To: Undergraduate Council

From: Office of Admissions and
Ad Hoc Committee on Evaluating a new TOEFL Test:
Dr. Sarah Fishman-Boyd, Associate Dean
Patrick Daniel, Director Learning Assessment
Dr. Joe Davidson, Director Language and Culture Center
Margaret Watson, Director Graduate Studies Program
Dr. Agnete De Faire, Assistant VP, Undergraduate Studies
Douglas Jones, Instructor
Bridget Canty, Assistant Director International Admissions

Date: September 19, 2005

Subject: Approval of Minimum Internet-Based (IBT) TOEFL Scores required for Admissions to the University of Houston

The Ad Hoc Committee met to discuss and make recommendations for the new Internet Based TOEFL (IBT) which will first be administered in the United States on September 24, 2005. The Internet Based TOEFL will replace the Computer Based TOEFL which will become obsolete.

The Ad Hoc Committee is making the following recommendations for IBT scores for undergraduate and graduate admissions:

The ranking scale of the IBT TOEFL is different from other TOEFL tests, ranging from 0-120. The ad hoc committee recommends 79-80 to be the passing score for the IBT TOEFL. This score is equivalent to the score of 213 on the computer-based TOEFL, or the score of 550 on the paper-based TOEFL, which are the current minimum scores needed to be considered for admission to the University of Houston.

The IBT TOEFL is a more comprehensive test that will have four sub-sections: speaking, listening, reading and writing. The paper-based total score does not include writing, and neither the paper-based nor the computer-based TOEFL include a score on speaking. Thus, the IBT TOEFL will give a more comprehensive assessment of the student's mastery of the English language.

RECEIVED SEP 29 2005