

COVIDUpdate Emails Regarding Pass/Fail Vol 5

Sent: Monday, April 6, 2020 5:18 PM
To: COVIDUpdate <COVIDUpdate@ccsu.edu>
Subject: Possible Pass/Fail System IMPORTANT

Hi,

I have been trying so hard to get my GPA up this semester, I've been working really hard and I currently have all A's in my classes. A pass/fail system will put my hard work at stake and I would be very disappointed if it were implemented. I know some schools are doing a pass/fail system but are letting the students choose which classes that will be apart of. Please consider this. As a hard working student this will make me lose a chance to bring my GPA up to as high as I can.

Sent: Monday, April 6, 2020 5:33 PM
To: COVIDUpdate <COVIDUpdate@ccsu.edu>
Subject: pass-fail concern

Hello to whom this may concern,

I am really concerned and really worried about the pass-fail system that the university is suggesting. This is my last semester, I am working extremely hard for the grades I have right now for them to just count as pass. I am also retaking a class that I already passed but I wanted to get a higher grade and replace it with my previous one, I literally stayed a whole extra semester for that class to earn a better grade. PLEASE don't take that right to earn a letter grade from us. Please.

Please if you wanna adjust it for those students who want the pass-fail, please also consider those students who don't want the pass-fail system. Please. Please create a system that will adjust to both sides of the spectrum. Please give each student the option to either have a pass-fail or letter grade.

I hope you understand where I am coming from.

Sent: Monday, April 6, 2020 5:38 PM
To: COVIDUpdate <COVIDUpdate@ccsu.edu>
Subject: RE: State's plans for campus

I'm not sure if this is the proper place for sounding off on plans the school has, but I'd be very open to making this semester pass/fail. I decided to move up to the New Britain area when going to CCSU instead of doing classes online because I don't handle online-only classes very well. To really learn the material I need to be in a classroom. Sadly online meetings and discussion forums aren't really a good replacement for it.

I hope everyone responsible for managing this situation is doing well, please make it a priority to get some time outdoors alone if at all possible. Many people I've talked to online seem to think we must stay in our houses and that can bring on depression very fast.

Thank you,

Sent: Monday, April 6, 2020 5:38 PM
To: COVIDUpdate <COVIDUpdate@ccsu.edu>
Subject: Question

Hello,

I received an email from the office of the president talking about a pass/fail for students being considered. I am wondering how will this work ? Because it's the first time I heard about this.

Sent: Monday, April 6, 2020 5:48 PM
To: Toro, Zulma R. (President CCSU)
Subject: Pass or Fail Concern

Dear President Toro,

I have heard from my other peers that school was planning on implementing a Pass/Fail grading system for this semester and I just wanted to express my concern for this policy. As a transfer student I have been working extremely hard to raise my GPA and adjust to my new major, as well as many other students I know who have the same concern as me. I just wanted to ask that if this policy is pushed, will it be constructed so that students who are trying to get themselves out of academic rut won't feel as if they have been cheated out of an opportunity to raise their GPA? I know you are very busy so if you have taken time to read my email, Thank you.

Date: Monday, April 6, 2020 at 7:07 PM

To: "Toro, Zulma R. (President CCSU)" <toro@ccsu.edu>

Subject: Pass/ Fail concerns

Good afternoon President Toro ,

My apologies for adding to the sea of emails i'm sure you are receiving , however I feel the need to express concerns regarding the pass/ fail grading system. Personally, I feel from the people i've spoken to the only people excited at the possibility of switching to this grading system are the same people who didn't prioritize their education before the pandemic. In contrast, my peers who i've spent endless hours studying and discussing material with as well as myself are concerned with our hard work not being represented through our GPA's. This would essentially just mean that all of this hard work would be nullified. I believe the university has done an excellent job at providing resources for students amidst the crisis for emotional, financial and educational support. Additionally, most professors have generously modified their syllabi in leu of COVID-19. I believe a grade point average should reflect the work put into a course, as well as provide a quantifiable illustration of overcoming barriers for future employers.

I hope you consider my input , but most importantly stay home and stay safe.

Date: April 6, 2020 at 10:01:03 PM EDT

To: University President <President@ccsu.edu>

Subject: Grading issue

Dear Office of the President,

I received the email about the possibility of implementing a pass-fail grading system this semester. As a post-bacc student, my grades mean a lot and I have been working really hard to keep my grades high this semester. I understand that many students may be having a hard time and why the administration would want to implement a pass-fail system. I am just asking that the administration give students the option to elect for either a letter grade or pass-fail, because a mandatory pass-fail grading system would hurt students like me who have been working hard all semester and depend on our grades for our future professional career.

Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 11:18 AM

To: COVIDUpdate <COVIDUpdate@ccsu.edu>

Cc: OfficeOfThePresident <OfficeOfThePresident@ccsu.edu>; StudentAffairs <student_affairs@ccsu.edu>; Student Government Association <StudentActivities-LeadershipDevelopment@my.ccsu.edu>; Academic Affairs <AcademicAffairs@mail.ccsu.edu>

Subject: Pass/fail grading

Good morning,

To whom it may concern, I read in the President's email the other day that the faculty senate is considering pass/fail grading for this semester because of the circumstances. I am writing this email with concerns I hope you are considering. I know this decision is not being made lightly, but I feel it is worth mentioning that obviously a lot of people have worked and continue to work very hard for their grades. Pursuing pass/fail grading takes away our incentive to create quality work. In addition to other considerations, such as good grade rewards for car insurance, people's job prospects etc. may be hindered by this. If pass/fail is implemented, please consider making it *optional*. While I am sure some students are suffering at managing this new lifestyle, others are managing okay and should be given the option to move forward as they have been.

Instead of this effort to consider pass/fail grading, I feel more should be done to support professors who are having trouble converting their classrooms, which inevitably is causing the complications that many students are having. I am close with two students that have had to repeatedly reach out to student affairs and their academic department for support, because their individual professors are neglecting to even answer emails in a timely manner. I would like to highlight that I strongly hope if this option is implemented, it will be **optional**. Thank you for addressing these concerns, I am sure many students have more.

Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 11:24 AM

To: COVIDUpdate <COVIDUpdate@ccsu.edu>; Toro, Zulma R. (President CCSU) <toro@ccsu.edu>

Subject: Grading System Pass/Fail

Hello,

I am currently a sophomore who is transferring after this semester, to pursue a major not offered at Central. If there is anything I will miss about CCSU, it would certainly be the professors. They have all been so understanding and adaptive with the current situation. All of my professors have made it clear that if anyone is facing challenges right now, whether that is from the virus or not, they should contact them and they will work together to get through this. For people with trying circumstances, professors are being cooperative in regards to grading fairly, so that the variety of disadvantages people face will not hurt their gpa.

It would not be fair to the people who have worked so hard all semester, if the grading is switched to pass/fail. It is well past the halfway point, so the majority of our grades have already been established. We paid for this semester under the impression that our grades would count, and our hard work would matter. I have just finished sending off my transfer applications, and put in a lot of effort to track down five different professors, and several administrators, to sign transfer mid term reports and a college report, all of which center around my grades. I have been stressed all year that something would affect my gpa, and this is certainly not what I had in mind after doing everything in my power to maintain high grades.

The majority of universities, and all of those that I applied to, do not accept transfer credit for classes taken pass/fail, which would essentially throw out the whole semester of time, effort, and money I have put in, and derail my graduation timeline. For anyone who plans to go to grad school, or apply for selective majors, specifically in the STEM field like myself, this will be detrimental for our applications and chances at our desired schools, regardless of what our performance in class was. Unfortunately, you cannot have a competitive application without hard, concrete numbers.

I appreciate the time you have taken to read this email, and hope that you consider the points I have made since this will continue to affect students for years to come as they apply to a variety of different programs and/or jobs.

Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 7:43 PM

To: Fallon, Marianne (Academic Affairs) <fallonmar@ccsu.edu>

Cc: COVIDUpdate <COVIDUpdate@ccsu.edu>

Subject: Re: P/F grading system

Hi Marianne,

I wanted to find out if Pass/Fail would be an option for graduate students as well. I am enrolled in one UG/G level bio course as well as a regular bio course for graduates.

Thank you for your time,

Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 8:12 PM
To: COVIDUpdate <COVIDUpdate@ccsu.edu>
Subject: Re: Pass-Fail Proposal Update

How would the pass/fail affect our gpa

Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 7:44 PM
To: COVIDUpdate <COVIDUpdate@ccsu.edu>
Subject: Pass/Fail

Since the corona virus is making the faculty senate consider the pass/fail option, will students have the option NOT to take the pass/fail grade?