Memorandum

To:	Bruno Giberti	**Date:**	7/11/08
	Academic Senate, Chair		
From:	Andrew Schaffner		
	Instruction Committee, Chair		
Subject:	Instruction Committee Spring 2008 Quarterly Report		

The Instruction Committee met four times during the Spring quarter. Our student representative was unable to attend due to course conflicts.

During this quarter we focused our attention on two primary discussion points: the observance of religious holidays and the archival of senior projects.

Religious Holidays

AS511-98/IC *Resolution on the Academic Calendar: Resolving Conflicts with Religious Holidays* established that "in calendar years in which the first Monday of Fall Quarter falls on Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur, that instruction will begin on the Tuesday of that week" giving a special status to these Jewish Holidays. In the 2009-10 calendar year the Muslim Holiday Eid-al-Fitr will be observed in a similar fashion even though there is no resolution protecting this holiday.

So as to not single out any particular religion, the Instruction Committee has prepared a resolution to repeal AS511-98 which explicitly grants rights to one religion's holidays. The text of the resolution has been submitted to the Executive Committee and is waiting to be agendized.

Archiving Senior Projects

Current senior project policy allows departments to decide whether or not their students will be required to submit projects to the library. Many departments do not require their students to submit any projects, others submit only selected projects, and still others require all students to submit. Because of these varied departmental policies and the fact that the projects in the library are not peer-

reviewed or refereed, it isn't clear that we should require (or that a student would want) their senior project to be a matter of permanent public record. Furthermore, some faculty may not want to be associated with a poor quality senior project (some students are satisfied with a D grade, for example). We are currently drafting a resolution to revise our senior project archival policy to allow individual faculty members decide whether or not a particular project is required to be submitted to the library. The draft version of this resolution will be forwarded to the next Instruction Committee chair and will likely be ready for submission to the Executive Committee early in Fall 2008.