




October 25, 2019

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Randolph C. Head, Chair 
Committee on Courses

Re: Proposed Change to Senate Regulation R1.8.1

At its October 23, 2019 meeting, the Committee on Courses reviewed the proposed change to Senate Regulation R1.8.1 that would shorten the time allowed for scheduled final exams from three to two hours. The Committee engaged in a lively discussion of a range of options to address the issue, with no consensus. The Committee's student representative noted concern that shortening the exam time would hinder students in disciplines who require more work to complete exam questions. Other members noted support for shortening the exam time to two hours if it will eliminate exams on the Saturday after the quarter's instruction has ended. Members noted that faculty do have the option of splitting the final exam into an in-person and take-home exam to cover the material. Lastly, concern was noted that with two-hour exam periods, there is a potential for students to have four exams in one day. The Committee recommends that if the revised regulation is approved, it should also contain a policy allowing students with too many exams on one day to move one examination to another day.