MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans, all Schools and Colleges, all CU campuses  
FROM: Mary Coussons-Read, Chair, CU System Faculty Council,  
Ravinder Singh, Chair, CU System Faculty Council Educational Policy and University Standards Committee,  
Michael Lightner, Vice President of Academic Affairs, CU System  
RE: Faculty vote to revise the Grade Symbols section of the Uniform Grading Policy  
DATE: February 22, 2022

RATIONALE:

We are writing to request that you conduct a vote of the faculty members in your school or college regarding a proposed update to the current University of Colorado Uniform Grading Policy (UGP). Any revision to the UGP policy requires a faculty vote, and we ask that you conduct the vote on this policy by April 15, 2022. The proposed revision is necessitated because in Spring 2020, P+ was enacted as part of a COVID-related emergency response and to comply with a new Colorado Department of Higher Education requirement that any P grades awarded must represent a grade of C- or higher. Capturing D grades in the student option P/F is important for financial aid purposes and for various other reasons. There is support on the campuses for maintaining P+/P/F for the student option P/F for letter-graded courses. A Satisfactory/ Unsatisfactory (S/U) grading basis has been added to this policy to address non-letter graded courses previously graded as P/F (e.g., experiential, field-based courses). See details below.

The proposed revisions, as suggested by the campus registrars, leading to this motion were thoroughly discussed and endorsed at the Educational Policy and University Standards (EPUS) committee of the Faculty Council and at the Faculty Council meetings in the Spring 2021. Moreover, Vice President Michael Lightner has discussed these changes with the campus Faculty Assemblies. The EPUS committee agrees that the changes to the Uniform Grading Policy are necessary to comply with the Colorado state requirements.

For your convenience, the current UGP, the updated and the revised draft requiring vote can be accessed here:

- APS 1025 - current version
- APS 1025 - updated/revised draft requiring vote

See in particular the Grade Symbols in section II and the proposed changes highlighted in red text.

MOTION: The University of Colorado Uniform Grading Policy should be revised to read as follows:

Section II
Grade Symbols

The instructor is responsible for whatever grade symbol (A, B, C, D, F, I, IP, P, P+, S, or U) is to be assigned. Special symbols, such as NC, W, and ***, and indications of registration or grade status are not assigned by the instructor but are automatically converted by the grade application system, explained under Special Symbols.

- **A**: superior/excellent (4 credit points per credit hour)
- **B**: good/better than average (3 credit points per credit hour)
- **C**: competent/average (2 credit points per credit hour)
- **D**: below average (1 credit point per credit hour)
- **F**: failing (no credit points per credit hour)
- **I**: Incomplete (regarded as F if not completed within a maximum of one year)
- **IP**: in progress (thesis or multi-semester course at the graduate level only)
- **P+/P/F**: pass plus/pass/fail
  - **P+** = C- or greater
  - **P** = D-, D, D+
  - **F** = F
  - P+ and P are not included in the grade point average, but credit is awarded. F is included in grade point average with no credit awarded.
- **S/U**: satisfactory/unsatisfactory
  - **S** = Course requirements are satisfied, or expectations met
  - **U** = Course requirements are not satisfied, or expectations are not met.
  - Credit is awarded for an S. Neither S nor U is included in grade point average.

In addition, for consistency and clarity, “pass/fail” has been replaced by “P+/P/F” throughout the document, and the revision includes minor, necessary edits: change wishes to opt, change a course to an eligible course, and reorder items under the Procedure section (item 4 is now item 1) (see the link above for details).

INFORMATION ABOUT VOTING PROCEDURE:

The language of the motion is above. Your school/college determines which of your faculty are eligible to vote. Each school and college have one vote, a yes or a no, regardless of the number of your faculty voting. If 60% of the schools and colleges vote yes, the motion passes.

We would like to have your response, which is a simple “yes” or “no,” from your faculty as soon as you can conduct the voting process, but by April 15, 2022, at the latest. You may use an electronic ballot or a vote in a faculty meeting. If you need help with an electronic ballot, contact Maria Lewis, the administrator for the Faculty Council (Maria.Lewis@cu.edu), and she can assist you. The result should be sent to Maria Lewis, at the address above.

Please let us know if we may answer any questions or provide additional information. We sincerely thank you for your time and effort.