

2018-2019 Year-End Com ST/CS0 csBao

semester following the term in question).

7. When students are penalized for expressing opinions.

8. When students are given to understand that they are removed from a course without due process of a hearing.

Area	Petitions Received
Business	1
Health and Human Sciences	1
Education	0
Engineering	31
Humanities & the Arts	3
Prof'l and Global Education	1
Science	3
Social Sciences	0
Student Affairs	0
Academic Affairs	0
Total	40

Case Detail by Petition Number

1819-01	Grade Appeal/Dispute	LLD 100A Hearing held; SFC found in favor of student.
1819-02	Grade Appeal/Dispute	ISE 200 Informal resolution.
1819-03	Grievance	BUS 173A Informal resolution following committee discussion.

1819-04
through
1819-26,
1819-34
through
1819-37

1. Three new grade disputes have already been submitted via the Ombuds for the Spring 2019 semester.

Please return to the Office of the Academic Senate (ADM 176/0024) by June 4, 2019.

1. Introductions
2. Review of the Agenda

						College	Semester Taken
1819-01	11/27/201 8 2:30 pm	Grade Appeal/Dispute	NA	Linguistics and Language			

**STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2018**

I. Present: Bettencourt, Randev, Sorkhabi, Cooper, Harris, Zhao, Rivera, Morales, Najib, Abdelhadi, Galindo, Cohen

Absent: Castillo, Sanchez-Cruz, Main, Lilenthal, Pruthi, Gonzales, Heredia

Recorder: Jessica Randev

Meeting Started at 3:05 PM

II. Updates:

1819-01; The student in question filed a grade dispute for the following reasons. The student environment to take the exam in the time allotted. The exam was not graded due to two reasons: having been completed in pencil when the instructions say to use blue or black ink, and because the student submitted the exam later than the allotted time frame. The student, however, claims the professor insisted the use of a pencil would suffice and the exam was turned in late due to walkin70 the instructor was not present to take the exam.

Vote: Yes: 11

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of Meeting notes from 12/5/2018
3. Case updates 1819-01

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-01	11/27/2018 8 2:30 pm	Grade Appeal/Dispute	NA	Linguistics and Language Development Department			



**STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 6, 2019**

I. Present: Bettencourt, Randev, Skovran, Cohen, Sorkhabi, Wang, Harris, Rivera, Najib, Khalil, Gonzales, Lilienthal.

Absent: Cooper, Erdogan, Morales, Zhao, Abdelhadi, Galindo

Recorder: Jessica Randev

Meeting Started at 3:10 PM

II. Updates:

1819-01; The student in question filed a grade dispute for the following reasons. The student requested to take the final exam earlier than when it was scheduled due to unforeseen circumstances, to which the instructor agreed. The instructor did not have a set place for the student to take the exam, so the student opted to look for a suitable environment to take the exam in the time allotted. The exam was not graded due to two reasons: having been completed in

pencil when the instructions say to use blue or black ink, and because the student submitted the exam later than the allotted time frame. The student, however, claims the professor insisted the use of a pencil would suffice and the exam was turned in late due to walking back to the instructor's office and due to a walking disability. The student states that they had slid the exam under the door since the instructor was not present to take the exam.

Upon further investigation, it was discovered the disability was brought to the instructor's attention prior to the exam, despite not being officially registered with the school. The student in question also never received their exam score. The committee has decided to further investigate and meet with both parties.

III. New Cases

1819-03; Student seeking grade dispute due to course syllabus not indicating that +/- grades would be given. Student received a grade with a minus. SFC has had prior cases similar to this one and feels there has been a precedent, however, the SFC feels it would be best to first pursue an informal resolution by

having the ombudsperson reach out to the department chair.

1819-Class 202; The case involves a handful of students with questions in regards to the grades they received. It has come to the committees attention that canvas was not used for grading purposes and not all assignments were graded for all students; some students had some assignments graded while others did not. The students also stated that the grading methods were changed after assignments were submitted, and some assignments that were not worth credit in the start for the course were later changed to be worth credit. This was done without updating the course syllabus, but students were notified of this change after the semester had ended. The instructor was not responsive to students inquiries over the break. Upon further investigation, it was brought to light that the instructor kept two separate grade books, but the students were not aware of their scores. The committee's recommendation is to have the department look over this issue and to see what can be done before it comes back to the committee if it needs to at that point.

IV. Adjourned

4:30 PM

1. 1819

-03	1/15/2019 10:50:08	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Spring 19	Corporate Accounting and Finance	Bus1 173A	College of Business	Fall 2018
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5. CMPE 202 cases 1819-4 through 1819-26

6. New Petitions

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-27	2/10/2019 14:44:03	Grade Appeal/Dispute	2 or More Semest ers	Computer Science	CS151	College of Science	Fall 2018
1819-28	2/18/2019 17:35:07	Grade Appeal/Dispute	Fall 2020	Computer Egineering	CMPE 127- Microprocessor Design	College of Engineering	Fall 2018

SFC Meeting Dates 6-Mar, 20-Mar, **10-Apr**, 17-Apr, 1-May



**STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 20, 2019**

- I. **Present:** Bettencourt, Randev, Gonzales, Cooper, Morales, Zhao, Skovran, Cohen, Sorkhabi, Wang, Harris, Rivera, Najib, Abdelhadi, Galindo, Khalil, Lilienthal.

Absent:

Recorder: Jessica Randev

Meeting Started at 3:14 PM

- II. Updates:

1819-01; Upon interviewing the student, it's become evident to the fairness committee that the pencil/pen dispute is an issue that will go unresolved due to it being a matter of "he said/she said". The committee also speculates that the exam wasn't even graded by the instructor because it wasn't written in pencil, like he would have preferred. The exam was left under the door, after the student had completed it, but the instructor was not present and had left, to reiterate, he had not proctored the exam. The fairness committee's suggestion at this point is to have the student be graded out of 70% of the coursework, excluding the final exam, as it's a matter of fault by the student according to the professor, but also the professors mistake for not proctoring the exam, where the entire pen/pencil issue could have been avoided.

Vote: Yes: 12

No: 0

Abstain: 0

1819-03; Review of Dept chairs response regarding the determination of the student's grade. Ombudsperson will reach out to the student to discuss options as her grade dispute may not have an outcome that would benefit her. Ombudsperson will also reach out to the department chair to clarify if 4% curve was given to all students.

1819-Class 202; The case involves 23 students with questions in regards to the grades they received. It has come to the committees attention that canvas was not used for grading purposes and not all assignments were graded for all students; some students had some assignments graded while others did not. The students also stated that the grading methods were changed after assignments were submitted, and some assignments that were not worth credit in the start for the course were later changed to be worth credit. This was done without updating the course syllabus, but students were notified of this change after the semester had ended. The instructor was not responsive to students inquiries over the break. Upon further investigation, it was brought to light that the instructor kept two separate grade books, but the students were not aware of their scores. The committee's recommendation is to redirect it to the department, and have the department handle the student's issue and the issue the instructor has in regards to the outcome as well.

III. New Cases

1819-27; This case in short is about a grade dispute where a student was expecting a higher grade than what was given. An extra credit opportunity was presented which would result in participants having a 10% increase to their overall grade. The student reached out to the professor multiple times about a concern of failing the course, but the instructor reassured her saying she would pass, given that she had already completed the extra credit opportunity. In the end, the student did not pass the class, and the instructor was not responsive about

why, until a much later date where the amount of the extra credit was changed from 10% to 10 points. There is also a concern with other students who have the same issue, but are concerned that if they proceed, the instructor will lower their course grade. A subcommittee has been formed to look into the matter: Elizabeth (Betsy) Skovran (faculty) Sonja Lilienthal (faculty) and Aya Abdelhadi (Student rep).

**STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 6, 2019**

I. Present: Bettencourt, Cohen, Lilienthal, Sorkhabi, Skovran, Cooper,

students in question, the committee's recommendation is to have the chair intervene and discuss the issue as we are unsure of when the professor will be available to meet and go over the disputes.

1819-27; The members of the committee met with the instructor and would like to note that the instructor was being very difficult in terms of talking about the dispute. It was pointed out how this change in grading was a violation of university policy, but the instructor defends themselves saying that the 10 points were given but it was not made clear how they would be applied. Other students have come forward with complaints of how there was no extra credit opportunity offered for students unable to take the trip to Oracle, and how during the time of the final, the instructor was one hour late but didn't give the students the extra time to take their exam.

New Cases:

1819-29 and 1819-31; A grade dispute by two different students in regards to the same professor mentioned in 1819-27. The committee needs a copy of the spreadsheet that included all of the grades. There is sufficient evidence to recommend that the department chair

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of Meeting notes from 2/20/2019
3. Case updates 1819-27

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major		
						College of Science Fall 2018

4. **CMPE 202 cases**

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of Meeting notes from 3/6/2019
3. Computer Engineering Chair, Dr. Su 3:30. Discussion about 202 cases
4. Case updates 1819-27, 1819-29
5. Case updates 1819-28, 1819-30
6. New Petitions

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College
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STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE

stated in the syllabus but that has not been accepted as of yet. In addition, there are cases of retaliation coming about, for which a hearing will be held during the next meeting.

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of minutes from 3/20/2019
3. Case updates 1819-31, 1819-32, 1819-33
- 4.



**STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
April 17, 2019**

Members Present: Cohen, Cooper, Gonzales, Harris, Lilienthal, Morales, Rivera, Sorkhabi, St. John, Zhao

Also Present: Randev

Recorder: St. John

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:15 pm.
- II. Updates:

1819-27; There is still an ongoing dispute about the extra credit counting as 10 points vs. the original 10%. The committee has requested that the grading changes be applied to what was originally stated in the syllabus but that has not been accepted as of yet. In addition, there are cases of retaliation coming about. The professor has used the word “abuse” in relation to students pursuing her for answers.

Hearing from this conflict including grades being erased from Canvas and his subsequent attempt to contact the professor for an explanation and a grade breakdown. The professor refused to meet with him and asked him to “stop contacting [me],” and was unwilling to provide a grade breakdown or explain the discrepancy between his expected grade and final grade. While he was not in danger of not passing as some

classmates were, he did feel this was unjust. He could not access any Canvas information, but was able to reference previous emails with lab grades. He pointed this out to the professor, who alleged that these discoveries proved that his in-class labs were late, and asked if he wanted to have them regraded upon which point he would be given a zero. (In fact, these were in-class assignments that were granted extra time, so while technically "late," the extra time was permitted by the instructor.) In January, when the grade breakdown was finally obtained, it was incorrect because it was missing 5 points of extra credit that had been previously awarded to a lab that the student did not earn full credit on due to an optional presentation the student completed. Relating to the case at hand with the Oracle event extra credit, the instructor opted not to assign the additional ten points and to instead convert some grades from B to B+, etc, without

1. Review of the Agenda
2. Review of minutes from 4/17/2019
3. Case updates: 1819-28; 1819-30
4. Case updates and next steps regarding CS 151/157
5. Case updates and review of recommendation regarding CSME 202
6. New Petitions

Case #	Date Filed	Dispute/Grievance	Grad Date	Major	Course in Question	College	Semester Taken
1819-35	4/22/2019	Grade Appeal/Dispute	2 or More Semesters	English	English 1A	Humanities and the Arts	Fall 2018

**STUDENT FAIRNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
April 24, 2019**

Members Present: Cohen, Cooper (virtual), Harris, Lilienthal, Rivera, Sorkhabi, St. John, Alejandra, Abdelhadi, Skovran

Also Present: Randev

Recorder: Randev

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:10 pm.
- II. New Cases:

1819-35; Grade dispute. The course is graded out of 100%, but the syllabus shows the total percentages of assignments to total 90%. The professor has been difficult in regards to communication. There is also an issue in regards to the grading of participation that needs to be addressed.

Vote to take the case: Yes: 8

No: 0

Abstain: 0

- III. Updates

1819-27; The committee discussed the hearing that took place in the prior meeting and came to find out that all of the information that was giving to us during the hearing was contradicting to what was stated to the suygmt(t)-1.9 (r)1.5 1 (per)/ 0 Tc 0 Tw (-)Tj3-1 (perY c)-4 35s 0g ta

will request for the Canvas records to see what changes, if any, were made to the students overall grades and if they align with the weighted value stated in the syllabus. All of that aside, there is still an issue of how there is a possible case of retaliation due to the

No: 0
Abstain: 1

V. Adjourned 5:05 PM

1. 3:00pm: Call to order and review of the agenda
2. 3:15pm: Hearings from students Worley (1819-30) and Kaiser (1819-28)
3. Review of minutes from 4/24/2019
4. Case updates and next steps regarding CS 151/157 (Instructor Tarnowska) from the subcommittee
5. Case update 1819-35 (Student Lee) from the subcommittee (if any)
6. New Petitions: no new petitions have been filed with the SFC since the last meeting.

SFC Meeting Dates: The Committee will reconvene on Wednesday, September 4th and meet every two weeks

