

## Resolution 031

### A Resolution to Require Professors to Share Grades with Students

Sponsored by: Senator Michels

Co-Sponsored by: Senator Birth, Senator Drauschak, Senator Martin Senator Schlee

*Whereas,*

Professors at The Catholic University of America are obliged to “assess the quality of the students' work” and must “submit grades earned in courses” at the end of each semester, before all final grades are due in Cardinal Station, on the date set by the university.<sup>1</sup>

*Whereas,*

Blackboard, an education and technology service which the university utilizes, features a gradebook function for professors to publish students’ grades for assignments, assessments, presentations, etc.

*Whereas,*

Some professors opt not to publish students’ grades in the gradebook on Blackboard for various reasons. While this is the professor’s prerogative, students still deserve the right to know what grades they have received on specific assignments and assessments.

*Whereas,*

At the end of the semester professors are required to post final grades and recommended to provide students with midterm grades. Professors are not required to release the grades of individual assignments, which contribute to a student's final grade in the course.

*Whereas,*

Receiving scores on assignments and assessments is beneficial to students as it shows them how well they are doing in a course and can highlight areas that need improvement.

*Whereas,*

Senate 006 passed Resolution 015 and Senate 004 passed Resolution 015 to address the issue of professors publishing grades in the Blackboard gradebook, but these issues were not resolved.

*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 professors who choose not to frequently utilize the gradebook feature on Blackboard shall:

1. Notify students of their grades for all assignments via email on the date set by the university’s academic calendar specified as ‘Midterm’.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://policies.catholic.edu/faculty-staff/faculty/facultyduties-iii-a.html>

2. Notify students of their grades for all assignments via email on or before the date set by the university's academic calendar specified as 'All final grades due in Cardinal Station'.
3. Be strongly encouraged to release individual assignment grades prior to these set deadlines, in a timely manner that allows students to utilize the knowledge of their grades in order to improve upon further assignments.

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

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Abigail Anger  
*President of the Student Government Association*

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Monica Wallace  
*Vice President of the Student Government Association*

