Presidential Directive 6-1978-1

GRADES - Use of "X" grade in cases of suspected academic dishonesty

1. **General Information.** UW Regulations establish policies with regard to acts of academic dishonesty committed by students and includes a statement of sanctions authorizing the assignment of an "F" grade. Prior to assigning a grade of "F" for academic dishonesty, an instructor is obligated by UW Regulation to give written notice to the student and provide an opportunity for hearing. This requirement creates a situation in which academic dishonesty issues occurring at the end of a semester may not be resolved before the time at which grades must be filed by instructors.

   The use of the grade of "X" is basically a temporary grade which is authorized for use in situations described in UW Regulations. No provision is made for use of a grade of "X" pending disposition of allegations of academic dishonesty. A reconciliation of the purposes of the two referenced regulations prompts a conclusion that the use of the grade "X" is appropriate to enable completion of determinations related to academic dishonesty allegations prior to assignment of a permanent grade.

2. **Administrative Procedure.** Whenever an instructor is unable to assign a permanent grade at the time grades are to be filed with the Registrar on account of unresolved charges of academic dishonesty, the instructor shall report the facts of the situation to the Dean of Students. After consultation with the instructor as to the circumstances and status of the charge, the Dean of Students shall initiate an authorization for an "X" in the name of the involved student. The authorization form should set forth the completion of pending hearing procedures as the reason for the "X" and it should set forth under "Task to be completed" the hearing opportunity and time limits as determined by the instructor after consultation with the Dean of Students.

3. **Responsibility.** The general subject matter of assignment and recordation of grades requires actions by faculty and administrative units in accordance with various University standards and procedures which are ultimately coordinated by the Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs. Matters or issues concerning implementation of this directive should be referred to either Vice President.

Approved May 5, 1978