

ANNUAL REPORT

FACULTY SENATE GRADE CHANGE COMMITTEE
July 1, 1979 to June 30, 1980

During the past academic year, the Faculty Grade Change Committee has recommended to the Faculty Senate for its approval, or (under special circumstances) approved, subject to report to the Senate, 453 requests for change of previously assigned grade. In addition we postponed a decision on 40 such requests, about half of which were eventually recommended for approval. A total of 46 were not recommended for approval.

It is a pleasure for me to announce to you that this year's total of 509 requests actually received and considered, represents a decrease of 110 below those for the year July 1, 1978 to June 30, 1979.

The College of Business Administration continues to hold the dubious distinction of submitting the largest number of requests, up over last year's 34 with 47. The largest number of requests (27) from a single department came from Psychology. It gives me great pleasure and reinforces my faith in faculties of higher education to recognize a few departmental faculties that submitted only one or two: the Departments of Geography, Aerospace, Naval Science, and Physical Education. Your Grade Change Committee thanks you and commends you. We do appreciate the improvement wherever we find it.

I would like to reiterate what has been mentioned in previous reports:

1. There are no minus grades that may be legitimately recorded on the undergraduate transcripts. The reason the "OVALS" A-, B-, etc., appear on the grading form is because the Medical School considers them to be appropriate in their grading procedures.

2. If a student's name appears on your official roll and is not attending class check with Admissions and Registration early in the semester and solve the problem. If you give such a student an F, and he or she actually attended another section, you'll need to process a grade change request sooner or later. Also, if you have a student in class who is not on your official roll, send him/her to Admissions and Registration to get him/her on the official roll. If you do not do so, there will be no way for that student to get a grade recorded, short of filling out an appropriate form at the time grades are reported.

Annual Report
Grade Change Committee

3. Although the "OVAL" NR appears on the grading forms it is never to be used by faculty members. It is a device reserved for use by the Registrar when any one faculty member fails to submit a grade of any kind for a given student.

4. The assignment of a letter grade of I, indicates, "failure to complete some portion of the assigned work in a course." It is assumed that the work was assigned to all students in the course and only the one who failed to complete it received an I. The I is not to be used to give a student an opportunity to do "extra work" in addition to that assigned to other students, to improve a grade.

This spring, for the first time, the Registrar has given us an opportunity to check what we actually recorded for a given student (Official Grade Report) against what we thought we were recording (i.e., as shown in our grade book), in the form of a "listing of recorded final grades."

It already appears that this means "bad news" for the Faculty Grade Change Committee. Previously, the thing that brought the need for a grade change to the attention of the faculty member was a disgruntled student. Now we'll find out for ourselves - if we take time to check - that we've made a transcription error, and some students will be pleasantly (some not so pleasantly) surprised. Certainly we should be seeing more "chance" errors, and thus requests for change from a higher to a lower grade.

Be careful and be accurate.

Respectfully submitted,



B. Theodore Cole, Chairman