarism will initially be raised by unit facilitators with the participant. This should be reported to The Chair of Academic Board. Discussion between the unit facilitator, Chair of Academic Board and participant will determine further action.

Non Academic Misconduct/General Misconduct

Any violation of OASES Ethical Guidelines or other non-academic OASES policies, e.g. harassment and discrimination policy, or that in some way prevents the safe and appropriate running of OASES programs or in some way brings OASES into disrepute or divulges confidential information about any OASES participant of other member of the OASES learning community may be viewed as non academic misconduct.

Where misconduct on the part of participants is perceived by other participants or other members of the OASES learning community then it should be brought to the attention of either the Head of School or Chair of The Academic Board, whose responsibility is to address the issue with both participant and the person who has brought the complaint. After considering the complaint a report will go to the executive subcommittee for assessment and further action if necessary e.g. grievance procedure process.

Policy Owner	Chair of Academic Council
Next review	October 2016

Version No.	Approval date	Approved by	Amendment
3.0	08 December 2014	Academic Council	Change of program name from 'Integrative and Transformative Studies' to 'Sustainability and Social Change'
2.0	October 2012	Academic Board (now Council)	Extension and clarification of policy and procedures.
1.0	November 2007	VRQA	