

Cornell University Student Assembly

Originally Presented on:	10/26/2017
Type of Action:	Recommendation
Status/Result:	New Business

S.A. Resolution #16 Median Grade Reporting

ABSTRACT: This Resolution recommends that the University Faculty direct the University Registrar to report median grades on transcripts based on instructor, in those courses where multiple sections with different instructors are offered.

Sponsored by: Osai Egharevba '21

Whereas, course grades and student grade point averages (“GPAs”) derived from grades should serve as reliable indicators of student grasp of course material; and

Whereas, employers and graduate school admissions rely heavily on grades to filter and select candidates; and

Whereas, many of the University’s peer institutions have publicly acknowledged that their grades are inflated, and in 1996 the Faculty Senate voted to publish median grades on student transcripts in an acknowledgement of the University’s grading practices; and

Whereas, median grades have been posted on University transcripts since 2008; and

Whereas, many courses offered by the University are taught in multiple “sections,” with different groups of students and different instructors; and

Whereas, the quality and style of instruction, the approach to grading, and the instructor’s fluency in english all necessarily vary between instructors; and

Whereas, those students whose instructors write exams may have an advantage over those whose instructors do not;

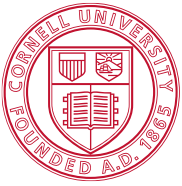
Be it therefore resolved, that the Student Assembly recommends that the ~~Faculty Senate direct the~~ University Registrar to report median grades on transcripts by *section*, so that all sections of a particular course wholly taught by the same instructor during the same academic term are treated as independent “courses” for the purpose of calculating and reporting median grades on University transcripts; and

Be it further resolved, that the Student Assembly recommends that this change be applied to all multiple-instructor, multiple-section courses from Fall 2018 onwards; and

Be it finally resolved, that this resolution be conveyed to the Dean of Faculty and to the Faculty Senate.

Respectfully Submitted,

Osai Egharevba '21,



Cornell University Student Assembly

- 45 *Freshman Representative, SA*
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47 Christopher Schott '18
48 *International Students Liaison At-Large, Student Assembly*
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50 Nathan Weierich, '18
51 *Member, Student Assembly Academic Policy Committee*
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53 *Reviewed by: Academic Policy Committee, 13-0-1, 10/22/2017*