Faculty begins debate on grading

REPORT TO THE FACULTY
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON GRADING

MARCH 15, 1978

By Jordessa Hullander

The Ad Hoc faculty committee report on grading was for discussion at Wednesday's faculty meeting, but no definite conclusions were made.

Professor of Management Zenon Zannetos, chairman of the Committee opened the discussion with background remarks on his committee's three proposals. He stressed that the committee was a "creature of the faculty" andfunctioned to provide information to the faculty for their consideration.

Zannetos said that despite disagreements in grading policy, a "vital" point in their report was to provide more information about student performance than the letter grade alone.

The report recommended placing grade distributions on students' transcripts and making available a summary of comments for five percent of each class. Faculty objections on the grounds that these measures would adversely affect both student-faculty relationships and grading standards were brought up, but no definite conclusions were made.

Assistant Professor of Humanities Sherri Turkle, chairwoman of the Committee on Grading, countered that meaningful grades were grading systems which could determine the outcome of tests.

Turkle argued that the committee's proposals were a "vital" point in the report and that the grades would not be used to penalize students.

The committee's proposals included a system of "distinction" and "credit" for students who performed well in their classes. However, no definite conclusions were made on these proposals.

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