Lehman College Senate RESOLUTION REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF CREDIT/NO CREDIT GRADING POLICY FALL 2020 SEMESTER

WHEREAS, as of October 8, 2020: Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that Covid-19 infection rates are at a record high and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirmed that Covid-19 disproportionately affects communities of color; AND

WHEREAS Covid-19 rates, hospitalizations, and deaths have continued to rise since that announcement; AND

WHEREAS, CUNY's Spring 2020 "Covid-19 Flexible Grading Policy was designed in consultation with campus Presidents, Deans, the University Faculty Senate, the University Council of Registrars, and the University Student Senate to provide students with maximum flexibility during the ongoing and challenging transition of all courses to distance learning;" AND

WHEREAS, constituent outreach conducted by the Lehman College Student Government Association found that the online transition at Lehman College in the Fall term continues to be a significant hardship for many Lehman students because of the use of technology and also because students are suffering financially, and emotionally because of Covid-19; AND

WHEREAS, Lehman College must safeguard its mission for educational accessibility and success to all, including communities of color; AND

WHEREAS, the Chancellor has the discretion to review and extend the policy as necessary to meet public health emergency policies and practices; AND

WHEREAS, the Lehman College Governance Documents give the College Senate, "subject to the authority and Bylaws of the Board of Trustees, . . . responsibility for the formulation of academic policy," including "grading practices and standards"; AND

WHEREAS, the Lehman College Senate on December 2, 2020, passed a resolution providing in part "that during the Fall 2020 semester, all students shall have the option to convert any or all letter grades they earn in their classes to CR/NC grading"; AND

WHEREAS, the CUNY Chancellor subsequently, on December 7, 2020, decreed that the colleges Would have the option to "(1) Allow the use of CR/NC grades for all Fall 2020 courses as in the Spring 2020 term" or "(2) Allow the use of CR/NC grades for all Fall 2020 courses except those the college designates to be excluded"; AND

WHEREAS, Option 2 above did not exist at the time the Lehman College Senate approved its resolution on December 2, 2020; AND

WHEREAS, the President of Lehman College, after consultations with student and faculty governance leaders, selected Option 2, with a short list of courses not eligible for CR/NC grades to be determined; AND

WHEREAS, in offering options for a CR/NC policy the chancellor stipulated "due consideration to issues concerning academic progression, accreditation and licensure requirements, transferability of credits, and financial aid eligibility, among others deemed to be important to their respective campus communities,"

Therefore, be it resolved that the Lehman College Senate approves excluding any and all courses from the Fall 2020 CR/NC grading policy if letter grades in those courses are necessary for licensure or accreditation purposes; AND

Be it further resolved that the Lehman College Senate charges its Committee on Admissions, Evaluations, and Academic Standards (CAEAS) with reviewing and approving any and all other course exclusions to the Fall 2020 CR/NC policy. This list shall be forwarded to the President; AND

Finally, be it resolved that the list of each course excluded from the Fall 2020 CR/NC policy shall be published along with its rationale for being included on said list.