



University Student Records
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TO: Emerson Morrow, ASNMSU President

FROM: Dacia Sedillo, University Registrar

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dacia Sedillo", written over the printed name in the "FROM:" field.

DATE: January 25, 2019

SUBJECT: Fractionated Grading Policy

As University Registrar, I support ASNMSU's intent to revisit the fractionated grading policy that was adopted at the beginning of the 2013/14 academic year. Based on five years of anecdotal evidence and data, as analyzed by the Office of Institutional Analysis (OIA), it is apparent that the current grade scale is the least favorable option for students. Deflated GPAs can negatively impact students financially, through the loss of, or failure to qualify for, academic merit scholarships. Lower GPAs can also impede students' ability to qualify for selective academic programs both internal and external to NMSU.

The OIA data analysis indicates the most beneficial revision would be to increase the value of an A+ and decrease the value of a C-. Coincidentally, that would also be the easiest change for the University Student Records Office to implement. However, changing the grade scale back to the straight A, B, C, D, F scale that existed prior to Summer 2013, would not be difficult to implement either. Any change to the current grading scale would result in a modest one-time cost. The Banner student information software would need to be slightly modified and tested prior to full implementation, and new transcript paper designed and ordered.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance or if you have any specific questions not addressed herein.