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Faculty Senate Resolution 05-04

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**Faculty Senate Resolution 05-04: Clarification of Grade Appeal Policy
Presented to the LSU Faculty Senate October 12th 2004**

by
Claire Advokat

Whereas, standards of instruction at Louisiana State University are properly determined by the faculty, subject to the authority of the Board of Supervisors, and

Whereas, the American Association of University Professors supports this policy, and states that the assignment of particular grades is a right that flows from a “teacher’s freedom in the classroom,” and that administrators should not “substitute their judgment for that of the faculty concerning the assignment of a grade,” and,

Whereas, the present grade appeal policy of Louisiana State University, as described in the General Catalog, undermines this authority by stating that, in the event of a grade dispute, “the Chair shall make a decision.”

Therefore, be it Resolved that the grade appeal policy of Louisiana State University, as proposed in the general catalog, be revised to include the following statement:

In the absence of extenuating circumstances *pertaining to the academic standards of the course*, or of *demonstrable unfairness in regard to the student’s performance in the course*, the decision of the course instructor will stand and shall not be overturned by administrative fiat. Such administrative action will constitute evidence of “*abuse of discretionary authority*” and will not be considered a legitimate prerogative of the Chair, the Dean or any other administrative official.