

ACADEMIC SENATE
of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

AS-139-82/IC
September 28, 1982

RESOLUTION ON PROGRESS POINTS AND +/- GRADING

Background: In its last session the Academic Senate passed a resolution adopting, as an option, the further refinement to grading afforded by the use of the +/- system. An apparent difficulty arises when we attempt to incorporate this change with the use of progress points. Progress points affords us a means of tracking students who do not pass courses undertaken on a CR/NC basis and are inconspicuously deficient grade points because CR/NC is not reflected in GPA. A student must maintain a GPA above 2.0 and twice as many progress points as courses taken. Given our new system, it is possible for a student to fall below the 2.0 GPA by obtaining a C- (valued at 1.7) without a compensating C+ or higher grade. On the other hand, a student taking the course CR/NC and also receiving a C- would not be embarrassed by the Administration because a C- counts as a CR and that gives him/her two progress points which sustains him/her at the minimum on the other system. The faculty has no way of rectifying this because as things now stand, all that is allowed is a grade notation to be converted, under certain circumstances into a CR/NC by an anonymous entity in the Records Office. A scandalous state of affairs to be sure! In attempting to refine the system we have compromised its integrity. The injustice, however, is not as alarming as it first appears. Only students with a 2.0 GPA or better are allowed to take certain courses outside their major for CR/NC. The only other case where students are allowed to take classes for CR/NC are specific requirements (such as internships) offered within their major where, presumably, they are being closely monitored by their department. The intent of the CR/NC system is meritorious and should not be placed in jeopardy by an equally worthy attempt to indicate more accurately a student's accomplishment which is the intent of the +/- system.

WHEREAS, There may infrequently arise irreconcilable difficulties occasioned by the simultaneous use of +/- grading and progress points; and

WHEREAS, The advantages derived from the two systems far outweigh the occasional dilemma which stems from their separate logics; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That when a C- or higher grade is assigned to a student who has petitioned for CR/NC grading, the Records Office shall assign the grade of CR and award two progress points.

APPROVED

November 30, 1982