

**THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH**

Bill Number: Senate Resolution #2021-13
Title: ASI Stance Against Proposed +/- Grading Policy
Sponsored by: Vice President Maythe Alderete Gonzalez and Senator Jesus Gonzalez
Co-Sponsored by: Chief Justice Greg Figueroa and Academic Affairs Officer Isaac Julian
Date Submitted: April 9, 2021
Date Approved: April 28, 2021

- WHEREAS** the Associated Students, Incorporated (ASI) Board of Directors at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) is the recognized voice for over 37,000 students; and
- WHEREAS** that the mission of the ASI Board of Directors is to “facilitate the achievement of students’ education objectives and life goals through programs, services, and facilities that advocate student needs and interests, compel student representation in campus decision making and provide students with resources that they identify as necessary for their intellectual, social and physical development;¹” and
- WHEREAS** that the CSULB’s Academic Senate’s mission is to “uphold, protect, and enhance all the traditional rights of faculty, staff, students, and administration.... The Academic Senate structures itself to support the mission of the University and to achieve an optimal degree of communication and cooperation among the elements of the University;”² and
- WHEREAS** that if the mission of CSULB ASI and CSULB Academic Senate is to support students educational goals then it is imperative that we avoid any additional barriers such as any +/- policy proposal that would prevent student success; and
- WHEREAS** that during spring 2021 the Academic Senate’s subcommittee known as the Curriculum and Educational Policies Council (CEPC)³ was reviewing the Final Course Grades, Grading Procedures, and Final Assessments policy⁴ and considered implementing a plus or minus grading option; and
- WHEREAS** that the following information is an overview of the proposed grade and Grade Point Average (GPA) changes:
- A+ at 4.0 GPA points, A at 4.0 GPA points, A- at 3.7 GPA points
 - B+ at 3.3 GPA points, B at 3.0 GPA points, B- at 2.7 GPA points
 - C+ at 2.3 GPA points, C at 2.0 GPA points, C- at 1.7 GPA points
 - D+ at 1.3 GPA points, D at 1.0 GPA points, D- at 0.7 GPA points
 - F at 0.0 GPA points; and

¹ <https://www.asicsulb.org/corporate/resources/about-us>

² <https://www.csulb.edu/academic-senate/our-mission>

³ <https://www.csulb.edu/academic-senate/curriculum-and-educational-policies-council-cepc>

⁴ <https://www.csulb.edu/academic-senate/policy-statement-12-03-final-course-grades-grading-procedures-and-final-assessments>

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- WHEREAS** that CSULB is one out of two campuses in the California State University (CSU) system, along with Fresno State University, who have not implemented +/- grading following previous failed attempts;⁵ and
- WHEREAS** that the effects of the proposal on students' GPA can significantly impact financial aid, academic probation, admission into certain majors and programs, timely graduation, meeting certain course grade requirements, and future endeavors to pursue a graduate degree; and
- WHEREAS** that ASI created and distributed a survey to collect students' opinions regarding this policy, which received a total of 10,435 responses; of those responses 96.1% of students are against the policy, 1.6% of students are in support of the policy, and 2.1% of students remain neutral;⁶ and
- WHEREAS** that students are primarily concerned with the impact that the policy would have on their mental health, GPA, financial aid, and other concerns, such as impacting academic success; and
- WHEREAS** that students' advocacy efforts helped ensure that the CEPC understood the implications and concerns with the +/- grading policy proposal; and
- WHEREAS** that if the +/- grading policy would have been approved by CEPC, it would have been sent to the Academic Senate for review and consideration with an anticipated implementation for fall 2025; and
- WHEREAS** that the CEPC's majority vote on the proposal to include the +/- implementation failed so it will not have any effect on the student body; now therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that we call upon the CEPC members to consult the larger student body population before moving forward with proposing any drastic changes to the grading policy; and be it further
- RESOLVED** that all officers within ASI student government continue representing and consulting students in regards to the Final Course Grades, Grading Procedures, and Final Assessments policy; and be it finally
- RESOLVED** that an electronic copy of this resolution, upon approval by the ASI President be distributed to CSULB President Jane Conoley, Vice President for Student Affairs Beth Lesen, Provost Brian Jersky, Vice Provost Jody Cormack, Academic Senate Chair Jessica Pandya, CEPC members, and all current and future ASI Officers, the Daily 49er, and 22 West Media.

⁵ <https://web.csulb.edu/~d49er/archives/2005/spring/news/volLVno106-asi.shtml>

⁶ <https://www.asicsulb.org/corporate/connect/beachfront/asi-supported/557-proposed-lbsu-plus-or-minus-grading-policy>

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Maythe Alderete Gonzalez

Maythe Alderete Gonzalez, Vice President &
Chair, Associated Students Board of Directors

Delivered to the President of the Associated Students on:

5/10/2021

Date

Omar Prudencio Gonzalez

Omar Prudencio Gonzalez, Associated Students President

5/10/2021

Date

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