Minutes Senate Scholastic Standards Committee September 19, 2007 (Approved 10/3/2007)

Members: (attending members in bold): Andrew Moiseff (Chair), John Bennett, Francine DeFranco, Gerald Dunne, Gerald Gianutsos, Lynne Goodstein, Lawrence Gramling, Katrina Higgins, Stephen Lucas, Jose Machado, Diane Lillo-Martin, Jeffrey von Munkwitz-Smith, Yuhang Rong, Lauren Smith, David Wagner, Robert Weiner

1. The Sept. 5, 2007 minutes were approved.

2. S/U Grading was approved for EEB206 "Internship in Ecology, Conservation, or Evolutionary Biology."

3. Scholastic Standards will recommend Diane Lillo-Martin to be our representative on the Provost's Teaching, Learning and Assessment Task Force Committee being organized by Vice Provost Makowsky.

4. Copies of the recently released Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Task Force Report and the Provost's response were distributed to SSSC members. Bob Weiner and Francine DeFranco will serve on a joint Faculty Standards / Scholastic Standards subcommittee to review the TLA Task Force Report. They will advise their respective committees on any aspects of the report that they feel we should study in detail and/or comment about.

5. New members of SSSC were advised of the status of the Academic Integrity/Misconduct proposal that the committee has worked on extensively. A draft copy of the proposed misconduct procedures were distributed. Copies of a proposed academic integrity statement will be distributed at a future meeting. We will plan to have a public discussion/forum to discuss our proposal later this semester – probably early November. A subcommittee (Moiseff, Gramling & Gianutsos) will discuss planning the forum.

During the brief discussion of the current procedures and the new proposal, it was pointed out that any misconduct procedures must be 'transparent.' It was also pointed out that under the current procedure the hearing board may offer an opinion as to whether a particular act of misconduct is minor or serious, and may also recommend what them deem to be a suitable grade penalty. This presents a potential conflict between the accusing faculty member, who has the authority to set the penalty for misconduct in his/her class, and the hearing officer who may recommend a different penalty. We should review our proposed policies to see if this potential source of conflict can be eliminated. We must also protect accused students from 'double jeopardy.'

6. The academic integrity/misconduct forum planning subcommittee met immediately after the SSSC meeting adjourned.

We will try to schedule the Konover Auditorium (Dodd Center) from 3-4:30 pm midweek in early November.

We will invite a small select group to participate on a discussion panel that will be chaired by Senate Scholastic Standards. Participants should include a representative from the Dean of Students

Office of Community Standards (contact Cathy Cocks), a faculty expert on misconduct (contact Jason Stephens), a student perspective (contact USG), faculty perspective (contact Faculty Standards).

The format should be a short presentation of the new proposal highlighting the problems with the current procedures. Panelists will then have a short time, maybe only 5 minutes, to present their perspective and/or comment on the new proposal. Our emphasis will be on soliciting public comment.

Once everything is scheduled we will advise the Senate of the date, time and place.