

## Historical Timeline of plus-minus grading activities University of Wyoming Faculty Senate

- October 2008
  - Initial discussion brought before Executive Committee by Ed Janak, Member-at-Large of Executive Committee and faculty senator, who presented an informal study of schools in the region who have some form of plus/minus system.
- November 2009
  - Executive Committee discussion of plus/minus grading system
  - Jay Puckett, 2009-10 Faculty Senate chair, took a straw poll of faculty senators to determine if a plus/minus system was wanted. The non-binding vote was: 32 affirmative; 8/negative; 4/abstaining
  - Charge to Faculty Senate Student Interaction Committee from Jay Puckett to review and research instituting a plus/minus grading system, and review UW Regulation 6-404, University Undergraduate Degree Requirements.
- February 2010
  - Student Interaction Committee reported its findings and submitted proposed revisions to UW regulations pertaining to grading to include a plus/minus system.
- March 2010
  - Senate Bill 320, “A Bill to Revise UW Regulations Supporting a Plus/Minus Grading System” was brought before Faculty Senate for discussion.
- April 2010
  - Senate Bill 320 voted on by Faculty Senate: 26 in favor; 18 opposed; 2 abstentions.
- May 2010
  - Senate Bill 320 sent to UW President Buchanan for action.
  - Reported to Academics and Research Committee of UW Board of Trustees about the plus/minus grading system. Answered questions during discussion, but the topic was not presented to the full board. Concern in this committee focused on the effect of plus/minus grading on students applying to medical school.
- June 2010
  - Senate Bill 320 returned from President Buchanan who concurred with comments from Provost Allen: “ASUW voted against this proposal in April 2010. In my assessment, further discussions between Faculty Senate and ASUW are in order, to define the points of disagreement and, if possible, resolve them.”
- August 2010
  - Faculty Senate Chair (2010-11) Cindy Price met with Robert West of ASUW Academics, Technology, and Sustainability Committee to discuss a possible resolution of the concepts between Faculty Senate Bill 320 and students’ thoughts about a plus/minus grading system.
- September? 2010
  - Charge was made to the Faculty Senate Student Interaction Committee to meet with ASUW Academics, Technology, and Sustainability Committee to see if there were areas of resolution or compromise between the two groups.
- March 2011
  - Student Interaction Committee report to Executive Committee (03-28-2011).

- April 2011
  - The Faculty Senate voted, after considerable discussion, by the required three-fourths majority to re-pass Senate Bill 320 (59 of the total 63 Senators were present to vote). As per Faculty Senate Bylaws, UW Regulation 6-701, *“If the Senate repasses a bill returned by the President by a three-fourths vote of the members present and voting, the President shall refer the proposed bill to the Trustees, at their next regularly scheduled meeting, for final approval, disapproval or other disposition.”*
  - ASUW Senate Resolution #2288 – Support for switching to a plus/minus grading system. FAILED, 2-23-0 vote.
  - Prior to the Trustees’ meeting (04-29-2011), Jay Puckett (2009-10 Faculty Senate Chair) and Warrie Means (2011-12 Faculty Senate Chair) met with Megan Degenfelder (2011-12 ASUW President) and Robert West (Chair, ASUW Academics, Technology and Sustainability Committee) to brief them on Faculty Senate Bill 320 actions. They do not necessarily support the bill.
- May 2011
  - Faculty Senate Executive Committee (current, retiring, and new members) met to review plus/minus information to be presented to the UW Board of Trustees.
  - Jay Puckett (2009-10 Faculty Senate Chair), Ed Janak (Member of the Faculty Senate Student Interaction Committee), and Cindy Price (2010-11 Faculty Senate Chair) met with the UW Board of Trustees Academics and Research Committee, presenting Faculty Senate Bill 320.
  - Jay Puckett presented the information to the UW Board of Trustees at their regular meeting (05-06-2011).
  - After some discussion, the Board voted to table the issue – to be considered at a later date.
- September 2011
  - Board of Trustees meeting (09-09-2011) - *Charge to Faculty Senate and ASUW re: Plus/Minus Grading System: “Work together to come to some sort of consensus regarding the plus/minus grading system, or at least identify the major points of disagreement. Report back to the Board at the January 2012, no later than the March 2012, Board of Trustees meeting.”*
  - Meeting between Faculty Senate Executive Committee and ASUW Academics, Technology and Sustainability Committee to discuss plus/minus grading (09-26-2011)
- October 2011
  - ASUW Senate Resolution # 2327 ASUW Support of Switching to the Restructured Plus/Minus System of Grading, first reading (10-11-2011)
  - Faculty Senate Executive Committee, plus/minus grading discussion (10-17-2011)
  - ASUW Senate Resolution # 2327 ASUW Support of Switching to the Restructured Plus/Minus System of Grading, second and third readings/debate (10-18-2011). Resolution failed 20:6 votes. Faculty Senate Chair Means and Member-at Large Faculty Senate Executive Committee member Denzer attended and gave input.
  - Plus/Minus Grading update given by Warrie Means at October 31, 2011 Faculty Senate meeting. Discussion followed.

- March 2012
  - Faculty position discussed at Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting.
  - Faculty position discussed with ASUW and Staff Senate leadership, 03-21-2012.
  - Plus Minus grading on UW Board of Trustees Agenda
    - Memo to the Board of Trustees urging the Board to consider passage of Faculty Senate Bill 320, “A Bill to Revise UW Regulations Supporting a Plus/Minus Grading System” (UW Regulation 6-722: Grading system – including mid-semester and end-of-semester grades).
    - The UW Board of Trustees’ Academics and Research Subcommittee, Chaired by Trustee David Palmerlee, met the morning of Thursday March 22, 2012. The only item on the agenda was plus/minus grading.
      - Faculty Senate Executive Committee Members-at-Large Tony Denzer (Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering) and Mike Griffith (Department of Music), and Dean Rob Ettema (College of Engineering and Applied Science) attended and participated in the discussion.
      - ASUW was represented by ASUW Vice President Ty McNamee (College of Arts and Science) and Senator Kalayla Hough (College of Health Sciences), who also chairs the ASUW Academics, Technology & Sustainability Committee.
      - Trustees Lauer and MacPherson were also present.
      - A lively and thorough discussion ensued.
    - On Friday morning Chair Means made a pitch for plus/minus grading to the Board of Trustees. ASUW president Megan Degenfelder also presented the students’ perspective. Discussion in front of the full board followed.
    - The Board tabled the plus/minus issue
    - Some of the Board members wanted more information on the plus/minus grading issue – Means will provide.