



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

SDSU Senate Emergency Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2020

[Join Zoom Meeting](#) (Meeting ID: 750 332 948)

3:00 to 5:00 pm

Call to order at 3:11pm

1. Call to order, Land Acknowledgement, and Principles of Shared Governance:

Land Acknowledgment:

For millennia, the Kumeyaay people have been a part of this land. This land has nourished, healed, protected and embraced them for many generations in a relationship of balance and harmony. As members of the San Diego State community we acknowledge this legacy. We promote this balance and harmony. We find inspiration from this land; the land of the Kumeyaay.

Shared Governance:

Trust is recognized as a fundamental ingredient that is essential for effective shared governance. Without trust, the practices of partnership, inclusion, open communication, ownership, and accountability are likely to break down. SDSU community members have identified three key principles for shared governance at SDSU that all rely on the fundamental ingredient of TRUST: Respect, Communication, Responsibility.

2. Presentation of the Agenda and a Request to Waive the 4-day Rule (Wheeler)
Unanimous consent to waive 4-day rule
3. Report on SEC Actions Made on Behalf of the Senate during the 4/14 Emergency SEC Meeting (Wheeler)
 - A. The following emergency policy for withdrawals be shall adopted for the Spring 2020 Semester only:

- **Approval Process** – For all withdrawals from one or more courses taken during the Spring 2020 semester, Deans and their designees shall have the right to approve withdrawals for students. Withdrawal requests shall be granted where the cause for substandard performance was due to circumstances clearly beyond your control. The COVID-19 pandemic constitutes such a circumstance.
- **Financial Aid** - Information about how such decisions will affect Financial Aid shall be made available to students, and students shall have the opportunity to visit with a financial aid advisor to receive advice.
- **Retroactive Withdrawals** - After the last day of instruction for a term, if a student wishes to change assigned grades to W grades, the student shall request to withdraw from individual classes or the full semester's work. Total withdrawal requests shall be granted where the cause for substandard performance was due to circumstances clearly beyond your control. The COVID-19 pandemic constitutes such a circumstance.

Rationale: This motion came from the Provost and the Deans, and would facilitate an easier process for authorizing withdrawals. There would be no penalties to students associated with withdrawals made during the semester.

(Compare with existing policy:

Current Term Withdrawals

Withdrawal Retroactively - After the last day of instruction for a term, if you wish to change assigned grades to W grades, you must request to withdraw from the full semester's work; no requests for individual classes will be accepted. Total withdrawal requests may be granted only in verified cases such as accident or serious illness where the cause for substandard performance was due to circumstances clearly beyond your control. (p. 483))

- B. The following emergency policy for change of grade basis be shall adopted for the Spring 2020 Semester only:

For courses taken during the Spring 2020 semester, a change in grading basis may be made on or before May 1, 2020 by 7:59 p.m. via Late Schedule Adjustment petition from the Registrar's office.

Rationale: This motion came from the Provost and the Deans, and would extend the deadline for changing the grading status for individual courses to May 1 for the Spring 2020 semester only. This motion would pertain only to courses that already allow for a Credit/No Credit grading option, per Senate curricular processes. The total number of these sections is 3,535 (affecting 125,337 enrollments).



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842 sections would remain unaffected by this change (meaning that students would not have the option to change to Credit/No Credit status), which would affect 14,987 enrollments.

(Compare with existing policy for Credit/No Credit courses, item 6:

- Credit/No Credit – ... 6. Change in grading basis may be made through the SDSU WebPortal on or before the 10th day of instruction by 7:59 p.m. No changes in grading basis are permitted after that date. (p. 476))

4. Motion to Approve an additional Emergency Grading Policy Revision (SEC):

All courses shall be made available to students as Credit/No Credit for the Spring 2020 semester. All students shall be allowed to request to change any course they are currently enrolled in to Credit/No Credit grading for the Spring 2020 semester. To request a change in grading basis for a Spring 2020 class, students must email a completed Late Schedule Adjustment Petition to the Registrar's Office on or before 7:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time on May 1, 2020.

Students shall consult with appropriate academic and financial aid advisors before changing their grading bases in any class. Deans shall work with their Chairs Directors and Faculty to provide students with guidance in making decisions about changing grading status. These recommendations should balance the following salient concerns:

- A. The need to ensure that students remain in good standing in their programs.
- B. The need to ensure that students can make progress towards their degrees/certificates and within the constraints imposed by accreditation and certification, as well as student specific restrictions such as those on student veterans, student athletes, international students, and those on specific types of financial aid.
- C. The need to offer students reprieve in the form of a Credit/No Credit option in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Administration shall work with Deans to facilitate the implementation of this policy.
MSP as amended 61 in favor 6 opposed 3 abstentions

Editorial change Pacific Standard Time to Pacific Daylight Time

Bober: Move that we modify the first sentence of the second paragraph to read: Students shall consult with ...

Seconded. 49 In favor, 17 opposed, 5 abstentions

Should changes to shall.

Onwuka: I move to exclude courses taken in Spring 2020 from the 15 unit cap that exists

Will consider this motion after vote on item #4.

Sasidharan: Move to change Deans shall work with their Chairs and Directors to Deans shall work with their Chairs, Directors and Faculty ...

Seconded. Passed

New Action Items:

Motion from Senator Sabol: For undergraduate students, any courses graded credit/no credit during the Spring 2020 term shall not be included in the maximum number of CR/ NC units allowed for graduation.

Seconded.

MSP 58 In favor, 1 opposed, 6 abstentions

Motion: For graduate students, courses graded credit/no credit during the Spring 2020 term shall be excluded from calculation of the credit/no credit unit limit for degree requirements.

MSP 56 In favor, 5 opposed, 11 abstentions

5. Adjourn at 4:52pm



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