MEMORANDUM

Chemistry Department

To: Ben, Cory, Molly and Peter

From: John I. Gelder

Date: January 25, 2002

Re: Grading and returning PS #1

The answers to PS #1 are attached. After reviewing the problem sets I have decided we should grade problems 1.2, 1.4, and 1.8 for 3 points. The maximum possible on the problem set is twelve points. The remaining three points are awarded on an all or nothing basis for completion of the remaining problems.

If you have any questions about the grading procedure described below, please see me. Please do not assign any fractional points. Use a holistic approach, if the student's answer is not quite correct you must make the decision if it is at least half right in which case give the student the point. However, on the next occasion (in the same grading session) that you have to stop and ask yourself whether the student should receive the benefit of the doubt, do not give them the point. Reverse this procedure if for the first time you decide not to give them the benefit of the doubt, the next occasion give them the point. If the PS is marked LATE, deduct the 3 points for completion

Please return the graded problem sets to your students next week. Be sure to record the scores for each student.

Copies of the answers and the grading memo are on the WEB.

Grading the Review Problem Set

PS1.2 **3 points** Grade part a, c and d. 1 point each for the correct answer AND the correct explanation. Both must be correct for the point. If either is wrong deduct the point.

PS1.4 **3 points**. Grade parts a, d and e. Each for 1 point. Both the ΔH and the ΔS must be correctly calculated for the point. I expect units to be included in their answer. If one of the units out of the six answers is wrong or missing do not deduct a point. But one or more errors in units deduct one point from the total points they earned in the problem. Use the same logic for numeric errors. One little error is no biggy, more than one deduct the point.

PS1.8 **3 points**. Grade parts a, b, and c. Each for 1 point. The answer and the explanation must be correct for the point. Remember to use a holistic approach. If you feel in one part the answer is not quite complete, but the idea is there, so you decide to award the point, but in the next part the same issue arises. Deduct the point in the second case.

3 points For attempting the remaining 6 problems. Remember each problem must have an answer, an attempt. If the student writes nonsense deduct the 3 points. Since several plots are required in this problem set, deduct the three points if the plots are not included.