RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON INNOVATIVE TEACHING AND GRADING CONCERNING THE LETTERS AND SCIENCE GRADING SYSTEM

NOTE: This Document is essentially the same as Letters and Science Faculty Document Number 131, which was presented at the May 10, 1973 Faculty meeting.

At that meeting, the motion was approved to table Recommendation I and to consider it as the first item of business at the first Faculty meeting of the 1973-74 academic year.

The motion was also approved to table Recommendation II until the next Faculty meeting. This Recommendation was amended to delete the second sentence, which read: "No designation of 'incomplete' shall be permitted."

The final paragraph of each Recommendation has been placed in parentheses to indicate that the recommended dates of implementation and review may not now be possible.

I. Recommendations on Grading and the GPA for Letters and Science

Whenever a GPA is computed, a standard deviation of the same data shall also be computed and reported. Except for those computed for analytic purposes, the GPA shall be computed to two decimals and rounded to one.

Whenever an overall GPA and standard deviation are computed on an individual, similar measures on work done in each of the academic divisions (natural science, social science, humanities, and the professions) shall also be computed and reported. GPA's computed for analyses of categories of students are not required to utilize the academic divisions unless the problem statement requires it.

The GPA and s.d. will be computed on the following 10-point scale. Faculty shall report semester grades by the letter designation below. All eligibility rules shall be appropriately modified to conform to this scale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Designation</th>
<th>10-Point Scale</th>
<th>4-Point Equivalent*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The scalar differences are a matter of a linear transformation; all that is being recommended essentially is the propriety of reporting grades between the classes "A,B,C,D,F." The 10-point scale is simply and easier arithmetic to use. Further, the committee reports against the grade designation of "D+." Because
of a definition recommended for the grade of D, the committee urges a recog-

zable gap between D and C-. Grades reported as D+ shall be computed as D+ = 1.00.

The college bulletin shall carry the definition of 'D' as a partial fail.

The logic of asserting that the grade of D means "passing" but graduation
requires more than passing is obscure at best. C should be defined as college
pass and by "C", the instructor is explicitly giving a student a "break" and
the grade should be so interpreted to the students of L&S.

No faculty member is obligated to use interval grade reporting. Hence this
system is an optional one. However, the students must be informed on the first
day of class (or in a distributed syllabus) which reporting system the instructor
intends to use.

(It is moved that this grading system be adopted on an experimental basis
effective Fall Semester in the 1973-74 academic year; that its effectiveness be
analyzed during the Fall Semester of the 1974-75 academic year and that the
committee be required to submit a recommendation for permanent action as soon
thereafter as feasible.)

II. Recommendation on Undergraduate Individualized Courses

In respect to all individualized courses for undergraduates in L&S, at the
end of a semester a grade shall be reported for the work completed. The instruc-
tor shall be empowered to report a grade for fewer credits than for which the
student was registered. For example, a student may register for 3 credits and
the instructor report a grade of B for 1 credit.

For the purposes of computing course or work load figures, each registration
shall be recorded as three credits.

(It is moved that this grading system be adopted on an experimental basis
effective Fall Semester in the 1973-74 academic year; that its effectiveness be
analyzed during the Fall Semester of the 1974-75 academic year and that the
committee be required to submit a recommendation for permanent action as soon
thereafter as feasible.)