

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE MOTION

Submit this form to the Faculty Senate President

SUBJECT: Attendance in Face-to-Face and Hybrid Classes – Fall 2020

SENATOR PROPOSING MOTION: Anita Brown

SENATOR SECONDING MOTION:

MOTION:

In matters of attendance, including (but not limited to) grade penalties for not attending required face-to-face course sessions and for the provision of opportunities to students to make up sessions and assessments, Faculty will be guided by the yellow roster indications provided on GullNet and/or official communications from SU Cares. Using this data to implement clearly communicated and equitably applied course policies will not be grounds for a Student Academic Grievance or other actions against Faculty. Faculty will not be penalized for choosing to only provide make up opportunities to students who have been officially indicated on the roster as not cleared to attend classes for reasons other than COVID testing noncompliance.

JUSTIFICATION:

Even in week 6 of classes, multiple faculty had inconsistencies for students regarding clearance to attend classes. Students indicated they are under quarantine or for some other health reason are unable to attend class but these students are not identified on the course roster as unable to attend classes. Many of these students indicated they have contacted SU Campus Health. In addition, in some cases, students indicate SU Campus Health has given them clearance to attend classes, however the students still appear on the roster as unable to attend classes.

With multiple students in these situations, and no way for faculty to effectively verify student statements, faculty are struggling to be consistent and fair. Faculty may be spending an inordinate amount of time to attempt to correspond with students and keep track of this information.

While faculty have plans to be in accordance with the one-week absence policy, these situations are placing faculty in situations beyond the expectations of that policy. In certain courses where hands on activities, such as labs have been reduced to students attending once every three weeks, students missing one of these activities results in a critical situation for the student and the faculty.

The consideration that some students would prefer to attend classes remotely and to take assessments remotely and so may choose not to attend face to face components of classes exacerbates the situation and leads to need for consistent policy and implementation.

If this message is clear to students, then they will have to follow up with appropriate personnel to have appropriate documentation.

ANTICIPATED IMPACT:

Negative:

If the tracking and notification system is not robust, students who should miss class may experience difficulty obtaining instruction and completing assessments.

Motion Passes or Fails: Passes

Is this a recommendation to the Provost? Yes No
Is this a recommendation to someone else? No Yes, to _____