JUNE 2020 UPDATE ON AI REVIEW II PROCESS

According to the academic integrity procedures, an AI Review II is normally scheduled “no longer than one quarter after receipt of the request for an AI Review”. Unfortunately, given the number of Review requests in the queue, the timeline for cases to be scheduled in front of the AI Review II Board will be longer than one quarter.

We understand that this announcement will create lots of questions for students who are in the Review queue. So, we will do our best to address those questions here.

What does it mean “the number of Review requests in the queue”?
Each student who contests responsibility for an integrity violation allegation and requests a Review has their case put in a line that includes all of the other students who have requested a Review. That line is always a bit long at the end of the quarter, but the 71% increase in cases reported from WI20 and a 144% increase in cases reported from SP20, our backlog is abnormally long.

How many AI Review II requests are in the queue and how many AIR IIs usually happen in a quarter?
We have about 94 Review requests in the queue right now, but this number will continue to grow as cases continue to come in. Historically, we’ve been able to hold about 30 AIR IIs in a quarter, but Remote Instruction and the global pandemic has made that more difficult; for example, this past Spring quarter, we were only able to hold 18.

When will my Review get scheduled?
Now that we are at the end of the spring quarter and heading into summer, there will not be any Reviews occurring until the Fall quarter as Review panels tend to be unavailable in the summer. However, not all of the cases in the queue will be heard in the Fall as there are simply too many in the queue. So, once the AIO starts scheduling Reviews, we will prioritize Reviews for students who would otherwise be graduating, and then we will priorities Review requests by the date that they were requested (in the meeting with the AAA). In other words, it is likely that only cases stemming from the WI20 quarter will be scheduled in the Fall, and Spring cases will be scheduled in WI21 and SP21.

I can’t wait until the fall. Is there another way for my case to get resolved?
There is only one way for students to resolve the case outside of the Review process – by accepting responsibility for the integrity violation allegation.

NOTE: Students who did NOT violate academic integrity should NOT accept responsibility.

However, there are likely students in the queue who DID violate academic integrity, but contested because they want to argue that they didn’t intend to or mean to violate academic integrity. There are also likely students in the queue who violated academic integrity, but they contested because they were worried about or disagreed with the sanctions. If either of these scenarios fit your situation, you should retract your Review request and accept responsibility because intent is not a factor in the AIRB decision-making process and there is an appeal.
process for appealing the sanctions. Also, as a reminder, your sanctions may be mitigated by an acceptance of responsibility.

**What is the AI Office doing to resolve this backlog?**
We have started collecting student denials of the violation allegation and sharing those with instructors. In some cases, Instructors have already withdrawn allegations based on that information. Starting later in June and throughout the summer, AIRB Advisors will be used to review the cases as to recommend to the Instructors whether the case should proceed to the AI Review II or whether the allegation should be withdrawn based on the available evidence. If your allegation is withdrawn at that time, you will be notified. Otherwise, you will be notified that your case remains in the Review queue. We expect there will be a few cases removed from the Review queue through this process.

Over the summer, the AIO will also be looking at ways of holding more Reviews in a quarter than historically possible. Remote Reviews certainly help because we are not limited by space. We are asking Senate for a procedure change to allow for a bigger pool of Presiding Officers and AIRB members, and we are rethinking how to restructure Reviews so more than 1 or 2 cases can be resolved in one day.

**I’m supposed to graduate at the end of this quarter. How does this impact me?**
This will delay the conferral of your degree until your case is resolved either by an acceptance of responsibility, an allegation withdrawal or an AI Review II decision.

**Should I contact my instructor to get this resolved more quickly?**
No, you shouldn’t. When you do this, it creates confusion in the process and more work for everyone involved, meaning the time of AIO is spent trying to reduce confusion rather than time on processing your case and making progress in clearing this this backlog.

**I want all of the documentation related to my case.**
You should have already received the documentation that the AIO currently has relevant to your case when we sent you the timeline extension. However, if you haven’t yet received it, you can make that request here - [https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/process/form-ai-doc-request.html](https://academicintegrity.ucsd.edu/process/form-ai-doc-request.html)

If you feel that there is additional documentation that should be submitted by the professor, you can ask for that once we notify you that your case is proceeding to an AI Review II (after the summer process described above).

**Can I go to an AI Review I instead?**
No, you cannot. Since you are facing separation from the University (either suspension or dismissal), your case must proceed to the AI Review II per Policy.

**Is there anything else I can do?**
Yes, if you haven’t already submitted a Statement about why you are contesting the allegation, you can go ahead and [do that by emailing it to aio@ucsd.edu](mailto:aio@ucsd.edu). That information can be included in the packet of information about your case that may be reviewed by an Advisor over the summer. Many of you haven’t submitted that material because we gave you an extension to do so, but if you’d like to do that, we ask that you do it by June 30th. This doesn’t have to be your official review request statement, but just an explanation of why you disagree with the allegation.

Also, if you would like advice on what you should do – that is, accept responsibility or stay in the Review queue – please contact asadvocacy.ucsd.edu for assistance.