ACADEMIC SENATE RESOLUTION

14/AS/02/UEPC--Resolution to Adopt the A, B, C, N/C Grading Option for Remediation Courses

BE IT RESOLVED: That California State University, Stanislaus adopt the A, B, C, N/C grading option for use only with remediation courses.

11/5/02 Academic Senate Approved

Steve Filling, Clerk

25 Nov 02

Date

Marvalene Hughes, President
California State University, Stanislaus

06 Jan 03

Date

ACTION OF THE PRESIDENT:

Approval

Returned to Clerk with reason for not approving
-- It was suggested that the resolution be rewritten stating we need to hold down publication costs. The point was to develop a mechanism of oversight rather than a way in shaming people into appropriate behavior.

Nagel suggested amending the first resolved clause third line, replacing 'publication' with 'printing' and eliminate 'irregular' and in place of 'publications' add 'public documents.' It was accepted by the maker and seconder of the resolution as a friendly amendment.

Further concerns voiced:

-- This policy could negatively affect small departments.
-- Good to have historical analysis so we can act smarter in the future. If information is already here, no cost in putting it out.
-- The report would go to SEC, and based on what has happened, it is not aimed at academic depts.
-- It was asked if this would include reprographics costs for advising and the reply was that if we don't, we are abysmal managers.
-- Institutional Research Office would provide data we need.

Question called. Vote on this resolution as amended: By voice vote, the Ayes have it. Division requested. Secret ballot, 16 yes, 21 no, 4 abstentions. Resolution failed.

**b. 14/AS/04/UEPC Resolution to adopt the ABC N/C Grading Option**

Stone explained the only change to the resolution was in the title 'Resolution to Adopt the A, B, C, N/C Grading Option for Remediation Courses.'

Questions and comments:

-- Would this effect the student's GPA? Answer: No.
-- Mixed message. This option is already in the class schedule, but students are being advised in First Year Programs that the option is only C/NC. Answer: Boffman is following up.
-- Freshman taking these courses that received letter grades voiced it did effect their transcripts. Answer: This was an error and will be corrected.
-- This is an incentive/motivation for students.
-- It is purposefully deceiving students if the letter grade doesn't count on GPA.
-- Students still have the option of taking the course C/NC.

Question was called. Vote to close debate. 18 yes, 21 no. Failed.

Further questions and comments:

-- This grading option offers the students the opportunity to excel in something.
-- Clarification: students have the option as long as the grading option is approved for that class.
-- It is only for remediation courses, so it won't snowball into GE courses.
-- Further concern by student representatives that it does mislead students by them getting a letter grade, but it doesn't count toward GPA. Faculty need to clarify it doesn't affect GPA at all.
-- Many times students give minimum effort when they receive C/NC.
-- Does this have retroactive effect since it has been implemented since last spring? Clarification: It is in a pilot form in some Mathematics remediation courses. And no, it is not retroactive.

Question was called. Vote to close debate passed with a vote of 37 for, 0 Opposed, 0 Abstentions.

Vote on resolution, 34 For, 4 Opposed, 1 Abstentions. Passed

**INFORMATION ITEMS**
RATIONALE: The A, B, C, N/C grading option will offer a letter grade incentive for students enrolled in remediation courses. It is suggested that providing students with the opportunity to earn a letter grade will foster greater effort for a higher level of achievement.

Stone stated that this resolution results from the Math Department suggestions about remediation courses and student efforts. It was brought forward by the English Department who suggested that GE courses have the same grading scale. UEPC debated, brought it to the AS for input, then decided that the grading scheme should only be for remedial course. This could affect financial aid, and recall that a D does mean passing. If a GE is CR/NC then D’s might become C’s. Stone clarified that letter grades in remedial courses would not figure in the GPA.

Maria [math] asserted that letter grades make a difference to students - They like seeing the letter grade and will work harder. It may not impact all students, but no doubt that it does impact some. Rios, student, stated she doesn’t see the point of this grading option - If we are told that the remedial courses don’t count for GPA, students won’t try if that is the case.

This will be a second reading at the next AS meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

a - Modification of Upper Division Admission Requirements

Thompson stated this will be a 2nd reading item at SWAS in early Nov. It is going out to campuses for comment/advice.

Shipley stated this change will keep Liberal Studies majors in college longer. Optimal time for students to transfer for us is 56 units. If we go to 60, students will have to repeat some coursework. Thompson noted that the rationale has been changed asked if Shipley could provide some written rebuttal for use in the SWAS discussion.

Shipley explained in liberal studies, students do GE, liberal studies and a concentration as well as CCTC requirements. These requirements say those things must be done. We tell students to do CCTC at the same time as general education, major, and concentration. Most of our liberal studies majors don’t want to spend any more time here than necessary. Students who stay more than 56 units at CCs can meet commission requirements can take classes, but then they’ll come here and have to take more classes/more units.

Another part of the process is that students can do credential prerequisites as part of undergraduate work, which is more efficient for them. Concurrent enrollment doesn’t help us— they need to be our students. CCs have articulated programs with us, and we are working with the CCs to make things work. The CCs want to keep students for 70 units. The argument is that units are cheaper at the CCs.

Thompson thanked Senators for guidance on this issue.

b - Academic Technology Plan

Thompson stated that FBAC will be forwarding something soon.

Filling explained the origin of the Academic Technology Plan and noted that it is the product of much faculty work. Thompson reiterated that FBAC will be bringing something forward in the near future.

c - Facilities and Parking (VP B&F Stephens, time certain: 4:00)
TO: Dr. Marvalene Hughes  
President  

FROM: Dr. David P. Dauwalder  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  

DATE: December 9, 2002  

SUBJECT: Academic Senate Resolution

I respectfully recommend your approval of the following Academic Senate resolution:

14/AS/02/UEPC  
Resolution to Adopt the A, B, C, N/C Grading Option for Remediation Courses

Upon your approval of the resolution, the following information should be included about its implementation in the notice to the campus community.

Implementation of this resolution entails the following actions:

- Remedial courses are approved only with grading option 1 (CR/NC) or grading option 4 (ABC/NC), as requested by the department.
- Letter grades of ABC in grading option 4 for remedial courses are not included in the calculation of the GPA.
- Units completed in remedial courses are not counted toward the 120 units required for graduation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

DPD/ra