

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Amendment to Regulation 9.2 – Written Evaluations

To the Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

In 2000, UCSC adopted a revised student evaluation system that added mandatory letter grades (previously optional) to the existing performance evaluation system. It has now been ten years since that modification. Across the divisions, conversations have been occurring that consider the size and scope of written performance evaluations.

It is evident from these many discussions that there is much of value in this assessment method and that for some courses and instructors, written performance evaluations are closely integrated into the pedagogical framework. Campus-wide discussions also reveal that for some courses narrative evaluations do not add value to the learning experience nor help create a meaningful record of student performance. Support for, as well as opposition to, the current system is, at best, only loosely correlated with course size, or upper-division versus lower-division. The appropriate and meaningful use of narrative evaluations is contingent upon the degree to which the instructor incorporated the end-of-term assessment into the overall pedagogical approach.

After carefully hearing the concerns of students, alumni, teaching faculty and staff, the Senate Executive Committee now puts forward a change to the regulations that makes undergraduate narrative evaluations instructor-optional. The Committee on Education Policy has endorsed this proposal.

Moving to an optional narrative evaluation system eliminates the need for the elaborate accountability structure mandated by our Campus Academic Personnel Manual 006.000.

Current wording

9.2 Written Evaluations.

9.2.1 At the end of the term, each instructor teaching a credit-granting course shall prepare a written evaluation for each student who receives a grade of P, A, B, C, or D in his or her class. The narrative evaluation must evaluate the quality and characteristics of the student's performance in the class. (Refer to *CEP Advisory Guidelines on Writing Narrative Evaluations.*)

9.2.2 Evaluations are to be filed with the Registrar and the student's college at the time of filing the end-of-term course reports or no later than 15 working days after the close of the term. The college makes available one of its copies to the student and one to the

Proposed wording

9.2 Instructor-optional Written Evaluations.

9.2.1 At the end of the term, each instructor teaching a credit-granting course **shall has the option to** prepare a written evaluation for **any each** student ~~who receives a grade of P, A, B, C, or D~~ in his or her class. The narrative evaluation must evaluate the quality and characteristics of the student's performance in the class. (Refer to *CEP Advisory Guidelines on Writing Narrative Evaluations.*)

~~**9.2.2** Evaluations are to be filed with the Registrar and the student's college at the time of filing the end-of-term course reports or no later than 15 working days after the close of the term. The college~~

student's adviser.	makes available one of its copies to the student and one to the student's adviser.
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Respectfully submitted,

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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