

CAS Statement on W and Medical Leave Policies

After listening to the recent faculty-list email debate about the College's current withdrawal (W / WF) policies, CAS has reexamined these policies closely. Statistical data from the Office of the Registrar and Institutional Research helped us in this process.

CAS believes that the current W/WF policy, established in 1999 and articulated in the CAS Operating Code and the College Catalog, continues to be the best way to accommodate the sometimes conflicting principles of student initiative and faculty control of grades. The current policy allows students to initiate a withdrawal request for any class, and yet also allows a faculty member or an academic advisor to decline to endorse that request. CAS respects that faculty members and academic advisors will sometimes have legitimate reasons to deny requests for withdrawals, and that faculty members and advisors also want to assist students with making appropriate choices. In the vast majority of cases, this policy m