

Dear Adah,

As a key AS representative to the ACC and the Faculty Senate whose guidance we greatly respect, we write to ask you to work with the AS to formulate advice regarding whether P/NP grading should be extended to summer. We are seeking student feedback on this issue and would greatly appreciate the advice of the AS Senate, and students more generally.

Our decision will also be informed by advice from students in classes, and from other stakeholders--including faculty, families, and others. We will also take into consideration what the UW and other institutions in our state decide. Hence, while we cannot promise to do what the AS recommends, please know that we will weigh the advice of the AS very heavily in our decision-making. The AS is the first stakeholder group we have reached out to on this question; we sincerely want to consider your advice and counsel and hope you can provide guidance for us in a timely manner.

The decision to move to spring P/NP grading was informed by a desire to help students and faculty alike to focus on learning, rather than ranking or performance. We also made the decision mindful of inequities in student access to technology. Finally, we cannot yet guarantee the identity of students taking online exams. However, we have heard from families who feel their students would be more motivated to learn if they were graded. And we fear some students may find themselves in circumstances in which a letter grade would have been to their advantage. We ask that you consider these and other dimensions of this issue from a student perspective in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Steve VanderStaay