Resolution 31-17

A Resolution to Create an “A+” Classification in the UGA Grade Scale Policy

Authored by: Ammishaddai Grand-Jean, SGA President

Sponsored by: Senator Zion Eberhart, At-Large

WHEREAS, the current UGA Grade Scale Policy does not include a Classification above “A;” and,

WHEREAS, the current UGA Grade Scale Policy is inconsistent in that it differentiates work deserving of a “B” or “B+”, but not an “A” or “A+;” and,

WHEREAS, the current UGA Grade Scale Policy does not provide a classification to show Grad Schools and Future Employers that a student has submitted work that exceeds the expectations of an “A;” and,

WHEREAS, an “A+” allows students’ transcripts to more accurately reflect their specializations and areas of excellence; and,

WHEREAS, most American Bar Association affiliated Law Schools require a Credential Assembly Service Report to be included in applications; and,

WHEREAS, a survey was conducted of the student body where 292 student responses were gathered; and,

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1 UGA Registrar - https://reg.uga.edu/students/grades
WHEREAS, this survey had 44.10% of 746 students responded yes they would like an A+ to be added to the grading scale, 45.58% responded no they would not like an A+ to be added to the grading scale, and 10.3% of students responded maybe; and,

WHEREAS, these 202 schools, including Harvard Law School, University of Alabama, Yale Law School, and Duke University, require students to submit their transcripts through the CAS System; and,

WHEREAS, the CAS System recalculates GPA based on their own Grade Scale which includes a 4.33 GPA for an “A+”; and,

WHEREAS, University of Georgia Students have no opportunity to benefit from this or any recalculation due to the absence of an “A+”; and,

WHEREAS, a majority of the University of Georgia’s Aspirational Peers, namely University of California Berkeley, UCLA, University of Michigan, University of Illinois, and University of Virginia, have instituted a Grade Scale containing a A+ with no GPA increase; and,

WHEREAS, five of our Comparator Peers have instituted this Grade Scale System including: Perdue University, University of California-Davis, and University of Maryland; and,

WHEREAS, because the A+ still results in a grade point average of a 4.0 there will not be distinction between students who apply for UGA programs that require grade point averages.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the 31st administration of the Student Government Association, on behalf of the student body, asks the University Council to create an

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3 Grand-Jean Survey – Qualtrics – February 2019 – See Appendix for Full Results.
5 Harvard University - https://hls.harvard.edu/dept/jdadmissions/apply-to-harvard-law-school/the-application-process
6 University of Alabama - https://www.law.ua.edu/apply
7 Yale Law School - https://law.yale.edu/admissions/jd-admissions/jd-applicants
8 Duke Law School - https://www.law.duke.edu/apply
10 Office of Institutional Research - https://oir.uga.edu/peers/aspirational
11 University of Berkley - https://registrar.berkeley.edu/faculty-staff/grading/grading-policies-reports
13 University of Michigan - http://www.umich.edu/~exp physio/mvs.241/Grading.f06.html
14 Illinois University - https://registrar.illinois.edu/courses-grades/explanation-of-grades
15 University of Virginia - http://records.ureg.virginia.edu/content.php?cato id=28&navoid=746#grad_syst
16 Office of Institutional Research - https://oir.uga.edu/peers/comparator
17 University of Purdue - https://www.purdue.edu/registrar/faculty/grading/grading-systems.html
18 University of California Davis - https://registrar.ucdavis.edu/records/transcripts/calculate-gpa
19 University of Maryland - http://registrar.umd.edu/current/Policies/acadregs.html#plusminus
“A+” Classification, coinciding with a 4.0 GPA, in the University Grade Scale Policy.