Minutes Senate Scholastic Standards Committee

October 20, 2008 (approved 11/3/08)

Members: (attending members in bold): Diane Lillo-Martin (Chair), John Bennett, Kay Bloomberg, Scott Brown, Francine DeFranco, Gerald Gianutsos, Lynne Goodstein, Lawrence Gramling, Douglas Hamilton, Katrina Higgins, Janna Mahfoud, Yuhang Rong, Jeffrey von Munkwitz-Smith, David Wagner, Robert Weiner, Han Zhang

1. Minutes from 10/6/08 approved (see attachment).

2. Scheduling of Exams during Religious Holidays

We discussed a statement encouraging instructors to make reasonable accommodations for students who are absent from course activities due to religious holidays (see revised draft attached). After much discussion it was agreed to omit the word 'major' preceding 'religious holidays', and not to include cultural holidays (despite their worth and significance).

The revised policy draft will be sent to the Student Welfare Committee for their comments/ review prior to going to the full Senate.

3. Dismissal policy

There are discrepancies between the By-laws and the e-Policy page and actual practice in terms of student dismissal for academic reasons. We discussed the changes that need to be made. Katrina Higgins will prepare drafts of revisions targeting the By-laws and the e-Policy for further discussion.

Next meeting: Monday, Nov. 3, 4:00 – 5:30 PM, Wilbur Cross 110