TO:    Beth Dobkin, Provost

FROM:  Steve Cortright, Chair
       Academic Senate

DATE:  January 12, 2011

RE:    Senate Action S-10/11-11
       Resolution to Amend Senate Action S-09/10-22;
       Proposal Concerning 0.25 Credit Courses

At the January 12, 2011 meeting of the Academic Senate, the attached resolution to amend
Senate Action S-09/10-22; Proposal Concerning 0.25 Credit Courses was approved by a vote of
6-0 with one abstention. This action was assigned Senate Action # S-10/11-11.

Attachment

cc:    Brother Ronald Gallagher, President
       Vice Provost Frances Sweeney
Resolution to Amend Senate Action S-09/10-22:
Proposal Concerning 0.25 Credit Courses

WHEREAS Senate Action S-09/10-22 provides, in its preambular language, “Whereas .25 courses will cumulate towards the 36 credits required for graduation if, and only if, they are recorded with letter grades A through D”; and

WHEREAS Senate Action S-09/10-22 provides, in its operative language, “. . . that a maximum enrollment of twelve .25 credit courses which are awarded a letter grade A through D may count toward a student’s graduation requirements . . .”; and

WHEREAS (as noted by the Registrar) students undertake .25 courses for diverse reasons, ranging from unqualified interest to meeting major requirements, while—corresponding to these differences in purpose—departments and programs offer .25 courses on a Pass/Fail or letter grade basis; and

WHEREAS contrary to the implication of the preambular language of Senate Action S-09/1-22, noted above, the Registrar grants credit toward graduation for Pass Fail .25 (as for Pass/Fail 1.0) credit courses; and

WHEREAS the above-noted language of Senate Action S-09/10-22 requires, in the Registrar’s estimation, application of an infeasible distinction—viz., in grading structures and credit audits—among .25 courses; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED (1) that the preambular language of Senate Action S-09/10-22 beginning “Whereas . . .” and concluding “. . . with letter grades A through D” be stricken and (2) that from the operative language “Be it resolved, . . . and that a maximum enrollment of twelve .25 credit courses which are awarded a letter grade of A through D may count towards a student’s graduation requirements (which is the current policy cap)” the phrase “which are awarded a letter grade of A through D” be stricken, so that the amended, operative language of Senate Action S-09/10-22 will read:

Be it resolved, that the Senate recommend to the administration that a policy be implemented that distinguishes between .25 courses and .50 courses; that each semester’s full tuition qualifies a student for an unlimited number of .25 courses upon approval of the student’s advisor; and that a maximum enrollment of twelve .25 courses may count towards a student’s graduation requirements (which is the current policy cap).