

Minutes

November 9, 2000

Undergraduate Affairs Committee

Members Present: Gorvett, Laugesen, Miles, Palmore, Sowers, Tolman

Members Absent: Baym, Bennett, Evans, Murphy, Weichsel

Discussion continued concerning data the committee has obtained regarding grade distributions in undergraduate courses. There is concern on UAC both with the inflation of grades over the last several years demonstrated by the data and with large variations of grades among sections of the same course.

There was agreement that the data should be presented to the faculty, with considerable discussion as to whether UAC should at the same time express its opinion about grading trends. One concern was that if UAC expressed no opinion, some faculty might interpret the high grades currently being given as an invitation to raise their grades. It was decided that it was too late in the fall semester for grading standards to change, and that UAC should present the data to the faculty early in the spring semester. The majority opinion was that it would be best to present the data with no commentary from UAC.

Submitted by:

Joe Miles, Secretary, UAC