THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK

Naming of the Herbert and Ruth Aschkenasy Honors Suite

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of The City University of New York approve the naming of the “Herbert and Ruth Aschkenasy Honors Suite” in the Honors Center, presently located in NAC 4/150, at The City College of New York.

EXPLANATION: In September 2011, Herbert and Ruth Aschkenasy pledged $1,000,000 to establish the “Herbert and Ruth Aschkenasy Opportunity Fund” at The City College of New York, to support outstanding students in a variety of academic and professional pursuits. The Fund supports internships, study abroad, field work, attendance and participation at academic conferences, and preparation and application for graduate and professional school exams such as the GRE, LSAT, and MCAT. Payments of $100,000 were to be made annually from December 2011 through December 2020 by Mr. and Mrs. Aschkenasy, or by their estate. Thus far, City College has received approximately $543,867 and students are beginning to reap the benefits of the couple’s remarkable generosity.

Both Herbert Aschkenasy and Ruth Kurland Aschkenasy are alumni of City College. Fleeing Nazi persecution, in 1941 Mr. Aschkenasy’s family left Vienna for New York City when he was nine years old. He earned a B.S. from City College and a Ph.D in Chemistry from the Polytechnic Institute of New York. Mr. Aschkenasy became president of Oregon Freeze Dry in 1981. The company thrived under his leadership, and he became its chairman in 2011. Active in professional, civic, and Jewish organizations, he was appointed to various state boards by the governor of Oregon. Mr. Aschkenasy passed away on January 12, 2012.

In recognition of the couple’s generosity, City College requests that the Board approve the naming of the “Herbert and Ruth Aschkenasy Honors Suite” in the Honors Center at the College.