Draft of policy statement regarding iBT and Chemistry’s Graduate Teaching Assistants

1. The Grad School will continue to review applications for admission from international students using their stated criteria for TOEFL, iBT and IELTS scores.

2. When a prospective student is not allowed to hold an assistantship on the basis of their iBT speaking score, the relevant department will be notified and given an opportunity to appeal the decision. This appeal right will be restricted to cases where the student has an iBT speaking score $\geq 18$. (The student will not be notified of the occurrence of the appeal until the appeal is fully resolved.)

3. If the department wishes to offer a student with a non-passing iBT speaking score an assistantship, the department must:
   (a) Guarantee that the new graduate student will be enrolled in IEPA 098NC. COMMUNICATION FOR IGTAs (3) upon arrival (with the department paying the cost of this training).
   (b) If at all possible, assign the graduate student chores (such as paper grading, reagent preparation, etc.) that do not require personal contact with undergraduate students.
   (c) If (b) above is not possible, pair the graduate student with language problems with another TA who is a native speaker of English in the laboratory or classroom environment.
   The requesting department will maintain documentation for each student of how conditions (a), (b), and (c) were met.

If the department meets these conditions, the student will be admitted with support.

4. The Chemistry Department will continue its rigorous monitoring of the quality of GTA performance using student evaluations and the evaluations of the supervising professors. Chemistry does insist upon quality performance of its GTAs.

The Chemistry Department has noted the following items as important:

The course IEPA 098NC. COMMUNICATION FOR IGTAs (3) must be offered at a time when GTAs can attend without interfering with their class and teaching schedules.

The mechanism of appealing should be as simple as possible, such as a blanket email covering all students for a given year, rather than separate letters for each student.