

**III. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT**

**Robert C. Dynes (oral report)**

**IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR**

**Lawrence Pitts (oral report)**

**V. SPECIAL ORDERS**

**A. Consent Calendar**

**Variance to Senate Regulation 780 A and B, and 778 B, requested by the Senate Task Force on UC Merced**

The Senate Task Force on UC Merced (UCM-TF), empowered on October 20, 1999 by the Assembly to exercise all functions of the Academic Senate normally vested in Senate divisions, has proposed *Regulations of the Merced Division Part I. General Regulations Undergraduate Students*.

In accordance with Senate Bylaw 125.B.5 and Senate Regulation 778 B:

Senate Bylaw 125.B.5: “If a proposed Divisional Regulation, which has been submitted to the Assembly of the Academic Senate for approval, is at variance with Universitywide Regulations and cannot be included in the agenda of a regular Assembly meeting to be held within sixty calendar days after Divisional action, the Academic Council, with the advice of the appropriate University Senate committees, is authorized to approve provisionally such proposed Regulations. Such approval is effective until the end of the next following term in which a regular Assembly meeting is held. Such approval must be reported to the Assembly. [See [Bylaw 115.F](#) and [Bylaw 206.D](#)]

Senate Regulation Article 3. Grades 778 B. “The grading system to be used by a Division and modifications thereof must be reviewed by the University Committee on Educational Policy and be certified for consonance with the Code of the Academic Senate by the University Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction. These Committees report their findings to the Senate Assembly for information. Thereafter the proposed grading system becomes effective as provided by Divisional action unless the Assembly determines otherwise.”

The University Committee on Educational Policy at its May 2003 meeting approved the proposed regulations and request for variances to the grading systems. Academic Council at its June 2003 meeting gave provisional approval to the UCM-TF request for the variances, pending consideration of the issue by the Assembly. The University Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction has certified the proposed Regulations for consonance with the Code of the Academic Senate.

**1. The following are the relevant variance requests to Senate Regulation 780(A), which reads as follows:**

- “A. Except as provided in SRs [778](#), [782](#), and [784](#), the work of all students in the University shall be reported in terms of six grades:

1. passing: A (excellent), B (good), C (fair), D (barely passing)
2. not passing: F (failure)
3. undetermined: Incomplete

Grade points per unit shall be assigned by the Registrar as follows:  
A 4, B 3, C 2, D 1, F and Incomplete none.”

**Variance to Senate Regulation 780(A) to allow grades A, B, C, and D to be modified by a plus (+) or minus (-) and to include the grade In Progress.**

**Proposed Merced Regulation: 50. GRADES**

**A. Grading System**

UC Merced’s grading system is as follows.

- A Excellent
- B Good
- C Fair
- D Barely passing
- F Not passing
- P Passed (grade of C- or better by an undergraduate student)
- NP Not passed
- I Incomplete
- IP In progress
- W Withdrew
- NR No report (when an instructor fails to report a grade for a student)

**a. Credit toward Degree Requirements**

A course in which the grade A, B, C, D, or P is received is counted toward degree requirements. A course in which the grade F or NP is received is not counted toward degree requirements. Grades of I or IP are not counted until such times as they are replaced by grades A, B, C, D, or P.

**b. Grade Points**

Grades of A, B, C and D may be modified by a plus (+) or minus (-). Grade points are assigned as follows: A+ = 4.0; A = 4.0; A- = 3.7; B+ = 3.3; B = 3.0; B- = 2.7; C+ = 2.3; C = 2.0; C- = 1.7; D+ = 1.3; D = 1.0; D- = 0.7; F = 0.0; I = 0.0; P/NP = N.A.. The grades P, NP, I, and IP carry no grade points and the units in courses so graded are excluded in determination of the grade-point average.

**Justification:** To determine an appropriate grading system for UC Merced, the Undergraduate Council reviewed the grading systems of a number of institutions, including each of the University of California

campuses. The UC Merced Task Force accurately represent and recognize the academic recognition (+ Grade) or a more accurate assessment (-grade) of their performance in the course.

UC Merced may offer undergraduate courses that extend beyond one academic term. The IP or In Progress grade allows faculty to submit a grade at the end of the term when the course is still in progress and will continue into an additional term. When the course has been completed, the IP grade(s) will be replaced by the final grade.

**2. The following are the relevant variance requests to Senate Regulation 780(B) which reads as follows:**

“B. All grades except Incomplete are final when filed by the instructor of record in an end-of-term course report. However, the correction of a clerical or procedural error may be authorized as the Division directs. No change of grade may be made on the basis of reassessment of the quality of a student's work. No term grade except Incomplete may be revised by re-examination.”

**Variance for Senate Regulation 780(B) to include the grade In Progress as an exception to grades that are considered final.**

**Proposed Merced Regulation: 50 Grades.**

**B. Change of Grade**

All grades except Incomplete and In-Progress are considered final when assigned by an instructor at the end of a term. An instructor may request a change of grade when a computational or procedural error occurred in the original assignment of a grade, but a grade may not be changed as a result of re-evaluation of a student's work. No final grade may be revised as a result of reexamination or the submission of additional work after the close of term.

**D. In Progress (IP)**

For a course extending over more than one term, where the evaluation of the student's performance is deferred until the end of the final term, provisional grades of In Progress (IP) shall be assigned in the intervening terms. The provisional grades shall be replaced by the final grade, if the student completes the full sequence. The grade IP is not included in the grade-point average. If the full sequence of courses is not completed, the IP will be replaced by a grade of Incomplete. Further changes in the student's record will be subject to the rules pertaining to I grades.

**Justification:** The purpose of the In-Progress grade is to allow for courses that extend beyond one academic term and to not penalize students who participate in such courses