UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

SENATE RESOLUTION ON CREDIT AND CONTACT HOURS IN LAB AND STUDIO COURSES

WHEREAS, the acting University President/CEO has requested academic departments that teach lab courses to change the credit hours for students in to match the contact hours of faculty teaching those courses;

WHEREAS, the differential in credit and contact hours for lab courses is standard practice for undergraduate science programs in American higher education1

WHEREAS, such a change in credit and contact hours will damage the academic integrity of the science departments and other affected programs at Rowan University

WHEREAS, such a change would make Rowan students less competitive compared to other state institutions and significantly reduce their ability to succeed in a competitive work force2

WHEREAS, the implications of this policy and its use university-wide would endanger the accreditation of other programs (e.g., Art)3

WHEREAS, such a change would reduce enrollment in summer lab courses at Rowan;

WHEREAS, such a change could result in a loss of revenue from community college courses transferred to Rowan under the Lampitt Law,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,
That an ad hoc committee be formed to meet with the affected departments and the administration to discuss the curricular implications of this change in academic policy.

1 An analysis of 16 other New Jersey educational institutions found this to be standard practice. See attached data.
2 See attached email by Joe Perella, Biological Sciences major.
3 See attached report from the Art Department regarding NASAD accreditation. See attached data.
Acceptance:
____ I give my approval. I have forwarded this item to ________________________ for implementation.

____ No approval is actually needed. I have forwarded this item to the following individual or office for informational purposes only:

________________________________________

ADDITIONAL REVIEW NEEDED:
____ I am willing to give approval if the following modification(s) are made:

____ Before I can approve or reject this item, I need clarification on the following:

____ I have forwarded this item to the following individual or office for further consideration and consultation.

Rejection:
____ I decline acceptance of this item for the following reason:

Please Return this Copy to the University Senate President ~ Retain a Copy for Your Records