3.1.2 DEFINITION OF LETTER GRADES

The College defines letter grades as follows: A, excellent; B, very good; C, satisfactory; D, barely passing; F, failing. The average grade should be in the C range (1.5 to 2.5) and, while it is recognized that there may be significant variations in student ability and performance from class to class, department chairpersons should discuss grading practices with faculty who have a consistent pattern of deviation from the C range.

Proposed Revision:

3.1.2 LETTER GRADES DEFINITION OF LETTER GRADES

3.1.2.1 Definitions

The College defines letter grades as follows: A, excellent; B, very good; C, satisfactory; D, barely passing; F, failing. The average grade should be in the C range (1.5 to 2.5) and Grading practices should reflect these definitions, along with precedents / expectations that have been established within particular courses, departments, or programs. While it is recognized that there may be significant variations in student ability and performance from class to class, department chairpersons should discuss grading practices with faculty who have a consistent pattern of deviation from the C range expected norms.

3.1.2.2 Grade Distribution Data

In order to encourage appropriate, ongoing reflection on grading practices, grade distribution data will be distributed in a manner that parallels the distribution of course evaluation data. Faculty will receive numerical summaries for their own courses, along with comparisons to simultaneous averages for their department / program, their school, and the College. These summaries will also be sent to department chairpersons and deans, and they will be included in the files of faculty undergoing Rank and Tenure review, since ongoing reflection on grading practices can provide evidence of “critical self-evaluation” of teaching effectiveness (FHB section 2.6.1, Teaching Effectiveness, #5).