



## University Financial Aid and Scholarship Services

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New Mexico State University  
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February 27, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

I write in support of the Associated Students of New Mexico State University (ASNMSU) proposal to change the NMSU grading system by removing point value from plus and minus grades.

After reviewing the research conducted by the Office and Institutional Analysis, it seems by implementing the Whole Grade Method more students will be impacted in a positive manner which would also positively impact their financial aid eligibility.

I support this proposal and its capability of raising grade point averages that can affect students' opportunities to maintain their federal student aid eligibility and retaining scholarships. Within the Office of Financial Aid, we strive to do our part to improve retention and graduation rates by offering federal, state and institutional aid to those who qualify in an efficient and timely manner. However, these awards include renewal requirements such as maintaining a high or competitive grade point averages. If students do not meet the exact GPA requirement, they will lose their aid eligibility which can negatively impact our retention and graduation rates. The proposed changes could have a positive impact on this.

In summary, I support this proposal by the ASNMSU for the New Mexico State University System to change the current Fractional Grading Method and implement the traditional Whole Grade Method. I agree with the voices of our students that our current Fractional Grading System is not serving our student population and reform is needed to improve student success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vandeem Mike".

Vandeem McKenzie, Ed.D.  
Director