

Rationale for the submission of a motion to retain the Credit/No Credit grading option

VCAA Della Teraoka requested input from the Curriculum Committee along with the Faculty Senate, and other interested parties as to whether there should be a campus policy concerning the Credit/No Credit grading option. Should this grading option be available to all courses taught at Leeward Community College?

After debating the issue the Curriculum Committee decided, with the approval of all representatives present, that it is a grading option that should be available to all courses.

The argument against it was that sometimes students mistakenly opt for the Credit/No Credit option, which means that the course cannot be used towards the acquisition of a degree because all courses must be, graded Standard Grade A-F.

The arguments for keeping this option was as follows:

- 1) The number of students that make such a mistake was so small that it was not a significant issue.
- 2) If a mistake was made they can rectify it during the first week of the semester during the change of registration period. If they failed to do so during the first week they can still drop the course and re-register for the same course during the next two weeks so they have 3 weeks to rectify the problem.
- 3) Leeward CC has an open door policy and not having this grading option would restrict student access to education. Some people are not interesting in acquiring a degree they simply want to learn. Students who are working towards a degree would not want to risk affecting their GPA by taking a course outside their field with a letter grade option. Even though they wished to expand their knowledge they may hesitate to take a course that is difficult or different because doing poorly and getting a low grade would affect their GPA. Even though they wished to simply learn new things they may hesitate. The goal of Leeward CC is "To help people learn." Not having the Credit/No Credit option would limit access to learning.