R&P Section 3.7.1 currently reads:

Other than make-ups for missed quizzes/examinations, no quizzes or examinations totaling more than 5% of the final grade shall be given during the last five full class days of each semester except in those laboratory courses ineligible for final examinations.

Proposed Revision to R&P 3.7.1:

Other than make-ups for missed quizzes/examinations, no quizzes or examinations totaling more than 5% of the final grade shall be given during the last five full class days of each semester except in those laboratory courses ineligible for final examinations. For Fall Semester 2020, the limit on quizzes or examinations given during the last five full class days of the semester will be raised to 10%.

Rationale:

This revision is viewed as another attempt to creatively deal with the challenges of the Covid-19 on Lehigh by providing more flexibility in assessment.

The report of the Senate Committee chaired by Greg R. & Ageliki N. examining the Spring 2020 transition to online instruction contained the recommendation that in the online environment instructors should consider an exam structure that relies on more frequent assessment than the typical (e.g., two hour exams and a final) for multiple reasons, one of which involved academic integrity. One option along these lines is a series of quizzes, say every two weeks for a total of six or seven over the course of the semester. This could easily be increased to eight or nine if administered a bit more frequently but much more challenging to be increased to a number sufficiently large that the final one would be worth 'less than 5% final grade'.

As a matter of institutional history may prove helpful here. In the 1980s, it was not uncommon for Lehigh faculty members to give the final exam during the last week of classes (with 'voluntary' consent of the students, of course). This was almost the norm in some professional masters programs (C. Ed. & MBA). I believe that the genesis of R&P 3.7.1 was that this was viewed as the most straightforward way to put an end to this practice (and it still took a while to be universally enforced).

A limit of 10% is consistent with the advice of the Senate Committee on Online Learning Spring 2020 report.

V. Munley, Department of Economics