Strategies for preventing academic dishonesty - Andy Barlow
(Sociology)

- Avoid creating a punitive environment in class
- Finding the right tone & balance when you talk about this can be difficult
- I see cheating as a minor problem; it only affects the cheater
- Cheaters are morally compromised, and often have low self-esteem

Cheating on exams

- I don't curve grades, therefore there is less competition
- Cheating occurs most on multiple choice exams; we need to stop using them
- Ask students to explain concepts & apply concepts to problems set before them
- Give students an opportunity to demonstrate what they know
- I change exams every term
- I give out a study sheet 2 weeks before an exam, including every key concept
- I encourage collaboration in preparing for the exam
- The exam consists of 2 key concepts & 2 questions, so the exam is "no stress"
- Some students cheat (maybe 2 a year) & they get an F on their work

Plagiarism

- It is increasing here, but it is worse at Cal.
- Be aware of your students' writing level
- If you find suspicious chunks, call them to the office and ask them to explain
- Know your students and make them write

(from a phone interview 9/13/04)