

Resolution 030

A Resolution to Provide Consistency in Grading Scales

Sponsored by: Senator Schlee

Co-Sponsored by: Senator Martin, Senator Farrell, Senator Michels, Senator Crnkovich, Senator Fahey

Whereas,

Every professor uses a grading scale to determine how specific percentages will be translated into letter grades, but it is at the discretion of each professor to determine this scale themselves.

Whereas,

There are many adjunct professors as well as new professors who either do not know what grading scale should be used or don't communicate their grading scale to students at the beginning of the semester.

Whereas,

The Catholic University as a whole currently has a recommended grading scale for professors, commonly used in many classes, but which does not reflect the differences in difficulty or style that exist across various departments.

Whereas,

These grading scales can vary drastically based on a professor's preferences, the level of difficulty of material being studied, and the department in which the class falls under.

Whereas,

This freedom in the grading scale allows many professors to demand a high level of excellence that students embrace, but which is not reflected on a student's transcript.

Whereas,

Transcripts are often required to be sent to potential employers, internship programs, and other academic opportunities which are used to evaluate a student in the application process, but said transcripts do not make note of more rigorous grading scales.

Be it enacted that,

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby requests that

1. Each professor is required to provide their grading scale on their syllabus at the beginning of the semester.

2. Each Academic School and Department works towards developing a consistent grading scale that all professors within that school would be recommended to follow and that standard for a student's major be noted in some way on transcripts or other official academic documents.

Agreed to by a vote of _____ yeas to _____ nays on this date: _____ with _____ abstaining and _____ not present.

Abigail Anger
President of the Student Government Association

Monica Wallace
Vice President of the Student Government Association

