



PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY

Challenges and consequences of modern medical training

Trudie E Roberts University of Leeds

INTEGRITY

integrity 

[in-**teg**-ri-tee]  

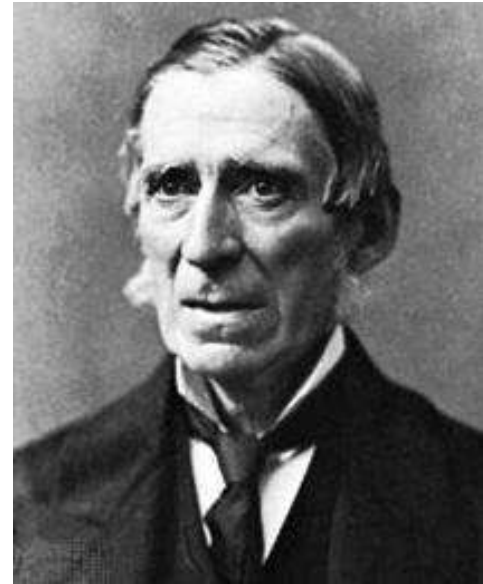
[Synonyms](#) [Examples](#) [Word Origin](#)

noun

1. adherence to moral and ethical principles; soundness of moral character; honesty.



History



- Paget, J

What becomes of medical students?

St Bartholomew's Hospital Reports

1869; 5:238-242.



RESULTS

○ Distinguished	23
○ Great success	66
○ Fair or moderate success	507
○ Very limited success	124
○ Failed entirely	56
○ Left the profession	96
○ Died within 12 years	87
○ Died during pupillage	41



FAILED ENTIRELY

- A very mixed class – agreeing only in their want of success
- 15 never able to pass exams due to idleness, listlessness or want of intellect
- 6 failed because of scandalous misconduct
- 10 due to continued intemperance and dissipation shown as an undergraduate
- 10 through bad luck



LEFT THE PROFESSION

- 13 left or were expelled in disgrace
- 3 were wisely removed by friends
- 3 became actors
- 3 became homeopathic practitioners but took with them no repute for wisdom or working power
- 2 retired too rich to need to work



SOCIETY IS OBSESSED WITH SUCCESS

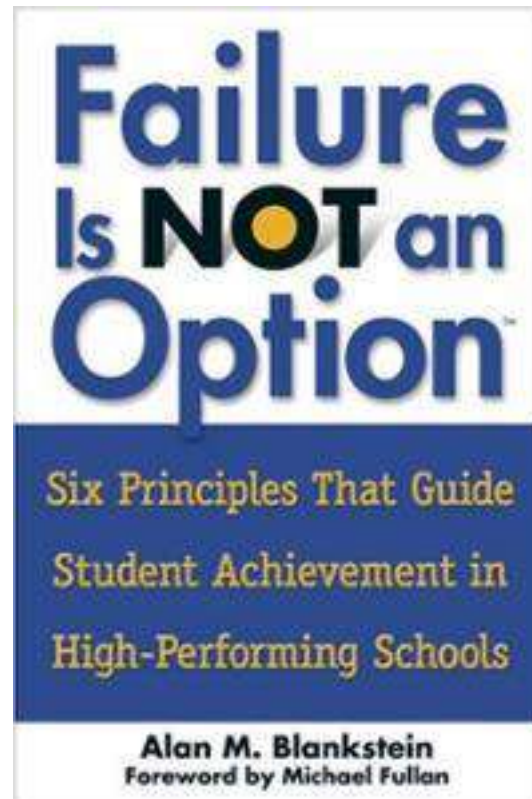


"I want my kids to have a good work ethic. I believe you can achieve anything if you work hard enough to get it."

—Victoria Beckham



PRESSURE TO SUCCEED



DOWNSIDE.....

**The moral mandate to
achieve success exerts
pressure to succeed by
fair means, if possible,
and by foul means, if
necessary.**



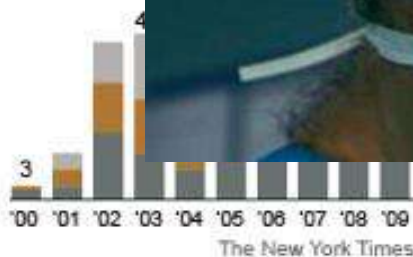
PRESSURE TO SUCCEED IN RESEARCH

Retractions 180

On the Rise

A study of the database found the number of articles retracted from scientific journals increased significantly between 2000 and 2009.

- Fraud or fabrication: 196 total
- Scientific mistakes: 235 total
- Other: 311 total



Source: Journal of Medical Ethics



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Publishers withdraw more than 120 gibberish papers

Conference proceedings removed from subscription databases after scientist reveals that they were computer-generated.

[Richard Van Noorden](#)

24 February 2014 | Updated: 25 February 2014



New Russian doping report confirms evidence of state-sponsored cheating

IOC meeting Tuesday to discuss sanctions; WADA recommends full Rio ban

The Associated Press Posted: Jul 18, 2016 8:06 AM ET | Last Updated: Jul 18, 2016 9:46 PM ET



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Bruce Fein, Contributor Constitutional Scholar

Never Underestimate Politicians

09/24/2017 09:42 am ET

Eton deputy head quits amid cheating scandal: Pupils' marks



Word cloud with 'VALUES' in large green letters. Other words include: PROGRESS, PRIDE, INTEGRITY, SUPPORT, ACCOUNTABILITY, TEAMWORK, TRUST, RESPECT, COURAGE, LEADERSHIP, DISCIPLINE, HONESTY, PASSION, COMMUNICATION, INTEGRITY, HONESTY, RESPECT, QUALITY, COMMITMENT, RELIABILITY, PERFECTION, VISION, PROGRESS, CAPABILITY, POTENTIAL, EXCELLENCE, OPENNESS, SUPPORT, CONFIDENCE, SIMPLICITY.

Libor scandal Damned by their own words Greed and...

...suspends cheating ... suspension over information on

News anchor on screen with social media handles @RELIABLESOURCES and @RELIABLESOURCES LIVE. Text: NYT: AT LEAST ONE FALSE CLAIM A DAY BY TRUMP

Cheating student who hacked into university computer system to give himself a better degree is jailed

- Imran Uddin, 25, used a keyboard spying device to obtain staff passwords
• Final-year student hacked into exam system and upped his own marks
• He increased one of his bio-science grades from 57 per cent to 73 per cent
• Uddin admitted breaking Computer Misuse Act and was jailed for 4 months

By EMILY KENT SMITH FOR THE DAILY MAIL
PUBLISHED: 09:36, 24 April 2015 | UPDATED: 01:51, 25 April 2015



Cheating at medical school

Justice must be done and seen to be done

Recently the *BMJ* received the following anonymous letter.

“Dear Sir,

I am a graduating student of Royal Free and University College London Medical School. During the finals of clinical exams I was witness to one of the most ugly scenes in my short but eventful life. One of my colleagues had in a brazen attempt to obfuscate the examiners made use of her *Oxford Clinical Handbook* during her long case. Unfortunately (or fortunately) for her, she was caught red handed. The deed was not looked on kindly by the authorities, especially when she attempted to extricate herself by claiming she had also done this in a previous examination and not been caught—thereby (or so she believed) justifying her act... My colleagues and I were convinced that she would receive her comeuppance.

After meeting the disciplinary board, however, she was allowed to pass her exams without further ado. Fair play and honesty—two virtues I have always believed in—have been made monkeys of again. In future perhaps we should all do as she did. After all, look where it's got her.”



"THE BEST PREDICTOR OF FUTURE BEHAVIOR
IS ... PAST BEHAVIOR"



A → B → C
(Antecedent) (Behaviour) (Consequence)



CONTENT

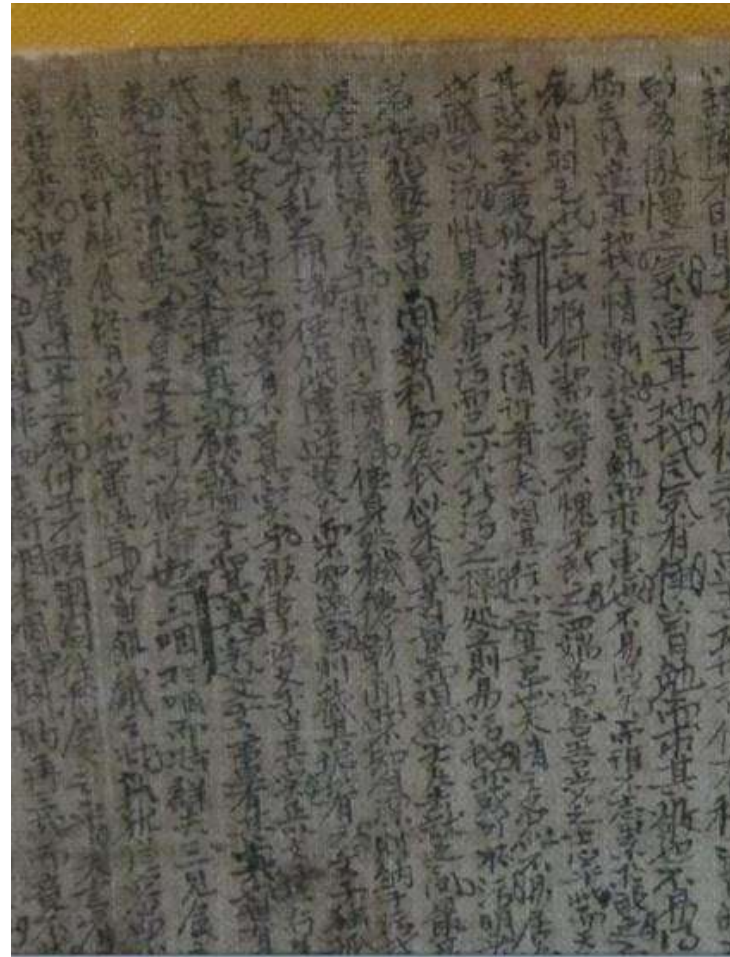
- What is cheating?
- Prevalence?
- Who cheats?
- Is cheating important?
- What motivates students to cheat?
- Bad apples or bad barrels?
- What's to be done?
- Is cheating of more concern in medicine?



DEFINITION OF CHEATING

- Breaking the rules to get ahead

Harper 2006



PREVALENCE

- Bowers 1963 - 5000 students from 99 campuses -63% reported cheating
- McCabe and Trevino 1996 - 70% students reported cheating
- McCabe 2005 - 80,000 students from 83 campuses 25-50% admit some form of cheating
- Centre for Academic Integrity - 70% college students admit some form of cheating



GENERAL FINDINGS

- Smith et al 1972 93% US college students felt cheating was a way of life



WHO CHEATS?

“It’s not the dumb kids who cheat.....its the kids with the 4.6 grade point average who are under so much pressure to keep their grades up and get into the best colleges. They’re the ones who are smart enough to figure out how to cheat without getting caught”



WHO CHEATS?

- Gender changes
 - 1963 -1993
- Educational level
 - 69% - 45%
- Humanities vs science
- Discipline with the highest rate of cheating?
- Cultural effects



The students who feel they have the right to cheat

By Craig Jeffrey
Uttar Pradesh, India



Chinese and South Korean students face fallout from suspicions of SAT cheating

Edward Wong & Richard Perez Pena, New York Times | Oct 31, 2014, 05:12AM IST

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BEIJING: The announcement by administrators of the SAT college entrance test that scores are being withheld for students from China and South Korea who took the exam in the past month has infuriated many and raised anxiety about the number of them is a high-stakes college application



The Educational Testing Service, the company that administers the test worldwide, said Wednesday that it was withholding scores of those who took the test on Oct. 11, at least in part because of suspicions of cheating "based on specific information." The company referred in a statement to "organizations that seek to illegally obtain test materials for their own profit, to the ultimate detriment of all students."

The announcement about the withholding of scores came just days before deadlines for early application for many colleges and universities in the United States. Some students in China and South Korea complained that the move was too broad, and that the administrators should be taking action against only those students suspected of cheating.

J Med Ethics. 2012 Jun;38(6):376-9. doi: 10.1136/medethics-2011-100015. Epub 2012 Jan 12.

Croatian medical students see academic dishonesty as an acceptable behaviour: a cross-sectional multicampus study.

Kukulja Taradi S¹, Taradi M, Dogas Z.

Culture

Foreign students have higher rates of cheating than American peers

by Rachel Getzenberg

Issue: March 26, 2012 | News

International students are more likely to cheat than their American counterparts, according to internal data released this week, mirroring a growing trend of academic dishonesty among foreign students in U.S. colleges.

Non-citizen students,

Instances of cheating by international students

Year	Instances
2006	15%
2007	16%
2008	17%
2009	18%
2010	23%

20 March 2012 Last updated at 12:44 GMT

India 'cheating' students expelled in Bihar

By Amarnath Tewary



Parents were found throwing in answers through the classroom window

More than 1,600 students have been expelled for cheating in school examinations in the northern Indian state of Bihar, officials say.

Related Stories

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PREVALENCE IN HEALTHCARE STUDENTS

○ Nursing

- McCabe 2008 – 58% undergraduate and 47% graduate nurses reported cheating
- Arhin and Jones 2009 – 30% nurses thought making up laboratory result was not dishonest

▲ News

Thousands of student nurses cheating their way through training, universities reveal



Experts fear this could be the tip of the iceberg CREDIT: CHRISTOPHER FURLONG



Nurses jailed over faked results

🕒 15 minutes ago | Wales



Two nurses who failed to carry out blood glucose tests on patients and then faked the results have been jailed.



CHEATING IN MEDICAL SCHOOLS

- Sierles et al 1980 – 58% medical students report cheating at least once
- Baldwin et al 1996 – 5% cheating in medical school (80% before entry)
- Rennie and Crosbie 2001 - Dundee study 2% admitted to copying, 58% admitted to plagiarism
- Dyrbye et al 2010 – 1.5% students admit cheating in exams but 43% falsify clinical findings

▲ News

Medical students at University of Glasgow told to resit exam after 'collusion uncovered'



The University of Glasgow on Gilmorehill CREDIT: JOHN MCKENNA / ALAMY

By **Henry Bodkin**

27 MARCH 2017 · 10:39AM



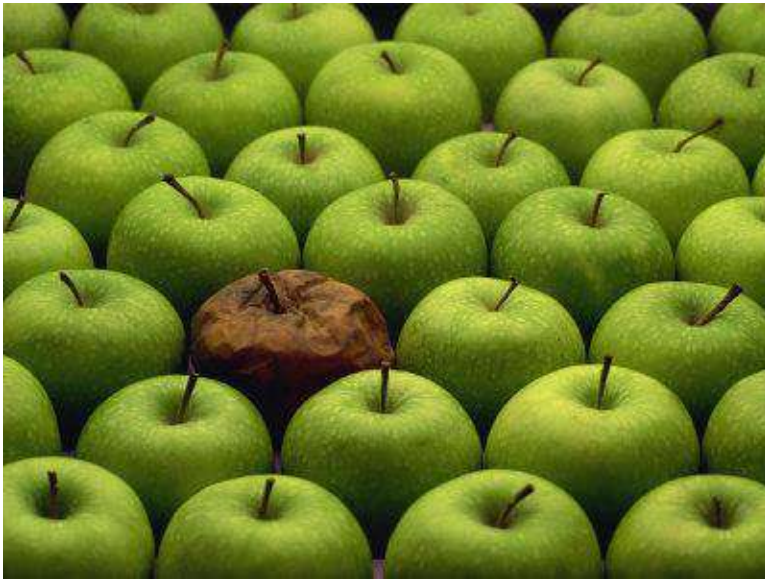
WHY IS CHEATING IMPORTANT?

○ Concerns

- Cheating on exams and failing to report error
- 'No-one wants a cheating doctor to look after them'
- Cheaters in medical school more likely to fabricate clinical data
- Are cheating students competent?
- Past behaviour predicts future actions



BAD APPLES OR BAD BARRELS?

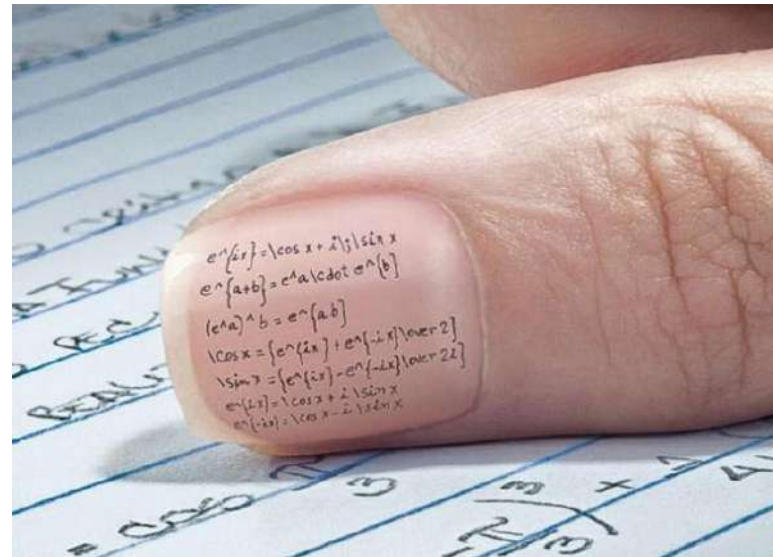


STUDENTS OR THE SITUATION?



MOTIVATION - WHY DO STUDENTS CHEAT?

- Type of assessment
- Likelihood of detection
- Pressure to perform
- Burn out
- Perception of wrong doing/culture



THE PRESSURE TO PERFORM

- The pressure to get into medical school courses
- Ranking in UK medical schools now a way of life
- National ranking for postgraduate F1 posts



The Telegraph

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A*s in fear, misery and self-harm

An education system that makes lab rats of our children "could do better", says Allison Pearson

f 24K t 730 p 0 in 18 s 25K Email



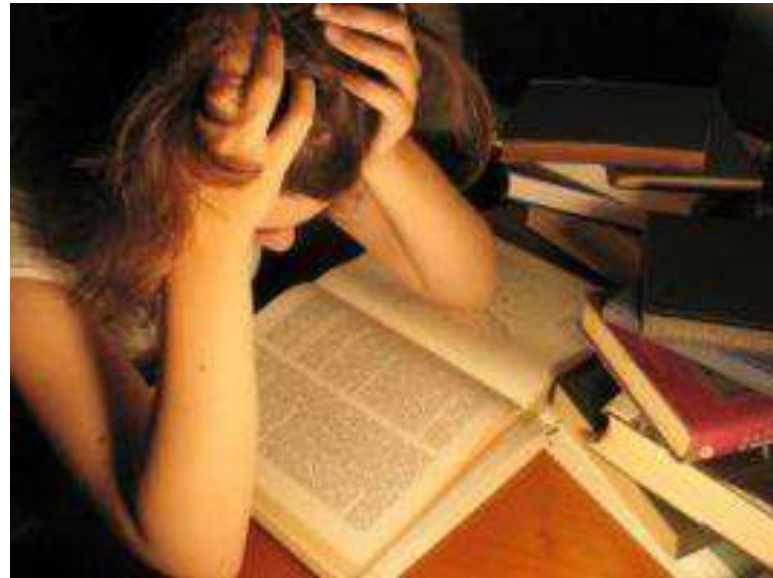
Pupils from Cheltenham Ladies' College on their way to sports practice Photo: Alamy



STUDENT BURNOUT

- Medicine is an intrinsically demanding profession,
- Common amongst medical students
- Some studies estimate 50% medical students may be affected by burnout

(IsHak et al 2013)



WHAT'S TO BE DONE

- Prevention
- Increased detection
- Punishment
- Student support
- Culture
 - Honour codes
 - Learning contracts
 - Ethics and moral philosophy teaching

University students 'made to wear anti-cheating helmets'

Students in Thailand appear to have been forced to wear helmets to prevent them from cheating during exams.

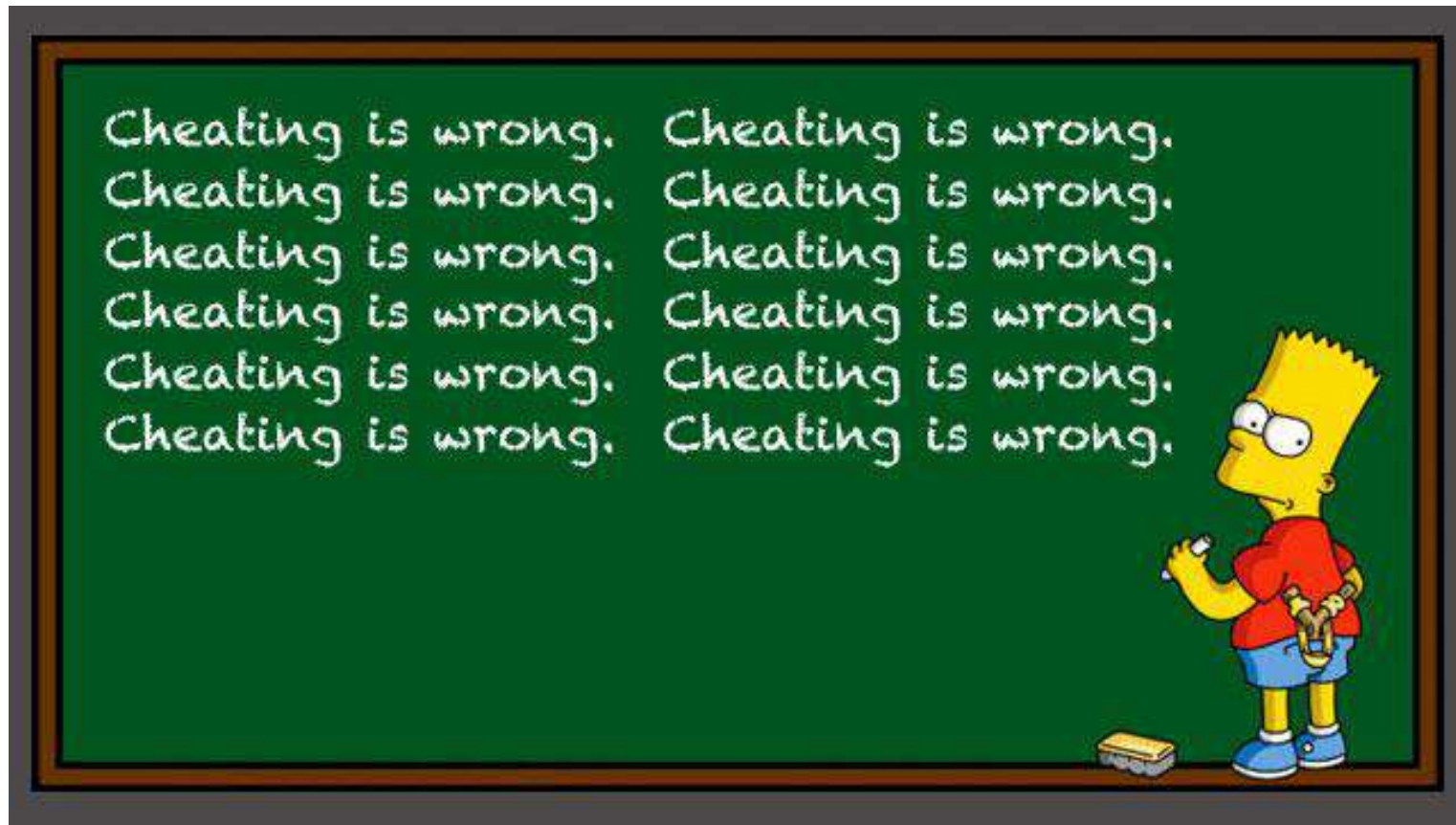


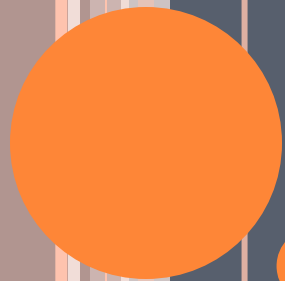
IS CHEATING A WORSE CRIME FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS?

YES
Trust



IN SUMMARY.....





THANK YOU

