RESOLUTION ON SUSPENDING CREDIT/NO CREDIT GRADING RESTRICTIONS FOR FALL QUARTER 2020 IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Impact on Existing Policy: Temporary suspension of AS-479-97/CC "Resolution on Credit / No Credit Grading" during Fall 2020.

WHEREAS, the Chancellor’s Office, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, issued a communication regarding possible considerations and options regarding Credit/No Credit grading that could be implemented without violating Title 5 requirements or Cal State University Executive Orders, and

WHEREAS, Cal Poly, following the recommendation of the Academic Senate Executive Committee, suspended the 16-unit limit for Credit / No Credit grading as well as the 4-unit limit for General Education Courses in Spring and Summer Quarters 2020, and

WHEREAS, colleges, in consultation with academic departments, determined which major and support courses would be exempt from the Credit / No Credit unit limits, and

WHEREAS, Cal Poly’s administration has announced that approximately 85% or more of courses will be offered virtually in Fall Quarter 2020, and

WHEREAS, faculty and students will be in a virtual course environment because of state and local health guidelines and thereby separated from their typical campus settings for learning; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that any courses taken in Fall Quarter 2020 not be counted toward the 16-unit limit as specified in “Resolution on Credit / No Credit Grading” (AS 479-97), and be it further

RESOLVED: that the 4-unit Credit/No Credit limit for General Education courses be suspended for Fall Quarter 2020, and be it further
RESOLVED: that any changes to the 4-unit Credit/No Credit limit regarding major, minor, or support courses for Fall Quarter 2020 shall continue to be determined by the individual academic programs, and be it further.

RESOLVED: that after the 8th day of Fall Quarter 2020, Cal Poly give students one option to change their grading option to Credit/No Credit until the last day of instruction, and be it further.

RESOLVED: that Cal Poly include a notation on all transcripts about COVID in order to provide context to Fall Quarter 2020 grading.

Proposed by: Academic Senate Executive Committee
Date: May 16, 2020
MEMORANDUM

To: Dustin Stegner
From: Jeffery D. Armstrong

Subject: Response to AS-902-20 Resolution on Suspending Credit/No Credit Grading Restrictions for Fall Quarter 2020 in Response to COVID19

I am pleased to acknowledge and support the above-entitled Academic Senate resolution with the noted exceptions:

1. Line 29: Due to resource constraints, the limit for minor programs, regardless of their department, will be removed. The individual academic programs will continue to make determinations regarding the major and support courses.

2. Line 33: Due to technical constraints, students will not be limited to “one option” to change their grading basis. Instead, student will be able to change their grading basis more than once prior to the deadline.

Well-developed academic policies contribute to student success. I would ask the Academic Senate to consult administrative partners in the formation of such policies, and to consider undertaking a review of Cal Poly’s long-term policy on CR/NC grading and course withdrawals during the next academic year.

I appreciate the Senate’s timely response to ensure student success during the unusual circumstances that have resulted because of COVID 19. As a university, we need to continue to work together to adapt and change as necessary to ensure student success remains our top priority. Please express my appreciation to the Academic Senate Executive Committee and the full Academic Senate for their attention to this important curricular matter.

Date: June 16, 2020
Copies: Mary Pedersen
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