Faculty Senate Routing Form  
(action/proposal attached)  

I. Item Title: Clarifying Policy on Final Grade Change  

a) Brief Description:  
The Faculty Senate approves the proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook (5.15) to address cases where the Academic Integrity Board (Graduate Academic Integrity Board) has the right to adjust final course grades in the case of academic integrity violations, in accordance with the Academic Integrity Policy, which is part of the Student Code of Conduct. The change, which states that the Academic Integrity Board has the right to determine a final grade in cases when students appeal academic integrity charges, clarifies faculty responsibility in this area.  

b) Initiated by: Academic Policy and Review Council  

II. Faculty Senate Action: ☒ approved ☐ not approved ☐ other date: 9/1/2010  
Comments: The Faculty Senate approved these curriculum changes with a voice vote:  

Vote: Voice Vote, Unanimous ☐ Voice Vote, Majority In Favor  
☒ Electronic Clicker: 25 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions  
FS Secretary signature: __________________________ date 9/29/2010  

III. Provost: ☐ for information ☒ for action ☐ approved ☐ not approved  
Comments:  

Person responsible for Implementation: Dr. Beth Lofquist  
Provost signature: __________________________ date 10/12/10  

IV. Chancellor: ☐ for information ☐ for action ☐ approved ☐ not approved  
Comments:  

Chancellor signature: __________________________ date 11-(-1-)  

Once finalized copies will be returned to the Provost's representative who will scan and distribute electronically to:  
Chancellor  
Provost  
Chair of Faculty Senate  
Secretary of the Faculty Senate  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (for catalog and handbook)  
Associate Dean of Graduate School (for catalog)
Clarifying Policy on Final Grade Changes

Whereas the Academic Integrity Board (Graduate Academic Integrity Board) has the right to adjust course grades in the case of academic integrity violations, in accordance with the Academic Integrity Policy which is part of the Student Code of Conduct,

Whereas the Academic Integrity Board (Graduate Academic Integrity Board) includes faculty memberships,

Whereas the language in the Faculty Handbook (Section 5.15) may lead faculty to believe that their authority to grade their students is absolute,

Whereas clearer language in the Faculty Handbook and the Academic Integrity Policy would better delineate faculty rights and responsibilities,

Be it resolved that in the third sentence of Section 5.15 of the Faculty Handbook should be extended to read “...except as provided in the incomplete grade policy, in the case of a student appeal (as in 5.16), or an academic integrity violation, in which cases final grade may be determined by the appropriate appeal body as part of sanctions (see Academic Integrity Policy.)”

Revised Section 5.15 would appear as follows:

5.15 Final Grade Changes

When a grade other than incomplete is reported officially by an instructor at the end of a term, the grade is recorded and can be changed only if an error was made in estimating or reporting it. The instructor will, with the approval of the department head, report the error in writing to the dean with a recommendation about the action to be taken. Only the instructor can change the grade in a course except as provided in the incomplete grade policy, in the case of a student appeal (as in 5.16), or an academic integrity violation, in which cases final grade may be determined by the appropriate appeal body as part of sanctions (see Academic Integrity Policy.). Any request by a student for a change in a final grade must be submitted to the instructor within thirty-five days after the end of final exams.