

Preliminary findings from a survey of students and staff in Australian higher education

7 outsourcing behaviours investigated

15,047 students and 1,243 staff surveyed at 8 Australian universities and 4 NUHEPs*

Bought, sold or traded notes Provided completed assignment (for any reason)

Obtained completed assignment (to submit)

Provided exam assistance

Received exam assistance

Taken exam for other

Other taken exam



Sharing behaviours

Cheating behaviours

Who is doing it?

Sharing behaviours

Students 25 yrs and under

Internal mode students

Law students

Full-time students



How prevalent is it?



1 in 7 have bought, sold or traded notes



1 in 4 have provided others with completed assignments

6%

report engaging in 1 or more of the 5 cheating behaviours

Where does cheating help come from?



Students mainly get help from those they know

Other/former students Friends Partners

Partners Family



Use of professional services is relatively rare

Cheating behaviours



40% Students who speak a LOTE* at home

were 21% of participants, but 40% of those cheating

33% International students

were 15% of participants, but 33% of those cheating

25% Engineering students

were 13% of participants, but 25% of those cheating

*LOTE = Language Other Than English

*NUHEP = Non-University Higher Education Providers

Why is it happening?



Do cultural norms matter when it comes to cheating attitudes?

Domestic/International and English/LOTE students all shared comparable attitudes about the 'wrongness' of cheating behaviours

Lack of a 'Personalised Teaching and Learning Relationship'

The cheating group reported significantly lower levels of agreement for three key teaching and learning items:

- Ensuring understanding of assignment requirements
- Receiving sufficient feedback
- Approachability of teaching staff

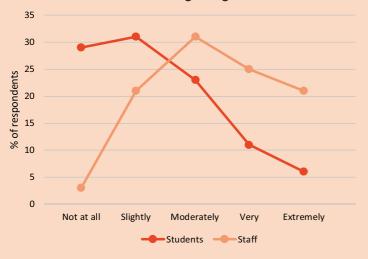


What do staff say?

have suspected instances of contract cheating

Most common signal for suspected cheating is the educator's knowledge of the student

How concerned are you that students are engaging in contract cheating in higher education?



Are Non-University Higher Education Providers (NUHEP) different to universities?

- Higher rates of exam cheating and money being exchanged
- **NUHEP** students were equally likely to obtain a completed assignment, but 6 times more likely to pay money for it
- Lower rates of providing completed assignments
- Staff more satisfied with institutional policy and practice for minimising contract cheating



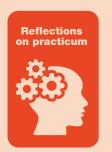
of NUHEP college staff were very or extremely concerned about contract cheating

compared to /

% of university staff

What can be done?

Use assessment types that students report they are less likely to outsource









Foster 'Personalised **Teaching and Learning** Relationships' with students

- Clarify assessment requirements through task instructions, scaffolding, interactive discussion and rubrics
- Be accessible for learning help and support
- Provide constructive, meaningful and timely feedback for each student
- · Recognise the particular needs of International and LOTE* students

Support a process of detection, reporting, substantiation and feedback











