**Resolution to Change the Current Faculty Handbook Policy on the Timeline of Final Grade Appeals**

Educational Policy and Student Affairs (EPSA) Committee

Faculty Senate

First Reading–March 6, 2023

Whereas, the Faculty Handbook, Revised November 2022 on Page 72 currently states that “Final grade appeals must be initiated no later than 21 business days from the beginning of the Fall or Spring semester immediately following assignment of the final grade,”

Whereas, the process of requesting a re-evaluation of a grade can often take as long as three weeks,

Whereas, the advisor meeting might be the first opportunity for a student to understand the necessary steps of grade appeal process if the student cannot reach an agreement with the professor,

Whereas, students often do not meet with their advisor until the middle of the following semester to review the progress they made the prior semester,

Whereas, the reason that the student needs to appeal a grade cannot always be easily resolved with 21 business days from the beginning of the semester immediately following assignment of the final grade,

Whereas, students might not realize that they have legitimate grounds for a grade appeal immediately until they discuss their grades with an advisor,

Whereas, results from benchmarking with other schools show that other schools provide their students with the opportunity to appeal a grade prior to the end of the subsequent term,

Be it resolved that the time of the grade appeal be extended to the last day of regularly scheduled classes of the fall or spring semester following the assignment of the final grade, and that this policy replace the current policy that is in the faculty, graduate, and undergraduate handbooks.

Be it further resolved that this policy will not supersede existing policies within colleges, schools, departments, or units that have more restrictive timelines or requirements.

Be it further resolved that there is a mechanism for students to appeal for a grade appeal extension if they miss the deadline above. We recommend that:

* Three EPSA committee members be assigned to hear appeals
* Appeals be available based on the circumstances up to the time of graduation. Once a student has graduated, grade appeals should no longer be available.