

## E. Hypothetical Situations

Following are some situations that you may want to use or vary for discussion purposes. Students should identify the issues and suggest appropriate responses. Please contact the Vice President for Student Affairs, Mike Whaley, who advises the Honor Board, if you would like to discuss the nuances of the situations listed.

- John and Jamilla work on their economics problem set together. They discuss each exercise, agree on an answer, and write down the same answer. Their instructor has noticed that their papers are identical. Is this academic dishonesty or are they engaging in legitimate collaboration on their homework? Would the situation be different if the two students were in different sections of the course and had different instructors, so that neither instructor would have an opportunity to observe that John and Jamilla were collaborating?
- Lucas searches for information and finds all of the material for his paper on the Internet. The source of some of the material is not identified. Should he use this material? How does he judge whether or not the material is reliable? Is it necessary to cite the material he uses? If so, how should he cite it?
- Anne is writing a paper in a foreign language and knows that her grammar is far from perfect. She gets help from a native speaker, who checks the paper and makes corrections. Is this okay? What if Anne gets help on the structure and wording of a paper from the Writing Workshop? Is this the same thing? Should this help be credited in the paper?
- Antonio goes to his instructor's office a week before his paper is due, because he is having difficulty organizing his ideas. He and the instructor talk and each of them adds some ideas to his outline. By the time Antonio goes home to write the paper, he has forgotten which ideas were his and which were the instructor's. He does not mention the instructor as a source in his paper. Is this academic dishonesty or is Antonio getting legitimate help with writing?
- Maria has been sick and, as a result, has fallen behind on assignments. The professor deducts points when students turn in assignments late. In desperation, Maria digs out a paper written for another course and turns it in so she can hand in her work on time. Is this a violation of the Honor Code? What other course of action could she have taken?