Resolution to be considered by the Faculty of the Graduate School, Rutgers University–New Brunswick

10 May 2016 (at 2pm in Busch Campus Center, room 120)

WHEREAS in May 2013 the administration of Rutgers University entered into a four-year contract at a cost of \$492,500 with Academic Analytics, LLC – a data crawler and compiler - to measure the scholarly performance of individuals, departments, and programs;

WHEREAS the entirely quantitative methods and variables employed by Academic Analytics – a corporation intruding upon academic freedom, peer evaluation, and shared governance - hardly capture the range and quality of scholarly inquiry, while utterly ignoring the teaching, service, and civic engagement that faculty perform;

WHEREAS, taken on their own terms, the measures of books, articles, awards, grants, and citations within the Academic Analytics database frequently undercount, overcount, or otherwise misrepresent the achievements of individual scholars;

WHEREAS those measures have the potential to influence, redirect, and narrow scholarship as administrators incite faculty and departments to compete for higher scores from Academic Analytics;

WHEREAS the administration of Rutgers University has, thus far, not shared the personal data collected by Academic Analytics with regular faculty members;

and WHEREAS best practices regarding collected personal data – as well as the contractual terms governing personnel files at Rutgers – entitle individuals to obtain such data;

BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1) that the Graduate School of Rutgers University-New Brunswick, as well as Rutgers University in its entirety, shall make no use of data from Academic Analytics in allocating resources among departments and programs in decisions affecting the composition of the faculty, graduate teaching and fellowships, and grant-writing;
- 2) that the Deans' Office of the Graduate School of Rutgers University-New Brunswick (or higher-level administration) shall distribute personal data collected by Academic Analytics to each faculty member of the School on or before September 1st, 2016.