



Faculty Senate 2019–2020

MINUTES: March 27, 2020

Over Zoom due to COVID19 restrictions

12:00-1:00 pm

H. Ferguson, Chair; R. Wells, Recording Secretary

Present: B. Ade-Oshifogun, S. Badenas, K. Bailey, G. Chi, A. Coria-Navia, G. Doss, H. Ferguson, B. Gibson, O. Glanz, T. Goodwin, G. Gregorutti, D. Habenicht, B. Henry-Saturné, J. Lim, P. Lyons, B. Maguad, J. Markovic, S. Marques, M. Murray, R. Orrison, D. Penno, M. Pittman, D. Randall, K. Reiner, D. Taylor, R. Wells, X. Xu, C. Stuart

Regrets/absent: C. Gane, K. Hall

Guests: C. Arthur, L. Carroll (Staff Senate Representative), B. Wong, B. Graves, C. Troy, C. Perry, D. Gonzalez, D. Nowack, D. Staples, W. Buchanan, G. Burdick, W. Hucks, J. Alexander, K. Friestad, K. Koudele, Kidder, K. Coleman-Ferreira, K. Pichot, L. Ahlberg, M. Gayle, P. Dronen, R. Zdor, R. Palmer, R. Root, S. Trecartin, A. Solis, S. Elkins-Bates, T. Newkirk, T. Lowing, T. Smith, B. Wolfer, F. Kosinski, K. Cooper, M. Adeogun, D. Sedlacek, A. Bosman, A. Jeronic, B. Schwab, G. Woodruff, K. Weithers, B. Navia, MLS proctor

Votes & Actions taken

Credit/No Credit Grading Policy Proposal (for discussion)

COVID-19 Emergency Grading Protocol—Spring Semester 2020 ONLY

- Andrews University is extending the credit/no credit grading option to all undergraduate courses for Spring Semester 2020.
- At the end of the semester, Andrews faculty will submit regular letter grades per the course syllabus. Grades are due May 6, 2020.
- **Graduating seniors** will have one week after final grades are posted to elect to receive credit/no credit grading for one or more classes. The deadline to elect this option is May 13, 2020. Once the credit/no credit option is selected, grades for **graduating seniors** will not be allowed to revert to letter grades.
- **All other undergraduates** will have until May 31, 2020 to elect to receive credit/no credit grading for one or more classes. Once the credit/no credit option is selected, grades for **all other undergraduates** may be changed back to a letter grade until June 30, 2020.
- Credit/No Credit Scale

Letter Grade	Credit/No Credit Grade	Notes
A A- B+ B B- C+ C C-	Credit (CR?)	Grade submissions are due on May 6. After posting, students should consult with their advisor regarding advantages/disadvantages of electing to replace their letter grade.

D F	No Credit (NC)	These grades will automatically be changed to an NC. In some instances, a D letter grade may be acceptable. Students wishing to retain a D letter grade may elect to do so.
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- Grades of Credit (CR?) will count toward all curricular and graduation requirements, including requirements for the major and general education (ACE).
- Grades of Credit (CR?) and No Credit (NC) will not be calculated as part of a student's GPA.
- In order to receive a Credit (CR?) grade, students must continue to participate in the course as remote learners. In general, students are expected to complete all assignments, quizzes, exams and other required activities for the course.
- A notation referencing COVID-19 will be included on the official transcript for Spring Semester 2020.
- Students currently enrolled in a course that is being repeated can also elect to receive credit or no credit grading. If a grade of Credit (CR?) is received, the letter grade from the previous course enrollment will be excluded from the GPA calculation.

Senate discussion

Reasons for this discussion about the proposal:

- many other institutions moving in this direction
- desire of students (over 600 new have signed it)
- many accrediting bodies are pushing this
- this is a student choice, not a faculty decision

Ideas to add to the proposal/thoughts about other considerations:

- how deal with online courses? off campus undergrad courses? students trying to get off probation
- issue with accrediting bodies?
- how affect medical school acceptance?
- For some programs, a C- is not a passing grade...how do we deal with this? If a D is acceptable for some classes, this needs to be made known to students
- make clear to students that credit/no credit is different than pass/fail
- how much do we factor in these new situations the students are in? The institution has something in place, where the failing grade does not bar them from going to med school...they can turn it into a NC, still give an honest grade, but can accommodate many situations
- how deal with students who already earned the failing grade before this choice?
- NC is no credit, they would not fail the class--would not affect their GPA
- Need to still teach a demanding course load, but will adversely affect some of them
- from a graduate perspective, concerned about students not understanding implications; advising already needs to start with this now
- Each department or college needs to check with accrediting body to see what accommodations are being granted
- this will not affect good students, or bad students who will have to retake the course anyway
- Incompletes will still be an option; this is for students who have completed the course
- Students may not know their grade at the final week of the class...more uncertainty for the students, who will appreciate the window afterwards to make the decision--otherwise many students may fail a class, and

then blame the university...or mass exodus of dropping classes--as working through what they want to do about med school, etc., may need more time to make the decision
--how deal with professional programs...if students miss a course, will have to wait a year; each program needs to deal with this separately

Things that must be mandatory:

- talk to advisors, like dropping/adding a class
- Notation for COVID-19 will be on the grades for this semester
- how affect graduate programs and students

[MOTION]: The Faculty Senate supports the draft credit/no credit policy for undergraduate students during the Spring 2020 semester. (T. Goodwin, Seconded by R. Wells)

Amendment: To require that any credit/no-credit designation be approved by an academic advisor (22 yes; 0 nos)

Question for Registrar and graduate dean: Can this policy apply to graduate programs as well?

Straw Poll of 58 faculty on the Zoom chat right now (57 yes; 1 no)

Next Faculty Senate meeting: April 1, 2020; 6:00 pm