

A RESOLUTION TO BE ENTITLED ACT TO:

Implement an Optional Pass/Fail Grading Accommodation for the Fall 2020

Short Title: Pass/Fail Grading System

Authored by: Sen. Benjamin Tisinger, Sen. James Pointer II, Dir. of Operations Rebecca Hart

Below for Senate Leadership

Resolution Number: F20-05

First Reading: 11/09/2020

1 **WHEREAS**, a global pandemic caused by COVID - 19 forced Western Carolina University to
2 transition classes to an online and hybrid-based modality along with adjusting all other operations
3 of the university for the Fall 2020 Semester; and,
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the ongoing pandemic and shift in institutional operations inside and outside the
6 classrooms has constrained students academically, financially, physically, and mentally; and,
7

8 **WHEREAS**, students are rightfully concerned for their health along with the health of their loved
9 ones and peers, shifting their focus and taking time away from academic priorities; and,
10

11 **WHEREAS**, it also become apparent through student feedback and surveys that many students
12 are struggling to get in contact with their professors, many classes that were advertised as hybrid
13 have gone completely online, and the lack of face-to-face classes have led to extra hours of
14 students teaching themselves; and,
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the elevated levels of stress that students are having to manage could be relieved by
17 temporarily amending the current grading system used by the university; and,
18

19 **WHEREAS**, transcripts are permanent records and students should have the option to adjust how
20 they wish their grades to be reflected this semester understanding that some students have
21 struggled due to extenuating circumstances surrounding COVID-19, and,
22

23 **WHEREAS**, other institutions in the University of North Carolina system such as UNC-Chapel
24 Hill, East Carolina University, Appalachian State University, UNC Charlotte, Fayetteville State
25 University and Elizabeth City State University have recognized the need for flexibility with the
26 academic grading system and are allowing a pass/fail grading accommodation; and,
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28 **WHEREAS**, the Student Government Association believes it would be a disservice to our
29 students to ignore the challenges they have endured all semester that have affected their academic
30 success; and,
31

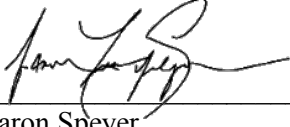
32 **Therefore, Be It Resolved That:** The Student Government Association of Western Carolina
33 University calls upon the university to implement a pass/fail grading accommodation for the Fall
34 2020 semester.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION of WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

97th SESSION, Fall 2020-Spring 2021

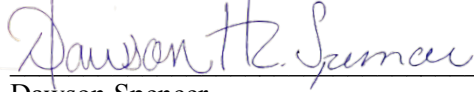
Senate Vote: Aye: 27 Nay: 2



Aaron Speyer
SGA Vice-President

09 November 2020
Date

Passed: Failed:



Dawson Spencer
SGA President

09 November 2020
Date

Passed: Veto:

35

