Senate Resolution 12/13-05: Transparency of the tenure and promotion process with respect to signatures on majority and minority reports of tenure and promotion committees

WHEREAS open dialogue and diversity of opinions are important to ensuring the integrity of the tenure and promotion process, and

WHEREAS when votes on Departmental Committees, PTAC, and URB fail to yield unanimity, the Faculty Handbook allows for a “minority report” to be included in the record, and

WHEREAS the Handbook requires that all faculty sign all the reports as if they were a single unit and

WHEREAS the faculty responsible for writing a majority -or minority- report cannot thereby be identified and, as a consequence, the reports become anonymous, and

WHEREAS it is unfair to committee members that their signatures be associated with a report with which they disagree and

WHEREAS this approach also vitiates the transparency so important to this vital process,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

In the absence of a unanimous promotion and/or tenure decision, committees must produce both Majority and Minority reports;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That when promotion and tenure committees produce both Majority and Minority Reports, a separate set of signatures be associated with each report, and faculty must sign the report which most closely reflects their own views and votes.