Resolution of Support for the Spring 2020 Pass/Fail Grade Option Proposal

WHEREAS, the rapid evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the Virginia Commonwealth University community in an unprecedented way;

WHEREAS, the members of the VCU community (students, faculty, staff, administrators) stepped forward to create and join ad-hoc committees during Spring Break and provided significant contributions to address this situation;

WHEREAS, due to the near-instantaneous move from on-campus instruction to remote/online instruction, many faculty and students have been placed into unfamiliar environments for instruction and learning;

WHEREAS, VCU desires to maintain its commitment to student success while simultaneously providing minimal barriers to students during a rapidly changing and stressful situation;

WHEREAS, students who withdraw from courses face challenges in completing their courses of study on time, if at all;

WHEREAS, pass/fail, satisfactory/unsatisfactory, and similar grading options already exist and are currently applied to some courses at VCU;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of Virginia Commonwealth University applauds the effective implementation of shared governance through this process and provides its support for the Spring 2020 Pass/Fail Grade Option proposal, ver. 3.25.20.

Approved by the Faculty Senate on 26 March 2020.