



University of East Anglia

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12 March 2018

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_18-044)

We have now considered your request of 14 February 2018 for information relating to disciplinary action taken against students by UEA over the calendar years 2015, 2016 and 2017.

Our response is on pages 3-5 of this letter, together with a copy of your request.

On this occasion, it is not possible to provide all the requested information. The Act contains a number of exemptions that allow public authorities to withhold certain information from release. We have applied the following exemption to part of your request.

Exemption	Reason
s.40(2), Personal information	Disclosure of information would contravene one of the data protection principles

Exemption explanation

In line with s.40(2) of the Act we have removed certain personal data from our response to question 1 of your request.

We believe that information identifying students receiving discipline from UEA are 'personal data', as defined by section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA). Specifically, any 'details' beyond the Regulation that had been breached, would be likely to, in combination with other information released within this response and other publicly available information, identify former students of this institution.

We believe that disclosure of any such details would be against the first data protection principle under the DPA; namely that information must be fairly and lawfully processed, and that the processing also meets one of the conditions set out in Schedule 2 of that Act. We do not have consent for the release of this information, and in this case we do not consider disclosure of the data to be necessary under any of the other conditions of Schedule 2.

Where information has been removed from the accompanying file in accordance with s.40(2), we have so indicated.

Additionally, we have interpreted 'course' in this context to mean the School of Study that the individual concerned was enrolled within so as to ensure that we do not inadvertently reveal the identity of any individual but also provide an indication of the academic programme within which the individual was enrolled.

We hope this response will meet your requirements, however if you are not satisfied you have the right of appeal. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your reasons for appealing and send to the above address. You must appeal within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter. Any appeal received after that date will not be considered nor acknowledged. This policy has been reviewed and approved by the Information Commissioner's Office.

You also have a subsequent right of appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office. Further information is available on their website:

https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us, or by telephone on 0303 123 1113.

Please note that any material over which UEA has copyright is released on the understanding that you will comply with all relevant copyright rules regarding reproduction and/or transmission of the information provided.

Please quote our reference given at the head of this letter in all correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Dave Palmer
Information Policy and Compliance Manager
University of East Anglia

Response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 request (FOI_18-044)

My request is regarding disciplinary action taken against students over the calendar years 2015, 2016 and 2017

Over that timeframe, can you please specify:

1)

- *How many students were excluded from your university?*
- *What was the reason? Please provide a detailed summary*
- *What course had the student enrolled on?*
- *What was the approximate date? (a month-by-month breakdown would suffice)*

Our response is within the table below:

Year / No. of Students	Date	Course	Details ¹
2015			
3	March, June, December	Computing Sciences, Biological Sciences	Breach of Reg. 13(1) (Attendance, Engagement and Progress) <i>[Information exempted - s.40(2), FOIA]</i>
2016			
13	March, April, May, June, July, August	Norwich Business School, Mathematics, Pharmacy, Computing Sciences, Chemical Sciences,	Breach of Reg. 13(1) (Attendance, Engagement and Progress) <i>[Information exempted - s.40(2), FOIA]</i>
2	April, May	Health Sciences; Social Work	Breach of Reg. 14 (Professional misconduct) <i>[Information exempted - s.40(2), FOIA]</i>
1	June	Arts, Media & American Studies	Breach of Reg. 15 (Conduct of Research) <i>[Information exempted - s.40(2), FOIA]</i>
6	January, March, May	Law; Philosophy, Politics and Language Studies	Breach of Reg. 18 (Plagiarism and/or Collusion) <i>[Information exempted - s.40(2), FOIA]</i>
2017			
4	April, May, August	Computing Sciences, Biological Sciences, Mathematics	Breach of Reg. 13(1) (Attendance, Engagement and Progress) <i>[Information exempted - s.40(2), FOIA]</i>
2	June, September	Law, Mathematics	Breach of Reg. 10 (General Conduct) <i>[Information exempted - s.40(2), FOIA]</i>

¹ Regulations referred to are the 'General Regulations for Students':
<https://portal.uea.ac.uk/documents/6207125/7465906/Section+3+General+Regulations+for+Students.pdf>

3	February, August, September	Philosophy, Politics & Language Studies; Environmental Sciences; Computing Sciences	Breach of Reg. 18 (Plagiarism and/or Collusion) [Information exempted - s.40(2), FOIA]
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2)

- How many students were disciplined for breaching the university's "acceptable use" of IT facilities policy?
- What was the reason – ie, the offending action? Please be specific.
- Was the resultant action? Eg, withdrawal of services / offending material removed / advice given, etc
- What was the approximate date? (month-by-month is fine)

Our response is within the table below. Please note that this data represents cases considered by the University Disciplinary Officer and there may have been more than one incident under consideration in any particular case.

2015			
	Incident Date	Description	Penalty
1	January February, March	Copyright infringements / breach of conditions of computer use	warning
2	March	Copyright infringements / breach of conditions of computer use	warning
3	March	Copyright infringements / breach of conditions of computer use	warning
4	March, April	Copyright infringements / breach of conditions of computer use	warning
5	May	Copyright infringements / breach of conditions of computer use	warning
6	November; January 2016	Downloaded copyrighted material	warning
7	December	Sent offensive email using inappropriate language to staff member	£50.00
2016			
	Incident Date	Description	Penalty
1	January; May	Downloaded copyrighted material	£75.00
2	February	Downloaded copyrighted material	warning
3	March; March	Posted negative comments about another student on social media	warning
4	April	Use of unauthorised equipment on university network	warning
2017			
	Incident Date	Description	Penalty
1	February	Downloading of copyright material	£75

2	March	Downloading of copyright material	£50.00
3	March	Downloading of copyright material	£50.00
4	March	Downloading of copyright material	£75.00
5	March	Downloading of copyright material	£50.00
6	April	Downloading of copyright material	£50.00
7	April	Downloading of copyright material	£50.00
8	May	Downloading of copyright material	£50.00
9	June	Downloading of copyright material	£50.00
10	June	Downloading of copyright material	£50.00
11	June	Downloading of copyright material	£50.00
12	July	Downloading of copyright material	£50
13	September	Downloading of copyright material	£50
14	September	Downloading of copyright material	£50
15	September	Posted inappropriate comment on social media	No action – student withdrew voluntarily