

# Academic Integrity: Talking Points

- ◆ Academic integrity standards need strengthened
  - Student support of policies modest
  - Likelihood of violations being detected perceived as slight
- ◆ SLU profile mirrors national profile among schools recently surveyed in program supported by the Center for Academic Integrity

# Problem Real: Perceptions of Significance Vary

- ◆ Cheating and other forms of academic honesty are either suspected or observed by both students and faculty (6 out of 10 students, about 50% of faculty believe they witness cheating on exam)
- ◆ Cheating a serious problem:
  - 44% faculty agree
  - 18% students agree

# Student Perceptions: Frequency of Problem

- ◆ Inappropriate sharing related to group work and group assignments is the area in which academic honesty problems are most frequent (72% say it happens often or very often)
- ◆ Plagiarism and cheating on tests are also perceived to be problems (49% and 41% respectively)

# Student Perceptions: Seriousness of Incident

- ◆ Most frequent forms academic dishonesty are considered less serious (e.g. footnote omission; inquiry about test)
- ◆ Incidents perceived as most serious are less frequent (e.g., cheating on test: 1 in 6)

# Remedies: Faculty Perceptions

- ◆ Prevention
  - Closely monitor
  - Change exams regularly
- ◆ Punishment
  - Grades: Fail test, lower grade, fail course
  - Academic standing: Probations favored; suspension or expulsion not



# Good News

- ◆ Students rate faculty high with respect to its support and understanding of academic honesty policies
- ◆ Faculty is most important source for students on academic honesty issues
- ◆ 92% of students report they are aware of academic integrity policies

# Other Information

- ◆ John Cook School of Business only (April 2002)
- ◆ Administered by third-party (in cooperation with the Center for Academic Integrity)
- ◆ Survey measures and thus subject to certain sources of error (N=280 students, N=44 faculty)
- ◆ Voluntary initiative undertaken by students, staff and faculty in effort to improve academic honesty at SLU