WHEREAS: The Provost and General Counsel have requested a revision to the Faculty Handbook to clarify for faculty the handling of “cross-boundary” complaints and grievances, with cross-boundary complaint or grievance meaning (1) a complaint or grievance directed at a faculty member by a student or a non-faculty University employee (especially, one not assigned to an academic unit (e.g., College, School, Department, Division, Program, etc.) ) or (2) a complaint or grievance by a faculty member directed at a student or non-faculty University employee; and

WHEREAS: The Provost and General Counsel have suggested it may be valuable to highlight to faculty that grievances can be directed at or arise from non-faculty employees, including such individuals not assigned to an academic unit; and

WHEREAS: The Provost and General Counsel intend to seek incorporation of analogous clarifications to student and staff codes and procedures, and

WHEREAS: It is advantageous to update the next edition of the Faculty Handbook to include the needed changes,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That Appendix E of the Faculty Handbook be revised with the addition of the following new fourth paragraph (i.e., to follow the paragraph that begins “The deadlines outlined below” and to
Faculty are advised that staff (including staff not assigned to an academic unit such as a Program, Division, Department, School, or College) and students wishing to make a general grievance against a faculty member will do so with this section’s process. Such individuals, in particular students, may have sought the advice of campus officials, such as the Dean of Students, to determine the process that is to be followed. Faculty are also advised that general grievances against a staff member or student are not covered by the procedures described in this Faculty Handbook section. Faculty wishing to make such complaints or grievances are directed to the procedures described in other relevant documents. Faculty wishing to proceed with such complaints or grievances may seek the advice of relevant campus officials (e.g., Dean of Students for complaints against students) for advisement about the process. Nothing in the statement here is to be construed as limiting a faculty member's prerogative to deal with academic misconduct within the context of a course. Such prerogative is discussed elsewhere in this Handbook.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this change be incorporated in the Handbook revision slated to soon be sent to the Board of Trustees for final approval, with this change taking effect upon said final approval of the rest of the Handbook.