Office of the Registrar

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13 February 2023

Jane Barnaby

By email: fyi-request-21586-48eedf80@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Jane

Official Information Act request 23.01 Academic Misconduct Statistics

I refer to the Official Information Act (the Act) request dated 19 January 2023 for information relating to Academic Misconduct statistics. You have requested the following:

• How many instances of academic misconduct were recorded during the 2020, 2021 and 2022 academic years? Could this please be categorised by year and by department.

Academic misconduct is student conduct that is in breach of academic integrity¹. Academic integrity means honesty, fairly, ethically, responsibility and with due care in academic work².

This information is not easily broken down into faculties, as information regarding student numbers in faculties does not remain static throughout the academic year. Students can change qualifications and therefore faculties during the year and can also be enrolled in multiple qualifications (double degrees or conjoint degrees) across different faculties. This information is refused under s 18(f) the Act, as it would take substantial collation or research to confirm which faculty/school or faculties are linked to each case.

Please note that Proctor investigations for academic misconduct usually focus on individual students. However, there are instances where more than one student is involved in the same case. This occurred in 2020. Therefore, the increase in numbers in 2020 can be attributed to linked cases, where multiple students were involved in one incident.

Please also note that from 1 January 2022, new Academic Misconduct regulations came into force, where the process for such cases is slightly different to how they were handled previously. Please see the 2022 regulations <u>here</u> and previous Discipline regulations <u>here</u> (please see pages 55-59.) The change in process has meant that fewer cases have been referred to the Proctors in 2022, as the Academic Integrity Officers are responsible in the first place for the investigation of academic misconduct.

¹ Academic Misconduct regulations, Page 61 UC Maramataka I Calendar (available <u>here</u>) ² Ibid

	Academic Misconduct Cases	
	Upheld	Dismissed
2020	133	108
2021	49	15
2022	15	8

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

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Claire O'Connell Information Compliance Officer