Revision to R&P 3.8.1 Definitions of Grades

Approved by unanimous vote of the Educational Policy Committee on March 18, 2020

Current R&P 3.8.1 text:

“Courses in which grades of F, W, N, X, Z, or NR are recorded do not meet prerequisite requirements.”

Approved revision to R&P 3.8.1: (Deleted text is marked with strike-through while new text is in red italic.)

Courses in which grades of F, W, N, X, Z, or NR are recorded do not meet prerequisite requirements. The parenthetical grade included with a N, X, or Z grade can be used to meet the prerequisite requirements of a course or program.

Problem: In an emergency situation – coronavirus, snowstorm, electricity outage, etc. – it is possible that a large number of students will fail to complete a substantial part of their course possibly including the final exam. And it may not be possible for most/all of these students to make up the missing element or take a makeup exam before the beginning of the next semester. According to R&P, incomplete grades do not meet prerequisite requirements which means that students will have to do late-adds after the makeup exam grades are posted. As a result, there is the possibility that they will not be able get into a needed class because it is full. This may also delay graduation.

Note: N(grade), X(grade), or Z(grade) are assigned if a student has failed to complete one or more course requirements, N(grade); the student is absent from the final exam, X(grade); or the student was both absent from the final AND failed to complete one or more course requirements, Z(grade).

The parenthetical grade is calculated assuming that the student receives a F or zero score in the missing final exam or course requirement. For example, a grade of X(C-) means that if the student fails to makeup the final exam that he or she missed then the student will receive a C-grade after the tenth day of instruction in the next academic semester. (R&P 3.8.2 and 3.8.3)