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10-17-1968

## Recommended Changes in Grading System at URI

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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223

RECEIVED

NOV 19 1968

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
FACULTY SENATE

*file  
attached to  
copy of bill*

November 18, 1968

Dr. Werner A. Baum  
President  
University of Rhode Island  
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

Dear Dr. Baum:

I am writing to you in regard to the proposed changes in the grading system that was passed at the October meeting of the Faculty Senate. You received a letter on this matter dated November 8, 1968 from David Chronley, Chairman of the Student Senate Academic Affairs Committee. The letter represented the feelings of Mr. Chronley and not those of the Student Senate or of the Student Senate Executive Committee. The Student Senate introduced the original bill on the proposed changes in the grading system and still is pursuing this intention. I urge you for this reason to pass the bill so that it can be implemented as soon as possible.

I was made aware of Mr. Chronley's letter at last Thursday's Faculty Senate meeting under Dr. Pollack's report on the status of Bills from your desk. I was a little taken back by the delay in decision on the bill. Members of the faculty were concerned about this mix up. For this reason I must state that the only transmittals that represent the official opinion and position of the Student Senate are those with the signature of the President or the Vice President. I believe this also holds true with the transmittals from the Faculty Senate. The Student Senate equally only accepts your transmittals, and your Vice President's, in regard to legislation. I believe if we all observe this transmittal procedure we can avoid future misunderstandings and embarrassment for our groups and ourselves.

Letters which you receive from other members of the Senate are their own efforts and should be weighed in that light. I hope that I have cleared up this matter for you in regard to the bill regarding changes in the grading system.

Good luck in your evaluation of the bill on grading changes presented to you by both Senates. I am,

Sincerely,

*Jeffrey W. Wright*  
Jeffrey W. Wright  
President  
Student Senate

JWW:ca

cc: David Chronley  
Dr. Pollack  
Dr. Doody ✓

November 21, 1968

Mr. Jeffrey W. Wright  
President, Student Senate  
Memorial Union, Campus

Dear Jeff:

Thank you for your letter of November 18, relevant to the Faculty Senate Bill entitled "Recommended Changes in Grading System at URI."

Obviously naively, I had assumed that a letter from the chairman of a major committee of the Student Senate, written on official letterhead, could be considered as something more than the personal expression of an individual. I have learned from the experience.

I might add, as a matter of broader concern, that personnel who have access to the official stationery of the Senate be instructed not to use it, and certainly not to use their official title in signing a communication, unless the communication does have official status; at least, the user should make it explicit that he is writing as an individual and not in his official capacity.

With respect to the specific issue, I am approving the Faculty Senate bill in question.

Cordially,

Original signed by  
Werner A. Baum  
Werner A. Baum  
President

jen

cc: Dr. Pollack  
Dr. Doody  
Mr. Chronley

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NOV 22 1968  
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
FACULTY SENATE

November 14, 1968

Dr. Agnes G. Doody, Chairman  
Faculty Senate  
Watson House, Campus

Dear Aggie:

This letter refers to Faculty Senate bill #223-68/69,  
entitled "Recommended Changes in Grading System at URI."

*file +  
attach  
to that  
bill*

Attached hereto is a copy of a letter I have received  
from the chairman of the Academic Affairs Committee of the  
Student Senate. In accord with the request made therein, I am  
delaying action on this particular legislation.

Cordially,



Werner A. Baum  
President

jen

cc: Dr. Pollack  
Mr. Chronley

Attachment

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NOV 15 1968

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
FACULTY SENATE

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT SENATE

Kingston, Rhode Island 02881 Telephone 401-792-2261



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UNIVERSITY OF R. I.

NOV 12 1968

November 8, 1968

Dr. Werner A. Baum  
President  
University of Rhode Island  
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

Dear Dr. Baum:

This letter is to verify our conversation of Wednesday evening, November 6, 1968 regarding the grading system bill now under consideration.

We disapprove of this bill for many reasons. First of all, this bill was considered by the Student Senate more than two years ago and since then many changes have taken place in the students' attitudes. At that time the bill was considered only by the Student Senate, not by the whole student body. We are planning a school wide survey in December to find the present attitude of the whole student body toward the marking system.

It has come to our attention that the nationwide trend is toward a de-emphasis on marks. This proposed system is in direct opposition to this trend. In the past two years schools have been changing their systems, toward a non-grading system. Consider, for instance, Yale's present grading system which is scaled as Pass, High Pass, or Fail. Or Dartmouth's which is simply A, B, C+, C, D or F.

Therefore, we would like to ask you to postpone action on this bill until our survey of student opinion and a fuller consideration of other systems has been completed.

Sincerely,

*David J. Chronley*

David J. Chronley  
Chairman  
Academic Affairs

DJC:ca

RECEIVED

DEC 3 1968

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
FACULTY SENATE

December 2, 1968

Dr. Werner A. Baum  
President  
University of Rhode Island  
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

Dear Dr. Baum:

Please accept my sincere apologies for the entire mixup concerning the bill to change the marking system. The purpose of the letter was to hold up final action not to defeat the bill and certainly not to create a diplomatic professional hassel. I sincerely hope that the whole incident may be put aside and forgotten to allow everyone to occupy themselves with more important constructive issues.

The simple fact is that I was wrong; I assure you that this will not happen again.

Sincerely,



David J. Chronley  
Chairman  
Academic Affairs Committee

DJC:ca

cc: Dr. Pollack  
Dr. Doody ✓  
Jeffrey W. Wright

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

FACULTY SENATE

BILL

Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Werner A. Baum

FROM: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

- 1. The Attached BILL, titled Recommended Changes in Grading System at URI

is forwarded for your consideration.

- 2. The original and two copies for your use are included.

- 3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on Oct. 17, 1968 (date)

- 4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Trustees, completing the appropriate endorsement below.

- 5. In accordance with Section 8, paragraph 2 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on Nov. 2, 1968 (date), three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Trustees for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Trustees, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

Oct. 31, 1968  
(date)

*Alfred J. D'Amico* /s/  
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

-----  
ENDORSEMENT 1.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

- 1. Returned.
- 2. Approved ✓. Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_.

- 3. (If approved) In my opinion, transmittal to the Board of Trustees is not necessary.

11/27/68  
(date)

*Werner A. Baum* /s/  
President



ALTERNATE ENDORSEMENT 1.

TO: Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded.
2. Approved.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date) \_\_\_\_\_ President /s/

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ENDORSEMENT 2.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Chairman of the Board of Trustees, via the University President.

1. Forwarded.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date) \_\_\_\_\_ /s/  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Office)

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ENDORSEMENT 3.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date) \_\_\_\_\_ President /s/

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Original received and forwarded to the Secretary of the Senate and Registrar for filing in the Archives of the University.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date) \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman of the Faculty Senate /s/

Bill #223 68/69

## RECOMMENDED CHANGES IN GRADING SYSTEM AT URI

1. Replace the present section 7.1.1 b. and 7.1.1 d. by the following:

b. Grade Symbols -- Student grades shall be reported as A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, F. These marks shall indicate the following standing:

A ) = outstanding	A-) = superior
	B+)
B ) = good	C+) = satisfactory
B-) =	C ) =
c-)	
D+) = low passing	F ) = failure
D ) =	

d. Quality Points --- Grades should be given quality point values as follows:

A	= 4.00 points
A-	= 3.67 points
B+	= 3.33 points
B	= 3.00 points
B-	= 2.67 points
C+	= 2.33 points
C	= 2.00 points
C-	= 1.67 points
D+	= 1.33 points
D	= 1.00 points
F	= 0 points

2. Replace the present section 7.5.1 by the following:

7.5.1 Credits and Points == To graduate, a student must have completed the work of the curriculum in which he is enrolled and also must have earned a total number of quality points equal to at least twice the number of credits for which he has registered in that curriculum.