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## **A Difficult Course (B)**

The consequences of my mistakes have been monumental. The Community Values Committee decided to expel me from my program. My prayer is that some day I will have the opportunity to finish what I have started and worked so hard for. One of my greatest desires is to become a University of Michigan graduate by being given the opportunity to correct this wrong. Even if I am given this opportunity, I can never redress the harm done to my two friends. Pat, who provided me with a copy of the exam, was reprimanded by the hearing committee and a copy of the reprimand was placed in Pat's academic file. Chris, the friend who sent me answers, was also reprimanded. In addition, Chris failed the course and, as a result, did not graduate with our class. A permanent notation was placed on Chris's transcript indicating the reason for the failure.

My situation is no different than what many face in this program. Some of my fellow students have lost loved ones, faced difficult time demands, and encountered tough situations. They did not fall to the temptation of seeking shortcuts. You will be faced with similar situations and may seek easy ways out, some of them elaborate and others as simple as somebody giving you a heads-up about a test via a text message on your cell phone. Take it from a voice of experience: the consequences far outweigh the gain! The hurt, torment and outcomes are life-long and may never be redeemed. The act affects family and friends, and also affects the essence of the program and the students, professors and staff who have worked so hard to build a state-of-the-art curriculum.

As I conclude this summary of the most embarrassing situation in my life, I hope that a solution will be identified so that I can correct the wrongs of which I am guilty. I will never be the same person I was when entering the program. I have learned much more than I ever dreamed possible prior to entering this program. If I can offer any guidance, it is to stay the course, seek guidance, and stay true to yourself. You were admitted by the university because you worked hard to get where you are, not because of unethical shortcuts. Do not start to take shortcuts now. Stay on top of the world. Trust me, it is a lot better place to be than looking from the pits of the hell that I have been through.

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