

Free Response Results Referendum I

Spring 2009 Elections Princeton USG

Which of the following best describes your overall attitude towards the way top-level administrators in Nassau Hall and West College have been running Princeton? If you wish to do so, please explain your views:

Grade deflation is wrong. So are the harsh penalties for honor code violations.

The social relationship between the Nassua Hall and the eating clubs is unacceptable. The university should support the eating club system as it makes Princeton unique in the Ivy League.

I dislike the disregard with which the view of the general student body is treated, and I really dislike several recent decisions: Implementation of the 4"-year college system, Public Safety weekend party patrols, new RCA guidelines, grade deflation and the decision to get rid of any possibility to apply early to Princeton.

Grade deflation; removal of any early"-application program (why not EA?)

The type of student accepted has been dramatically changing. I feel well rounded leaders are no longer being accepted. Athletic prowess, social ability and leadership potential are sacrificed in order to accept the students with solely academic excellence. It has lad to a dramatic shift in the student body, feel of the campus, networking, and my educational experience.

I approve of the steps being done to increase the effectiveness of the grade deflation policy, because I think at its root it is a worthy initiative and goal, provided that it is implemented well. I disapprove of the administration s decision to not hire visiting professors across the board. There are no longer any options for me or any of the other interested students to continue in the study of the Swahili language. I think the administration is misgauging the interest that exists among members of the student body in the field of African studies.

Except for grade deflation...

grade deflation, disciplinary process

Especially regarding grade deflation"- it seems as though the administrators are unwilling to listen to the student population

I think the way the university handles the honor code, and grade deflation

Maintaining a dedication to financial aid shows strong decisiveness and commitment where it is most needed.

Grade Deflation is simply poor educational policy. It is shocking that a great institution such as Princeton would employ such a policy.

All they do is eliminate fun: Removal of eating club officers from room draw. Stricter enforcement of tailgates which will lead to the end of tailgates. Changing of eating club pickups. Having students patrol registered parties for underage drinking.

Shirley Tilghman's historic decisions of protecting financial aid in times of economic crisis and focusing on the internationalization of the student body are to be praised. However, the university's approach to campus safety and its inability to direct Public Safety to protect the student body from harm as opposed to harrasing students in their moments of recreation is highly dissapointing.

Cutting PACE's budget: ridiculous Our contract with Labyrinth: horrible

Good job on maintaining and expanding financial aid. But more aid for summer study abroad and language acquisition!! Axe some of the free T-"shirts, maybe?

I think the grade deflation policy should be changed.

The administration has been rigidly dismissive of the concerns of abstinent students over the hostility of the campus culture at large. There is evident necessity for a university"-sponsored center for such students, similar to those that currently exist for female students, internationals, and homosexuals. If these minority groups, based upon immutable inherent difference in the former two and sexual conduct in the latter, warrant such consideration, surely abstinent students, another minority based upon decisions regarding sexual conduct, should receive equitable and similar treatment.

Grade deflation is a misguided and poorly executed policy.

It doesn't seem like student input is considered or understood.

Grading policy...again.

the grade"-deflation makes the school look elitist. or, more so than it already does. it also hurts the students...

Grade deflation fosters competition and is a detriment to student life on campus. There is a reason why no other Ivy has adopted similar policies.

Stop grade deflation.

changes in princeton's alcohol policy have led to an unhealthy and unsafe drinking atmosphere on campus.

I think the current policies encourage binge drinking in rooms because of the pressure being placed on the eating clubs. I also feel the grading policy disservices the student body.

I very much hope that President Tilghman issue a strong statement calling HEI to recognize their employees' rights.

They seem very unreceptive to student concerns and don't seem to have made good decisions on Spelman Housing, grade deflation, lack of early decision, etc...

Grade deflation and social engineering

Top level administrators do not really care about the current student body. They are more interested in the way that Princeton looks to outsiders. While this is important, it should not be the only goal.

Prospective students are being discouraged by the talk of grade inflation and how much harder it is for Princeton graduates to get into good graduate schools because of our lower grades.

There seems to be an anti-"eating club" bias in recent policies, including new/"renovated" buildings almost exclusively belonging to res. colleges, as well as attempted annexations.

I strongly oppose grade deflation.

GRADE DEFLATION

No one else has adopted grade deflation and apparently employers don't know a thing about it, despite the delusional promises of the Princess of Darkness, Dean Malkiel. This policy harms Princeton students in the competition with students from other schools. It also takes a horrible toll on the undergraduate experience, forcing later nights, less sleep and more stress. I can only ask, why? What possible good has this policy accomplished?

they have been sucking

Harsh disciplinary actions against internationals should be reconsidered. The implications for internationals of equivalent charges might actually be far worse than they are for American citizens when an international student gets suspended from school.

Administrators do what makes their lives easier, regardless of the welfare of the student body. The incidents with regard to "public safety" demonstrate the utter indifference of the Administration to the concerns of the student body. Why is it that when a few kids are drunk, there are five public safety officers at the scene, but when a student is being sexually assaulted it takes 15 minutes for public safety to respond to an emergency call? Public Safety needs to be reformed in three ways. First, its budget needs to be expanded to provide more night patrols. Second, Public Safety needs to reorder its priorities to focus on protecting the campus from outside threats, rather than policing the students. Third, strong specific constitutional"-style restraints need to be added to Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities to prevent an expanded Public Safety from becoming an oppressive presence on campus.

The University is very wasteful, yet charges an enormous tuition and does nothing to reduce textbook prices and other basic costs.

Grade deflation is really irritating but the financial aid moves are helpful.

The grade deflation policy is ridiculous. This administrative attempt to control the grading policies of professors is out of the bounds of their jurisdiction. They should leave grade discretion up to professors and allow for more nuanced policies toward grading. Additionally, Dean Malkiel refuses to acknowledge the ways in which grade deflation is hurting Princeton students. She cites the top students at Princeton (such as the Rhodes Scholars) as being evidence that these policies are not affecting students. A logical analysis would have to do a side by side comparison of Princeton second and third quintile students with those at Harvard and Yale.

I think that they should rethinking their stance towards grade deflation.

They are trying to get rid of the eating clubs! That is crap!

I think the recent incidents involving possible threats to students where public safety has not appeared to be very effective is highly concerning. Especially when they make such an effort to break up room "parties" where 10 people are there.

I believe that the way the Committee on Discipline conducts business should be reviewed.

Grade deflation is an epic fail I really think they need to revise the academic standards of Princeton.

GRADE DEFLATION and general unwillingness to take student input seriously on many issues; even though they ask for student input, they don't seem to give it much consideration.

No one is perfect, and while the administration certainly has a few things that it could and should work out, for the most part it seems that everything at Princeton is going smoothly, and that administrators are working with student leaders to try to address student concerns.

boo grade deflation!!!!!!!111one

Grade deflation

Grade Deflation Higher Admissions Rate Honor Code Policy

Fine, except for attitudes towards drinking and the eating clubs. drinking should not be punished so harshly and should be instead looked at as an integral part of college that should be safe and controlled.

I believe that administrators have not listened to student input or student concerns. I (and I believe many other students) think that the administration tends to introduce a new policy as a mandate or a fait accompli. I'm particularly unimpressed with grade deflation, which I think has increased the competitive atmosphere among undergraduates to the detriment of the learning experience.

Although in general I am content with the way the administration has been running Princeton, I do have a few complaints: 1) My biggest complaint-"I absolutely hate the financial aid office for unfairly punishing honest, hard-working, middle class families who have saved for college. 2) The grade deflation policy is vague and ambiguous. 3) The "co-mingled" housing idea for students returning to campus early next year is silly.

grade deflation. it isn't working-"when are you all going to finally see this?"

grade deflation sucks.

I struggle to understand how the administration's decisions and actions could be construed as anything but harmful to the student body. The administration consistently pursues policies that do nothing but make students miserable and refuse to acknowledge or engage with student opinion. Between grade deflation, writing seminars, and the general atmosphere on campus, I sincerely regret my decision to attend Princeton, especially as it is run by Dean Malkiel et al.

Grade deflation in a culture where high grades are an expectation yet at the same time an impossibility, grade deflation causes many students to distrust their own ability. Furthermore, grade deflation encourages study in a limited sphere - the sphere is which one can get good grades in - which is in contradiction to the goals of a liberal arts education. Pace center at a school where students are apathetic and distant from those less fortunate, community service initiatives should be a priority. Slashing funding for the Pace Center therefore seems to make no sense.

The grade deflation policy is awful, I am a good student and I get good grades but it fosters a competition that is unhealthy and does not encourage working together. More than that it hurts graduates as they try to make their way in a world that simply does not recognize the difference between Princeton grading and other schools' systems. I feel like student views on this topic go unrecognized yet the fact that no other school has implemented a system like Princeton's suggests how ridiculous it is. In a recent article one administrator said students have lost the value of a B. Have they considered that the job market, graduate school admissions and other programs do not recognize the value of a B? Why would a university implement a policy that hurts their students and why is the USG not criticizing this? I ask that you survey undergraduates and professors and see how many actually like grade deflation as a policy. It's too late for us but do something before it's too late for future students!

Fess up when you screw up, please. Feels like the Bush administration. No one followed your lead on grade deflation - why can't you just acknowledge this instead of dancing around it with political spin and bullshit? The letter you attach with transcripts - well, first of all, employers are busy and barely give your resume any of their time, so to think they'll bother with the letter is naive - and moreover it's carefully worded and hedges. It basically says, maybe we grade way harder, maybe we don't. Grad schools aren't going to treat a Princeton 3.28 like a Yale 3.51, but they should. The acceptance rate didn't go up (while Yale's, Harvard's, and Brown's went down) just by chance. I am very unsatisfied here, and I tell kids who visit me and visit Princeton that their four years would be better spent somewhere else. Some of them probably respect and listen to my advice. You guys are screwing up, and if you aren't going to listen to our advice, you may as well at least admit you're screwing up and gain some of our respect. Because right now you have none of it, and that's why I'm going abroad all of next year.

The administration has consistently made decisions to deteriorate the quality of life of the average Princeton student. Restoring the school's social life should be seen as important in keeping the students happy.

We re entered a legalistic era where fun is no longer allowed.

Most of what our administration has done has been well thought out, but the blatant disregard of student concerns over grade deflation has been disappointing. If Nassau Hall more aggressively publicized the policy, or could convince other schools to follow suit, it might be

justifiable, but at the moment it disadvantages students without serving any strong material purpose.

Grade deflation policy is failing, and Malkiel/Tilghman are too proud to take back their poor decision.

They don't seem to understand what makes life at Princeton great

Grade deflation-"all of us have worked so hard to get here, what is so wrong about us receiving more A's for our work?

The destruction of valuable traditions destroys our ties with both alums and our peer institutions. Please put a stop to this 4 year residential college nonsense, and restore early decision. If pickups and tailgates are banned by this administration, I will consider transferring schools.

Grade deflation and the war on fun.

PSAFE can suck my dick. Seriously: GUNS??!! Random patrols? There needs to be some serious reform there. They are running this school into the goddamn ground. This environment shit is ridiculous and I can't believe anyone is buying the hype. The budget is shook to death and they're taking it out on the students.

Why are they increasing our class size when money and resources could be spent bettering student organizations and increasing the quality of life of the students already here?

The elimination of early move-in before the fall semester makes me think that administrators don't listen to students at all. (I'm glad they gave Spelman back, though.)

I feel that the administration is engaged in an all-out war on student happiness.

grading policy"- idea didn't catch on, don't stay the course

They hate fun

All in all, I think top-level administrators have done a good job. However, I think there needs to be a continued discussion to improve the administration's policy on grade deflation and its attitude towards the eating clubs.

I've decided I don't like grade deflation.

Alcohol policy is ridiculous and crack down by Public safety on room parties is unreasonable. also why are you making the school bigger leave it the way it is

They gave away P-Rides jobs without giving us sufficient notice or finding its student workers employment elsewhere.. They won't listen to students views on the issue of finals before winter break!

Grade Deflation Budgetary allocation (PACE center, etc...) Halal and Kosher food in dining halls

The administration are continuing policies (ie. grade deflation) that drive away prospective students from Princeton. Also, I feel that the administration is not making its best recruiting effort either.

Where do I even start? The gigantic waste of money that is the future arts complex. Grade deflation. The ridiculous residential college system as an attempt to kill the Street. The deplorable conditions in upperclass housing. The unequal allocation of resources among residential colleges. Cutting funds to many small, yet critical academic departments and centers.

grade deflation sucks, at least like tell everyone about it

Grade deflation should end.

Stop grade deflation and stop demonizing alcohol use.

Students, other schools, and students potential employers should be notified properly about grade deflation. Public safety should also respond better to criminals on campus, as shown by recent events.

The student body needs to be kept small in order to maintain an intimate setting.

Grade deflation

My biggest problem with the administration is the grade deflation policy. I understand the mathematical justification (with grade deflation each grade carries more information) but the purpose of this University is to educate, not accurately evaluate, its students. Grade deflation institutionalizes competition over collaboration.

The administration makes decisions with little or no student input and without regard for the students, for example, the decision to disallow early move"-in next fall, and continued grade deflation despite widespread student dissatisfaction and no evidence to its virtues.

They have consistently not solicited student input and made unilateral decisions that are extremely unpopular among students. In my opinion, these decisions have also negatively impacted the undergraduate experience here at Princeton. The administration also seems extremely opposed to any kind of change.

This is a stupid question"- everyone is going to say something negative even if theyve been doing a great job.

doing away early decision was a horrible idea!

Lack of effort in explaining the grade deflation policy to other institutions. Simply sending letters is not enough to explain the policy, considering most of the letters could get discarded before reaching the appropriate person. The student body is working hard to reach the high standards set by West College, however, West College has fallen short in their effort.

Grade deflation is a terrible idea. There is not enough support for the eating clubs.

Discrepancy between statements and reality regarding grade deflation. If you are going to get other schools to enact similar policies, let s see some results. In the meantime, why not just tell

professors to hold generally higher standards for work, rather than demanding compliance with arbitrary statistics?

They're completely absent from our lives, except when they make blanket policies like the permission form for enrolling in grad classes (when instead of emailing us themselves they refer us to a brochure or something).

I believe that all of our leaders are doing very well with the exception of the admissions department. In the universities attempt to diversify the student body they have only concentrated on certain aspects. This has greatly hurt many of the athletic teams on campus at both the club and varsity level. If one group is increased as another is sacrificed we are not improving diversity, but merely moving the concentrations of students around.

I can't believe we're sticking to this grade deflation policy when no other university is following suit. It really cannot help us.

Grade deflation is a failed policy and should be acknowledged as such. It has directly contributed to our worsening (increasing) acceptance rate.

Tilghman and Malkiel have a vision of Princeton that is radically different from what most students want or see as conducive to their own happiness. And because the USG is so weak, they're able to enact their vision without needing to seek student input, relying on the brief nature of institutional memory. I'm told that Princeton used to have a reputation as a fun school to attend; that's slowly dying due to grade deflation and the fact that the admissions committee is increasingly prioritizing academic success over being well-"rounded.

They have been slowly eroding traditions that have made Princeton the university it is today

It's unclear that high-"level employers and grad schools really care that we are deflating our grades: they compare us with everyone else anyway. I believe this harms undergraduates' chances in entering the highest level of post-"undergraduate opportunities.

Implementing the grade deflation policy without a comprehensive strategy for mitigating its negative effects on students and without seriously taking into account student opinion seems to have been a poor decision, and the administration doesn't appear to be taking adequate steps to remedy it.

Grade deflation was the biggest administrative flub potentially in the school's history.

I have never yet heard a convincing argument in favor of grade deflation.

Grade Deflation.

I also think that the USG has just been a pawn of the administration since Lenahan left. Everything the USG has proposed this year is just taking away from students to make the administration happy (giving up the grade deflation fight, suggesting limits on printing, trying to donate lawn parties funds). The entire organization should be disbanded, starting with CDY.

More support for Club Sports. Get the other ivies to join in grade deflation and cutting early decision.

The push for Residential Colleges is fine, but it should not be done at the cost of traditional upperclassmen housing. Bribing people into Whitman won't create the atmosphere you are seeking, instead you should focus on integrating student experiences and projects that will benefit all students.

President Tilghman is doing all she can with what she has. I'm proud of how she handles adversity.

Little interaction with student body. There should be more informal conversation opportunities with top-level administrators to allow students to actually converse and debate ideas with the administration before being presented with de facto policies.

I think Pres. Tilghman, Vice President Durkee and others have done a great job of weathering the recession, but I disapprove of the grade deflation policy of Dean Malkiel and the lack of transparency in admissions with Dean Rapelye.

I do not like grade deflation.

What, exactly, is a top-level administrator?

I don't really know what top-level administrators in Nassau Hall and West College do... Maybe more transparency is needed?

grade deflation is bullshit. I'm tired of being penalized because I write a great essay that gets read after some kid with no life who spent 6 weeks writing his gets his graded a B. obviously my "normal" essay can't compare to this overachiever who gets his read first, so I get a B- or worse a C.... also, how about fixing up our shitty dorms... why is it all the money on this campus goes to incoming freshmen to attract them while once you are here you get nothing.. it's 2009 get some freaking air conditioning already.

the way plagiarism and grade deflation are dealt with is ridiculous.

The honor committee needs to be more transparent and less Kafkaesque. Publicizing grade deflation was a good move however.

but more efforts in changing the academic calendar please!

Grade deflation="bad for future career"/"grad school prospects, even though everyone claims it's not

Eliminate the eating club system! It's such bad social stratification, and it makes poor kids at Princeton miserable!

too liberal

The Grade Deflation policy and the overall anti-prospect attitude is very frustrating.

I'd like the academic calendar to finally be fixed. It's simple, really: just organize it so that finals are before winter break. Unfortunately, this isn't going to happen during my time at Princeton, even though this has been an issue to vote on for all of my years here. It makes me question the effectiveness of USG.

This administration takes the attitude that they can modify the way Princeton students feel about social life simply by building new dorms and instituting new regulations on where we live and eat. Rather than working to improve the way the Street functions and make it more accessible to more students, they are attempting to force a Yale"-style residential college system that rather than improving choice or integrating the student body ends up isolating groups. Rather than listening to the perspectives of the majority of students on campus, the administration seems to be set on its views of a campus redevelopment plan that cannot be swayed by social realities on campus. Ironically the one thing the administration does seem to care about is the endowment. Rather than cutting one of their excessively expensive building projects (take a look at Whitman College as a prime example of a cold and unfriendly place that cost WAY too much money to build), they instead choose to cut department discretionary spending which results in very real negative effects on students everyday lives. Funding for summer work (especially for science students) and service project funding both end up getting cut, even as new administrator offices in Wilcox college don't seem to be affected at the least. The priorities of this administration are off"-base and contribute to the outside perception that Princeton cares more about money and status than it does about student life and quality education.

Administrators consistently place the institution in front of the students, leading to a number of decisions that actually hurt students. The pervading attitude is "Princeton has been here before and will be here after and therefore the needs, wants, concerns of the present students are insignificant and if they are not happy they are free to go somewhere else."

I don't think that the administrators take into account student opinions when making school"-wide decisions.

The administrative offices such as housing, parking and public safety are a sham. Parking is a joke, the new housing policies for move"-in are ridiculous, causing a good handful of students to move several times.

Grade deflation policy has not been adequately explained to graduate institutions, employers, etc. As a result, Princeton grads are at a disadvantage when applying for fellowships, internships, jobs, postgrad education.

don't destroy the wa. and we have enough arts buildings already. its a waste of money.

Grade inflation needs to disappear. It has really hurt my undergrad experience.

I have found that the policies of the Office of the Registrar are particularly inconveniencing and clearly not directed at accomodating students or professors in the least.

Eliminating ED and maintaining the short"-sighted, overly idealistic grade deflation is hurting Princeton's quality and the futures of current students.

I agree with: grade deflation financial aid (but I disagree with the suggestion that Princeton should provide more money for eating clubs; it should be noted that I am very heavily reliant on financial aid) I disagree with: recent housing policy. It's ok to create the four"-year college system, but don't claim that there is an overwhelming demand for it because upperclassmen hedge their room draw bets by signing up for multiple draws. Also, upperclassmen housing needs to be renovated to keep it on par with the residential colleges, which with the opening of New Butler will mean that the best housing will be in Butler and Whitman. And on another note, I

disagree with Whitman on many levels, and I am frustrated with the continual favor the University has shown it.

I think that the grade deflation policy and the honor code have trouble coexisting. With grade deflation, students are set in competition with one another, all vying for the top thirty percent of the class. Incited by this very competition, I believe students disobey the honor code liberally in order to get ahead and achieve the grade they think they deserve. Let's bring honor back to this campus and obliterate grade deflation; it sparks a nasty sentiment in classrooms campus"-wide.

grading policy should be changed. princeton wants great opportunities for their students but they re selling us short. no company wants to hire us as interns because of our grades. Thanks!

Grade deflation was a mistaken policy.

I approve of everything except for the grade deflation policy.

the administration has shown itself to be unwilling to engage with the students on the issues of grade deflation, early admission, and the role of public safety on campus"-""- issues that I hear students constantly discussing. This is as much the fault of the USG as the administrators in my opinion. The USG does not feel (to me as a student) like an effective body through which students can communicate their concerns to the administration.

Housing before the school year.

The university officials have successfully insulated professors so they are immune to student impact. Especially in the realm of independent work I have found this to be the case. Faculty are arbitrary in their grading and there is no recourse.

I feel that the majority of administrators are doing their best to take away the fun atmosphere that used to be at Princeton. The crack downs on tailgates, pick"-ups, and a majority of other fun social traditions is uncalled for and unjust. As a student I feel that I am at the mercy of the administrators and that as a student I have no voice, or simply no administrators listening to the student opinions. I understand that they are trying to be safe but no events in recent or more far"-reaching history at Princeton have created a demand for these restrictions and it appears as though they are trying to prevent the unpreventable and punish the student body for crimes it hasn't committed.

Things are run smoothly but I believe that the university's system is not fair to struggling student "-""- students who may have issues with depression or other personal issues. There need to be more support systems"/" safety nets in place that are in collaboration with the academic departments so that students struggling with such issues are not forced to take time off because of unmovable academic policies.

discipline committee needs to consist of professors who are in the field in which the infraction has occurred.

Good on the whole, but it is disappointing that at an institution that represents some of the smartest people in the world, we still create policy based on raw emotion rather than real facts and statistics.

The administration has discriminated against and shown antagonistic behavior towards athletes at this school, who compete to represent Princeton University while enrolled in some of the hardest courses available to undergraduates. The difficulty in obtaining any sort of support has severely hindered my motivation to perform. In addition, the University has chosen to adopt and aggressively pursue an anti-"eating club agenda in conjunction with the frivolous cases charged by the Princeton borough. On top of all this, the administration has not addressed the concerns of undergraduates who suffer in the job market and for internships under the grade deflation statute. Our only help is a PDF file we can send to employers to let them know how hard our professors grade us? Get real.

grade deflation

Grade deflation, tailgates, fraternities & sororities

There is a War on Fun at Princeton.

Vague disapproval toward grade deflation, for its effect on student mental health job prospects. Strong disapproval (primary objection) toward the heavy"-handed implementation of the residential college system, specifically the use of better housing (which isn't necessarily better housing in residential colleges per se, but rather comes in the form of better priority in residential college draw) as an incentive to draw membership away from the eating clubs by requiring the purchase of a minimum 95"-block meal plan, thereby making simultaneous residential college and eating club membership untenable for most upperclassmen. I favor the removal of the meal plan requirement, or the removal of the housing priority incentive.

Set trends, do what is best for the school instead of following Harvard.

Grade deflation policy is not needed.

Some do a great job of soliciting student input, such as VP Janet Dickerson. Others seem to give you the runaround...say they want to meet you but aren't available. Please somehow clarify the difference between all the different types of Deans...us students aren't all great college administrators, so I'm sorry if I don't know the difference between multiple types of deans.

It was very disappointing when the administration "gave" Spelman buildings to Whitman College, thus negatively impacting independent upperclass students, but I applaud the admin. for reversing this move for the upcoming year. I think administrators could do more to benefit the Student Volunteers Council and Pace Center"-"- the looming budget cuts for those organizations are significant.

too much money spent on pointless printed mailings"/door deliveries (like thank you cards to Whitman for "letting us use your dining hall") really strongly disapprove of the way students' opinions are listened to on the issue of grade deflation. I don't think eliminating ED was a wise decision.

The major policies and goals of the university that in recent years have had an overwhelming and detrimental effect on Princeton are grade deflation and the end of early decision. Furthermore, the University is no longer choosing to admit the most well-rounded students that it can, instead choosing for specific areas of excellence. While I feel that there needs to be a balance between these two groups, I believe that the current administration has lost that level of balance and is instead admitting a type of student that is not balanced in either their academic or their social

pursuits. Finally, and probably least important to the administration's mission, they are engaging in something I describe as a "war on fun". Examples of this war on fun include supporting 4-year residential colleges at the expense of upperclass housing and eating clubs and creating the new alcohol policies that are of a punitive nature. I think the administration has done a very good job of cementing and improving Princeton's reputation as a top tier research institution but has done so (either intentionally or out of ignorance) at the expense of the undergraduate student experience both in terms of the type of student that has been granted the opportunity to share this experience and in the quality of the experience itself. I feel this will continue until the administration is overhauled and is replaced with one that has been a part of the Princeton experience and know what makes it so unique and enriching.

Grade deflation hurts Princeton students. Period. Get rid of it now.

Stop attacking the eating clubs. I dare the university to deal with what we deal with every weekend.

1) Grade deflation. While the policy is well intended, after five years other schools have not followed suit. There is a reason why other, excellent schools, like Harvard, Yale, and Stanford choose not to deflate their students' grades. Employers and graduate schools are either unaware of the policy or are unable to enforce a fair system (e.g. hard GPA cutoffs.) 2) The long term plan for expansion. Without any consultation with students, the administration has proposed the addition of two more residential colleges, vastly enlarging Princeton's student body, and dramatically changing the nature of our university. I do not believe we should expand merely for the sake of expanding. Much more thought needs to go into this, and if students are involved in the planning phases I believe the result will be much better.

Grade deflation is screwing my life

Love president T and Vice President Dickerson; dislike Dean M

First, I strongly disapprove of getting rid of early decision. It has changed the dynamics of incoming classes substantially for the worse. The administration is not responsive to what the students want. Everything seems to be about their view of Princeton should be like, whereas it should be much more about what the students want out of Princeton. The administration seems to be trying to get rid of traditional social events and outlets at Princeton. College is just as much about developing socially and developing relationships as it is about academics. So the administration's attempts to get rid of sororities and fraternities and to crack down on eating clubs is simply not acceptable because this is what a large portion of the students enjoy. There are plenty of other outlets for students who don't enjoy socializing in these atmospheres. Students are so stressed out here constantly and need social outlets to keep them sane. So the administration needs to be more receptive to the needs of the students overall.

Need to rethink grade deflation, it hurts chances of students getting into graduate schools and getting jobs/"internships

I guess I approve, but I think certain attitudes they take towards policy are frustrating ... namely grade deflation. Also I have found top administrators to be very hush"-hush, and some more honesty and transparency would go a long way

More mental health support would be great.

CHANGE THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR! GET RID OF GRADE DEFLATION!

The real problem is with Nancy Malkiel, who needs to stop having retarded ideas like grade deflation. I am also opposed to the general administrative prejudice against the eating clubs. I do not want to see residential colleges being designed as social substitutes for Prospect Avenue.

Thanks to the admissions office's recent emphasis on academic prowess, diversity, and community service at the relative expense of well-rounded students, this campus has seen a steep decline in student physical fitness and continuity in eating club membership (same % join clubs, but an increased % drop clubs in senior year in favor of high-quality dorms in 4-year colleges).

Grade deflation is hurting Princeton students whose GPAs are in the middle of the pack.

I know I am not the only Princeton student that has had to take out a Stafford Loan to supplement their financial aid. If this school were really committed to a no-loan policy, financial aid officers would not have stacks of these ready to hand out to students who cannot meet the commitments the school puts in front of them.

Obviously, grade deflation is the most important issue to students but what is most frustrating about it is not only the way it is being carried out, but that the administration is not at all receptive to student opinion on this and other matters. This lack of consideration for students is a general trend that I and many others I've talked to find very troubling. For example, the administration was "very satisfied" with how the gunman scare was handled, but most of the students I talked to were quite distressed about the 80-minute delay in notification. To take another example, something like the decision to restrict early move-in is something that seems to have been made with no input from or consideration for the people who it affects the most, the students. This general attitude on the part of the administration, of not being willing to at least listen to students, is at the root of a lot of the dissatisfaction that I and others feel.

The grade deflation policy situation has not taken into account the views of many students.

Parking, Public Safety, and Housing. Worst departments, in that order. Nothing that Nassau Hall or West College has changed has really made a damn bit of impact on my life.

There are some individual policies that I am not entirely in favor of, but I have generally found that administrators seem willing to discuss their policies with students or student representatives.

Grade deflation continues to ruin the academic environment here. Before anyone deems me a "complainer," I will say that I dislike it not because of its effects on my grades personally, but for the fact that it makes the learning environment much more hostile, stressful rather than enjoyable, and less encouraging towards exploration and growth.

Princeton's administrators are out of touch with the students, as evidenced in their policies and (in)actions. They rarely make public announcements or hold direct public forums with students, and are not seen around campus. Dean Malkiel should be fired for her "work" on grade deflation. She has ruined many students' chances at the futures they had once hoped for. Grade deflation does not affect the top-tier students or their acceptance rates, but it undoubtedly affects those beneath them.

grade deflation is only at Princeton so it puts us at a disadvantage post-college!

1. Failed grade deflation 2. PDF grading system needs improvement

Too many reasons to explain in such a small space. Essentially, grade deflation, Housing, Public Safety, attitude toward the Street, and Admissions policy.

Change grade deflation, it s screwing people over for graduate school, jobs and internships.

BOO GRADE DEFLATION!

on new admissions policy, as well as grade deflation

Make the committee on discipline more fair... Shafiq got screwed!!!

Grade deflation is only one of many policies that have been implemented without any input from students and which have proved detrimental to students. The administration refuses to address student concerns or admit that any problems exist. It is simple inexcusable.

In general I m happy, but I definitely have criticisms for their recent actions regarding the treatment of four year colleges over upperclass housing, grade deflation, and other things. I am satisfied, but not completely happy. But this may be because I have low expectation.

Although the administration has done its best to help out students in the economic downturn, I am primarily concerned with getting a good job or into a good graduate school. The administrations stubborn stance on grade deflation and the general lack of knowledge (outside of Princeton) of our uniquely harsh grading system is detrimental to our future opportunities.

Grade deflation sucks. Getting rid of early admissions hurts athletics.

Grade deflation makes everyone miserable. It causes unnecessary anxiety and decreases the overall well-being of premedicine and prelaw students while at the same time hurting their chances of acceptance at top programs. Top law and medicine programs want to maintain high national rankings part of the criteria for these rankings is the GPA of the students they accept. If the avg GPA at Yale is 3.51 and at Princeton is 3.28 (in 2007), why wouldn t they accept a Yale student with a higher GPA? Indeed, the number of Princeton students attending top 5 law and medicine programs has decreased significantly over the past few years. Because of this policy alone, I often regret attending Princeton. This sentiment is shared by many of my more ambitious peers. I cannot in good conscience tell prefrsh interested in law or medicine to matriculate here when they could go to Harvard, Yale, Columbia, etc. I honestly believe other undergraduate institutions which inflate grades would serve these college bound students better for their long term career goals. I only hope this policy will be rescinded before Princeton s reputation is further and perhaps irrevocably damaged.

The administration adamantly refuses to consider student input on important issues like the grading policy. Furthermore, their ongoing vilification of the eating clubs just feeds into common misconceptions about and prejudices against the clubs without considering that by condemning the center of Princeton s social scene, the administration (not the clubs) are deterring prospective students from attending.

I think that they make it way too difficult to move or schedule your exams.

Grade deflation is a misguided policy that is not properly implemented by professors. It fosters competition among students and degrades the academic experience for undergraduates by encouraging people to focus on their performance relative to others in their class, rather than learning and taking risks.

I think that whoever came up with the idea of 2 free meals/week in the dining halls for all upperclassman that was huge and really makes a difference in terms of social climate, given the large significance eating options have in terms of students' social life. I would also suggest increasing the number of guest meals for students on a meal plan, so that if they have extra meals they haven't used they can automatically use them for a guest (even if it is on a per-week basis, that is better than nothing). Also, I would suggest inviting each of the eating clubs to follow suit, so that any university student has a certain number of free meals at each club per month, and also to commit to follow suit with the university meal plan commitment to allow unlimited swapping of personal meals for guest meals in order to create a more open and friendly atmosphere. However, I think the insistence on four-year residential colleges actually reverts Princeton social life in the wrong direction. My dad went to Princeton in the 70s, and at that time fewer members of the student body were in eating clubs. Now, it is much more common and less exclusive which to me is a positive development. By encouraging students to join residential colleges instead of eating clubs, Princeton will re-create the environment in which only the selected specific students with particular connections (eg family who are alumni, or friends from high schools that feed into Princeton) join specific eating clubs, further enhancing this divide. I think this was a poor decision.

Get rid of Tilghman!!!!

grade deflation deflates my confidence.

if i knew what i know now about grade deflation, i would never have chosen to attend princeton. i would have chosen harvard instead, and i really regret coming here, in hindsight. it's one thing that princeton undergrad program is one of the toughest in the nation, but then why would it deflate grades as well? the administrators, despite their idealism, do not seem to realize the tangible effects their policies are having on students. it is simply a fact that they are causing harm to students. i am one of them. i am unable to apply to certain internships and programs because i fall under whatever GPA cutoff they impose, even though i would be well above the cutoff i had gone to yale or harvard.

Increasing class size & grade deflation policies are terrible. The new early move-in policy is a joke.

While everyone has some complaints about decisions coming down from on high, Princeton is still an incredibly great place to go to college, so clearly they are doing something right.

Grade deflation should be reversed.

There is a lack of communication between administrators and students and there is a sense that they are rather self-serving.

Grade deflation is self-defeating and infuriating.

Although I strongly disagree with grade deflation and think that it makes Princeton students less competitive in the job market and for graduate"/"medical school, I believe that the administration does a fine job otherwise.

i would have marked strongly approve, were it not for grade deflation.

These questions are too vague to yield any useful information.

My only concern is the waste of money on flat screen TVs for the gallery in Frist and a couple of the dining halls. Also, I think that more could be done to curb the waste of heat and electricity on campus.

GRADE DEFLATION is BAD!

a campus needs a social scene

Not a fan of grade deflation, and the way that it has been implemented. I had a preceptor "/" lecturer remind us once again, last week, that she can only give 35% A s for the upcoming assignment, instead of waiting to see if there was more or less 35% of the work that was A "-" quality.

I feel as if, although they let us know about certain initiatives, we don t necessarily have as much say about it as we should. We get to vote on some things, but even then they already seem decided before the student body gets to vote.

Sometimes it seems to me as if administrators are running the University without reflecting what it is to be a Princetonian. For example, grade deflation, which evidently no other University has followed, has not had much success. On top of that, the University privileges those in 4 "-" year colleges with the best rooms while everyone has to pay the same price. It s unfair as it is that students live in buildings like Forbes Annex twice while others live in the most sought "-" after buildings like Witherspoon two years in a row, while both pay the same amount for Housing. Additionally, while creating 4 "-" year residential colleges, the University is trying to replicate the close atmosphere found in eating clubs and sororities and fraternities. Meanwhile, they subtly try to phase out eating clubs. Many alumni have their best memories at their clubs and visit their clubs more than the University itself, which is subject to more change. Yet the University is trying to remove these institutions. Irony?

The care about nothing but the image of the University "-" not even the sanity of their students.

A bizarre superiority complex and an apparent disregard for student well being. They run the school like a business and not a university.

I simply feel as if the administration is trying harder and harder to take away traditions and tighten rules about everything. From lawn parties, to now pick ups, it seems to forget about the traditional aspects of Princeton that make it fun.

It has become too much about protecting the 250 years of history than about current students. Promotes a culture of elitism and snobbery, not social responsibility.

I generally approve, but I think there are some major things that need to be addressed concerning student opinions. Nobody listens to club sports!!! I hear it from all the teams. Mitchell Reum is great.

Increasing the already significant bureaucratic barriers to the reasonable functioning of student organizations is a step in the wrong direction which will slowly hamper student creativity and initiatives with creating and maintaining student organizations with significant off"-campus activities and real"-world interactions (for just one example, the restriction of financial flexibility for a cappella groups).

Though I fully support the implementation of the academic policies implemented by the administration, namely, grade deflation, I do not approve of the move to marginalize the presence of the eating clubs on campus. Overall, I maintain that the academic policies are more important than the social, however the push to socially engineer a change in the dynamics of the Princeton community seems somewhat Big Brother in its subtle pervasiveness.

Not happy about grade deflation

your stupid online election system crashed when i tried to submit this before and wiped out the entire paragraph i had written. It was well formed, unbiased, and not angry like this one (I apologize for my tone, and you can still call me immature for writing like this if you want). I m not typing it again, but you should know that i strongly disapprove.

Grade deflation and the removal of early decision have been the main changes in our school s policies, and I feel that both have negatively affected our school in multiple ways.

grade deflation is really frustrating"- it makes me care more about the grade then the class material

No transparency...

Eliminate Grade Deflation Stop wasting vast amounts of money on residential colleges

People complain too much; I think things are going fine.

The attempt to squash the eating clubs which began with Woodrow Wilson in 1906"-7 with the new Butler College, while raising the number of accepted students is utterly ridiculous and antiquated. Let the natural order persist. Additionally, diversity is not merely different races, origins of students, tits a diversity of ideas as well , which diversity in race does not automatically imply. Instead of focusing on creating the most diverse class, create a class who will best follow the motto "Princeton in the Nation s service."

The workload here kills. I m NOT EVEN CLOSE TO ALONE when I say that many of my peers wanted to transfer all winter and complained about it. There is never enough time to enjoy most of the extra"-curricular activities and events and lectures etc. that Princeton has to offer, which means coming to the school is kind of a waste. Furthermore, what the CRAP is the administration doing such that we are sinking so low in national"/international popularity? Aren t they aware that our popularity, matriculation rate, selectivity, etc. affects whether or not people want to apply to the school (ergo affects the make"-up of the student population) and whether or not they donate?

Except Grade Deflation

I have no idea what's going on, so my gut instinct is poorly formed from lack of transparency, but I recognize there is a lot that might go on behind the scenes.

I agree with the administrative decisions overall but not with the grade deflation policy and do not believe administrators will work to alter the policy.

There continues to be an atmosphere of inequality at Princeton, exemplified by the incredible differences in living conditions between residential colleges.

They have failed to lead other colleges in instituting grade deflation. They have not responded adequately to questions regarding the current tenure process. They have marginalized discussions about revising the Junior Paper and Senior Thesis programs. They have failed at instituting residential colleges successfully, because the eating clubs are still the social centers on campus.

In an effort to make Princeton acceptable to everyone, the administration seems to be destroying everything that makes it unique. By destroying our traditions, the administration is making Princeton dull and uninspiring to its students and the country.

The administration of this university has consistently pushed a prevalently conservative social climate into the 21st century, pursuing a commitment to diversity of all kinds and ensuring that students who don't fit a stereotypical "Princeton mold" can fit in here. That always gets my vote.

There are complaints that I have, but overall, I am thankful.

There is not enough information available to students from the administration.

There are so many great opportunities that make student life here enjoyable but some students of color feel like the greatness of their college experience isn't reaching its full potential because of the lack of Black Greek life on campus.

It seems as if holding onto the grade-"deflation" policy while all our other peer institutions clearly reject it is just an act of futility and severely detrimental to Princetonians as a whole. High letter grades have become things of lore on campus, where students aren't willing to work harder to go beyond when they almost seem unattainable. Please stop the reality of the situation and try to mitigate the consequences of the already imposed grade deflation. That is the only flaw I can see within the administration.

Seems fine, but actions not transparent enough.

Grade deflation seems pointless because it a) repels potential students and b) hurts our job searches because we compete against graduates from schools without this policy. Furthermore, the construction that occurs during the school year is very annoying.

I feel as though the equality is actually quite unfair, although there are distributions across all subjects some are still very difficult and result in unevenness. I also dislike the grade inflation and still have yet to see why this is helping Princeton Students succeed. This is our lives at stake for being able to compete for jobs and graduate schools later and lower GPAs due to grade deflation cause Princeton students to not excel despite the three Rhodes Scholars, etc. Harvard embraces grade inflation and as a result they appear more successful and more well known.

Administrators are constantly trying to take down the eating club and are taking the wrong steps to combat alcohol. The keg ban should be lifted because beer is significantly less dangerous than hard liquor and it is impossible to control drinking in dorm rooms. Grade deflation is not working. Professors need tenure. We have enough professors coming in and out of here quickly as it is.

Any opinion I would give at this point would be the result of hearsay and secondhand influence.

however, the lower level people don't seem to be helping much.

Imposing a policy of grade deflation and negatively portraying all of Princeton's unique attributes and traditions, such as the eating clubs, is not a way to attract more students.

In recent years the admissions department has been reluctant to accept students of upper-middle to upper class socioeconomic backgrounds, and private school students. On one hand, Princeton is a university "in the nation's service and in the service of all nations," and it therefore must follow a progressive agenda that will endeavor to provide access to Princeton's education to those who would otherwise be unable to attend the university. On the other hand, being one of the nation's top universities, Princeton must accept the top students, regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic background, sexual orientation, and political perspective. Additionally, I disapprove of President Tilghman's call to have more students "with purple hair" at this university. There is no need to accept such students just for the sake of being non-conformist.

The fact that next year's winter break is only 2 weeks long is really pretty upsetting. We students need that time to relax and recharge. There is no reason that our academic calendar should start so late. Remediating this problem, and many other problems with our academic calendar, should be a priority for both the USG and administration.

Princeton runs like clockwork. The administration is very responsive to student needs and concerns, and treats us with respect and compassion.

I'm sorry, but you need to be more specific about these administrators. What are they in charge of exactly?

I strongly disapprove of Princeton University continuing to spend inordinate amounts of money further developing their pet project the residential college system while cutting costs on professors and course offerings. It is obvious that the University must make cuts considering the endowment's 30% drop, but if the administrators wish to cut costs, perhaps they shouldn't cut back on course offerings and visiting lecturers. Undoubtedly instead they should cut costs on the countless events in the residential colleges that go unattended by a majority of their residents each night.

The administrators in Nassau Hall have had very little concern for the traditions of Princeton University. The doctrine of political correctness has damaged the legacy of Princeton University.

I think grade deflation is going to only hurt Princeton students in the long run, as well as hurt the university's reputation among undergraduates. Additionally, I am opposed to artificially promoting diversity by intentionally selecting a larger portion of international students or minorities. The policies should not even take race, ethnicity, etc. into account.

My problems were with grade deflation, with the policy itself when other schools won't adapt it, and also with the lack of information provided to the university community, or the bad way that information has been presented, on the topic.

Grade deflation is inhibitory to our success as students and makes an environment characterized by competition rather than collaboration. It should be done away especially since other top universities have failed to follow Princeton's lead.

Seem much too eager to throw some social traditions under the bus in the name of PR. Ignored student support of reconsidering the timing of fall semester finals. Not to mention that grade deflation stuff...

The stubbornness of the failed grade deflation policy irks me. The unwillingness to amend the schedule irks me.

Too much focus on residential colleges, seem out of touch with what is really going on on campus.

Grade deflation is hurting students in terms of job opportunities and admission to grad schools.

I admire the administration's support of financial aid and grade deflation, but disagree with their attempt to suppress the presence of the Eating Clubs on campus.

I disagree with the crack down on the eating clubs and Greek life, and I think that the attempted switch to four-year residential colleges, as a total way of life, is misguided. I also think that the rules concerning alcohol and public safety are far too vague and not sufficiently understood by the student body to allow them to be effective.

The decision to increase the acceptance rate I think was something that should not have been done and might be followed by consequential decline in the Princeton university's value and honor.

Popular community sentiment (from students to alumni to parents) feels that the grade deflation policy is negatively affecting the job opportunities of Princeton graduates. The administration needs to address these concerns and acknowledge that they are at least somewhat legitimate. Currently, the administration seems apathetic to the outrage against grade deflation. There have been no public admissions of remorse regarding the policy, even though it has clearly not gone according to plan.

- No summer move in LAME - No tailgates LAME - No pickups LAMER -
Taking away all fun LAMEST

I think our academic calendar is horrible. I also don't appreciate all of the animosity the administrators have towards the Street/Eating Clubs and Greek life. Grading deflation is also a major problem.

Charging us the same amount to live in Wilson as to live in any other residential college is an outrage. Also, the handling of grade deflation and room draw has been terrible.

If I agreed with everything they did, it wouldn't be college.

admissions and grade deflation

Grade deflation is unfortunate.

Get rid of grade deflation. Give P-Safe guns. Take care of the kids who wander around with beer cans on Newman's Day. Lower my tuition.

Their reaction to the Pace piece in the Princetonian was a shame, but I am very thankful for the strong commitment to financial aid especially in times like these. As an engineer I also still support grade deflation, though I do hope our peer universities join soon us. The hierarchical rules for voting in this election's referendum are, however, unclear and thus a little unfair.

VERY vague and useless question.

This question is absolutely friggin' useless. Useless. So bloody useless that I could wipe myself with it. Can you be any more vague in asking anything? Perhaps you should give a run-over of what they've been doing, so we can be informed on the issue the question is asking, eh? Yeah, maybe that will help just a little. Just a little. Should these questions reappear? Maybe after they ask an answerable question, neh? To whoever is reading this, have fun reading the other responses. Not that they'll sound like this or anything. Mfg and best regards, Me P.S. And tell whoever designed this form to move the bloody reset button away from the submit button. Not that I clicked it or anything. Nuh uh.

I just don't see why P/D/F forms have to be handed in by hand. I feel like little things like that are done just for the sake of formality and without actual reasons. Sometimes it seems like Princeton administrators get on a power trip of sorts...

Residential College system is flawed. Rooms should always improve from freshman to sophomore year. The zoning restrictions need to be changed. School needs to work out some way to get along with the fraternities and Eating clubs on campus because they are not going to just go away.

The trend Princeton Admissions is leaning to seems to be filling Princeton with a huge number of very anti-social, self-obsessive, inwardly-reflecting students who do not contribute to the University Community in any way. This is not about the students who do not go out on the Street. This is about the students that don't go out of their rooms period. There are so many students now that could care less about community service, contributing to student groups or contributing to the University at all. They focus solely on their personal goals and seem to take everything and give nothing back. Study breaks are almost always devoid of students. Fund raising events garner little support beyond the close group of the organizers. Student performances, except for the major groups, are poorly attended. Princeton can only encourage its students so much. The source of the problem is those students Princeton is accepting. Interviews need to be held in much higher regard.

In my experience, they seem not to care about the mental well-being of students and do not seem to sympathize with or desire to alleviate the high-stress environment that seems to be a major part of this university. That being said, the high-stress environment isn't a wholly bad thing. My main concerns include issues about the school calendar (especially how short the semesters are in relation to the sheer volume of work required and how winter break is being cut short by a week) and the sense of competition that grade deflation brings.

Things on campus are generally great, but I really think the grade deflation policy puts us at a disadvantage relative to students at other institutions. Inevitably there will be employers and graduate and professional schools that are unaware of this policy or do not take it into account.

They tend to ignore student opinion. They know we would like calendar change and something done about grade deflation but they just ignore us.

grade deflation is a lost cause. we cant be the only school in the country trying to do it because it just hurts us after we graduate.

It is nothing short of slimy how the University manipulates students by allowing upper"-class housing to deteriorate while renovating"/"building only residential college dorms. Its downright dishonest to talk about the "huge upper"-class interest in the four year residential colleges" when it is so obvious to everyone that most of the people drawing into them have no interest in living near freshmen, or getting discount Broadway tickets, or all the other facets of this utterly crackpot scheme, but instead, are simply interested in living in the nicest room possible. I guarantee that "interest" in the four year college system would take a nosedive if upper"-class housing was given the same treatment as the residential college dorms. On the subject of housing, if the four year college system is genuinely an initiative to "expand options" rather than kill the eating clubs (as the administration so adamantly insists), I demand the right for freshmen to have the option of not having to live in housing with anti"-social seniors and graduate students whose only interest in living in the college system is having a nice room. I strongly feel that my freshman year would have been a much more enjoyable experience if I had more freshmen neighbors. Lets expand options and allow freshmen to live in freshmen housing. The entire idea of all the classes plus graduate students living together is fundamentally flawed, and those upperclassmen who do live in the college system are a self"-selected group who have chosen to avoid the eating club system. It should be noted that at Yale, where they have a college system that actually functions, the freshmen of ten of the twelve colleges all live together in the same quad freshmen year. My last issue with housing is with the University's atrocious new policy about summer housing. I don't know whether the "co"-mingling" line was a lame attempt at a justification thought up after this travesty of a plan had been made, or whether this is actually another one of the University's condescending social"-engineering policies. Whichever it is, this plan is a terrible, terrible idea that absolutely ignores the actual needs and realities of students attempting to move in for a new year. The only thing worse than not soliciting student input is soliciting the opinions of a small, select group of students who serve little more of a purpose than rubber stamping the approval of the entire student body on it. I find it egregious that, as someone who is directly affected by this policy, the first time I heard about it was from the Prince article about how it was being put into effect; there should have been an honest attempt to personally solicit MY opinion about it, as well as the opinions of all those who will have to deal with this absurdity in a few months. I feel disgusted when I see Public Safety officers patrolling courtyards at night, ears pricked for even the slightest sounds of partying. Of course, partying in the dorms wouldn't be such an issue if the University would get rid of its nonsensical ban on kegs, so people could be drinking beer instead of hard liquor...but that aside, I feel like I'm living in 1984 instead of on a college campus. On that note, I am deeply disturbed that my prox is recorded every time I swipe into a building. That most students do not know about this policy is even more disturbing. Well this is long, so I'll wrap up by saying that grade deflation is still a terrible idea that is illogical and self"-contradictory – I know we're all supposed to rejoice about the excuse letter we can send to employers now to explain why our grades aren't very good, now I don't have to ask my Mom for one anymore. I wish that I went to Princeton at a time when the administration wasn't so focused on removing all its unique aspects and trying to cut down on fun and free association. Princeton is Princeton; not Yale, not U Chicago, and not Harvard. Bring back early decision (our financia

This is a very vague question and I have nothing to compare the performance of the top-level administrators in Nassau Hall and West College against since I am a Freshman.

Graduate schools and employers NEED to know about grade deflation. That is my only complaint. (I favor grade deflation, as long as it is well-publicized).

Stop ostracizing Eating club members and promoting the residential colleges. We are not Yale. Eating clubs have defined our college for over a hundred years - stop trying to end this sacred tradition. Tilghman should be fired and replaced with someone who actually went here for undergraduate.

I am resubmitting my vote, as I am not sure whether it counted the first time.

Fire Malkiel. The others are fine.

grade deflation = major fail.

there is a complete disconnect between the administrators and the student body and they fail to realize this gap. grade deflation is horrendous, most of all because it fails to include the student body in the decision. malkiel and the rest of them know exactly what's going on: you guys took the vote when most of the professors were missing from the meeting. this is very unprofessional and unacceptable. my experiences with Kanach in study abroad have been horrendous as well. she has no sense of (1) what it's like to be a student and (2) how the rest of the world works.

4 year colleges are horrible university is screwing students out of housing university doesn't support the clubs, which are clearly the best option - student run and designed social activities, that the vast majority of students support and enjoy that provide the best way for safe drinking.

Grade deflation is terrible. What is also terrible is the administration's nonchalant even dismissive attitude towards students' concerns. I am a senior going to graduate school next year and can cite specific examples of top students (besides myself) whose GPA prevented them from getting into grad schools, getting funding from grad schools, and getting funding from outside scholarships. While certainly this happens to students at Harvard and Yale, etc, as well who are also deserving students at top universities, etc. It is very clear that the administration needs to do a better job AND TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE in communicating Princeton's grading policies. I think that over time, however, that grade deflation will improve our school. Secondly, their attitude towards eating clubs is nonchalant and dismissive. They've begun touting the 4-year residential colleges as if they are the next Facebook. Well, they're not. However, I think in the long run they will improve the social options for all students. I think this attitude will erode once more options have taken root, but if not, and if the eating clubs were to lose their place here, there would be a serious hole in the University.

I support an anti-grade inflation policy, and I think that the discontent about grade deflation has been misattributed to the entire student body, rather than the subset that opposes the policy. Also, I believe that admission decisions that improve the diversity of the student body are positive.

Grade deflation has created an overly competitive environment at Princeton that really smothers free academic discourse. I have personally lost a lot of my desire to excel academically and to continue my schooling due to the absolute stupidity of the hypercompetitive atmosphere on this

campus. Besides that policy, however, I have been impressed by the administration at Princeton. I really appreciate everything else that they have done for this school.

Alcohol policy

grade deflation "=" the devil s wish

Disapprove of: Grade deflation. Poor administrative"-student communications channels.

I find this referendum meaningless.

grade deflation sucks.

pdf rules are bogus

Princeton is an institution founded on tradition that the current leadership of the university is strongly neglecting and in certain aspects trying to eradicate. The eating clubs are an important part of the university and should remain so. Cracking down on eating club policies will result in more "binge" drinking. Additionally the relationship between public safety and students has completely changed since when I first stepped foot on this campus in 05. Public safety is no longer the safety net ensuring security on campus. Rather it has become an institution that ignores their established guidelines and have turned into more of a gestapo. Students fear calling public safety when they need their assistance because of public safety s commitment to ensuring that nearly any encounter with public safety will result in some form of punishment. Furthermore there is no policy standard. Depending on the officer present on the scene of an "incident" repercussions can range the gammit. Until public safety develops uniform policy procedures and are mandated to take classes learning how to protect the integrity of the campus while at the same time maintaining a relationship with students, binge drinking will continue to drastically increase and students will look towards other more dangerous venues as a release.

1) Grade Deflation has well documented negative effects on the academic atmosphere of the campus and our standing relative to peers at other Ivy universities. 2) The administration does not respond to students opinions and concerns. 3) Nancy Malkiel has failed on both her main initiatives. 4) The administration has an unprofessional method of communicating and handling public concerns. 5) The university has failed to update upperclassmen housing and has failed to prevent socioeconomic housing discrimination based on meal plans (eg, poor independent students go to Spelman, others to Whitman because of meal contract costs). 6) And so much more....

Job market has been impossible for the seniors because we have to compete with peers from yale or harvard with straight As. When they slack off, they get A"- " s and we get B"- " s...

This is not a referendum...we are not voting on anything. Only question 4 leads to concrete change.

Additionally, the questions are vague and do not precisely define the terms used.

Offering Admission to children of donors, Anti"-Eating Clubs, Grade Deflation

Grade deflation still defies logic. It s only one thing, but it is a big deal, and I would feel a lot differently about the administration s success if there were no grade deflation.

School is alright, but administration could do better. Need to take more student input into account. School is improving because it is hard for Princeton not to, but more can be done.

Their attitudes towards the eating clubs is detrimental to the broader interests of not only the student body, but also the thousands of alumni of Princeton who view the eating clubs as a vital component of their Princeton experiences.

Malkiel's Deflation policy is so UNEFFECTIVE!!!! As a senior who was applying for grad schools and jobs, I have heard from so many institutions that they were not aware of, and did not really factor in Princeton's grade deflation standards. Malkiel's the administration made a HUGE mistake with this one. It's time to fess up to it, and throw it out!!

Grade deflation harms Princeton students. If Harvard Business School does not know about Princeton grade deflation, then no one else does. This is the central problem facing Princeton students.

GRADE DEFLATION was a BAD IDEA!!

My complaints are the same as the last time this referendum came up. The administration ignores real student input, instead creating puppet committees of students to reinforce their preconceived views of what's best for the university. The continuing "war on fun" as well as the inequity between regular upper class housing and that now available in the four-year colleges creates an environment which is biased against Princeton's traditional social scene (i.e. the eating clubs). Not only does this undermine students' ability to relax and relieve stress amidst a demanding academic environment, but also these policies serve to undermine the great degree of autonomy Princeton students have historically enjoyed, which I believe to be a critical component of a Princeton education.

not enough info

Grade deflation has been shown to be an ineffective policy with negative consequences and peer institutions are NOT following suit, yet the administration refuses to correct themselves.

the institution of policies such as grade deflation reflects, in its initial implementation, a misunderstanding of students' desires, and a lack of action since the implementation of grade deflation despite students (and other universities') dislike for and criticism of the policy, can only signify a disregard for student opinions and wishes.

The administration is trying to eliminate fun from campus. First, I don't like the changes in the alcohol policy that the university has enacted. Sure they'll claim that they've gotten students involved through Alcohol Coalition meetings but from what I've heard it's more of a venue for students to vent because the university doesn't seem to be listening to any of the very good arguments that the students there present. In my eyes it is a complete joke, which is why I haven't gone. Second, the Public Safety policies are stifling the fun and in the long-run hurting the university rather than helping it by shutting down parties at 10 pm (yes it's against Rights Rules but it's happened to me countless times) and putting students on probation. The solution is to have an "Alcohol Abuse" dorm in addition to sub-free. The administration seems to be catering to one type of student. Whatever happened to the student bar that was in Chancellor Green? And kegs? And 21 year olds allowed to drink in their own room without having to get permission from a dean?

grade deflation and giving Spelman buildings to Whitman college (room draw in general, really) have an exceedingly negative effect on the student experience at Princeton. I have the impression that the administrator's attitude towards students is negative, over-"parental, and driven by distrust.

The forces in Nassau Hall and West College are intentionally trying to destroy all that is great about Princeton, and replace it with a bland, homogenized abomination of mediocrity that fits within their socialist vision of a perfect society. It will begin with the eating clubs, but it will not end there. Princeton has a cold future ahead of it if we do not wake up to what is going on around us.

The policies are very anti-"eating clubs. I believe that this is only the beginning. It amazes me how the administration is trying to undermine the one thing that separates and differentiates our university from every other one in the world. Instead, greater care should be taken to work with them not rival them with four year colleges.

I strongly disapprove of the growth of 4 year colleges. They should not annex any more buildings.

I believe that being number one has become the administrators top priority. No longer are student life or student well-"being top priority. This University and the top level of administrators have failed the students. From grade deflation to new admission standards, Princeton has changed tremendously in a negative way. I will not donate to this University till serious changes in policy or administration are made.

The wonderful article in the Daily Princetonian today by Angela Cai shows how misguided Dean Malkiel's grading policies have been. I hope the article-"-" and this survey-"-" will be a wake-"up call.

Thank you for your focus on sustainability issue, greening the campus. I wish it could have had a greater impact on the designs for Whitman and the new Butler.

Grade deflation is ruining the school. Our administrators have mishandled almost every disciplinary cause I've heard of.

None of the policies I am familiar with seem to have been designed with the student's best interests in mind. The administration seems overly concerned with school rankings and other criteria for gaining prestige rather than attempting to create an enjoyable environment for students.

Grade deflation is terrible.

I like the idea of this referendum, but I encourage the people behind this to move on from talking about grade deflation towards far more important issues like sustainability and civic engagement.

Grade deflation has clearly failed, and I also disagree with the decision to end the Early Decision program.

1) Admissions Office is losing its competitive edge with other admissions office. Why don't we get more students applying to Princeton. We should up our mailings/"propaganda and make an

effort to reach more people. 2) Grade deflation is dividing the campus community and straining the relationship between the student body and professors"/"administration.

They are completely against the students here as the disciplinary procedures are way too strict on every level.

I strongly disapprove of grade deflation.

Grade deflation is unacceptable. Malkiel's insistence that other schools would follow suit is clearly false, and it is preposterous that the lie continues to be sustained. Malkiel should be summarily fired and Shirley Tilghman should be dismissed.

I generally agree with the direction that the main administration has taken the university, except in the instance of grade deflation. I thought of grade deflation as I answered the next question. There are some companies that won't even consider a person with a 3.49 for a position, no matter the extenuating circumstances of the grading policy. In this case, the university fails to consider students' futures.

I defer to Momo Pyne 1877

Alcohol polic. Psaftey"- "student relations are tense, and these policies have a lot to do with it.

Grade deflation is a completely backwards policy. Students should be graded on an absolute scale, at the discretion of the professors teaching the courses.

Grade deflation inspires more competition, and I am very skeptical that grad schools"/"med schools"/"law schools are aware of the policy. Also, anecdotal evidence suggests that certain departments (natural & physical sciences) are much tougher about implementing the policy than humanities & social sciences.

This is an extremely broad and strange question.

Grade deflation is shooting students in the foot, regardless of the economy. The residential colleges are forced on students (I remember watching an anti"- "eating club propoganda film sophomore year). Getting rid of early decision is not the way to address a lack of applications from lower income families. Start listening to student opinion, it is a big reason people choose Princeton over Harvard. It's fine to have a few admins who are not princeton alums, but a large percentge of the people who run the University should be alums because only they really know what student life is"/"was like. Oh, and stop trying to build non collegiate gothic, most of the time it's a flop. Remember Momo Pyne!!!!

There is a waste of money on frivolous things (like free food and t shirts) instead of concrete activities of benefit to students. Also the university alcohol policy (especially its opposition to the eating clubs) with its emphasis on completely preventing students from drinking will be more harmful to students in the longrun as they will have to resort to more drinking in their rooms, drinking hard alcohol and there will not be responsible individuals looking out for them as there are in the clubs. Also, the policy regarding PDF's is bad because students cannot recind them retroactively.

Anti"- "Eating Club policies. Getting rid of Early Decision was a terrible idea.

In general I am pleased, but I think there is too much focus being placed on 4"-year colleges and attempts to reduce the importance of the eating clubs.

Needs to be more accomodating to mainline students who enjoy the eating club scene. Put more focus on these students, rather than gearing everything toward smaller groups.

Grade deflation is a joke. If you can t get other schools to do it, then try something new. I mean, why don t you just let all classes be pass"/"fail, with a difficult pass, such as 85%? By deflating grades, you make grades more important, which leads to people focusing on grades, which is pretty besides the point. In addition, tools such as econ majors and pre meds are going to game the system by taking easy classes, which is well besides the point of this school.

I m not too pleased with how Dean Dunne sent a direct email to a former USG presidential candidate, suggesting he withdraw from the competition... That goes to you too Connor

Disapproval due to grade deflation, the misguided focus on residential colleges, and poor recruitment of high school students

Early decision

Grade deflation

The administration is clearly very against the eating clubs and reflects this in their push for students to join four year colleges instead of the eating clubs. There should not be such negativity toward the clubs which have brought so many of us joy over the years (including alumni who give money back to the university).

Bring back early admissions!

bizarre social engineering does not create a good experience for anyone.

Grade deflation is awful.

I do not think that the administration has handled the response to grade deflation responsibly.

Grade deflation is a terrible policy as is the Honor Committee

Administration is dishonest, disregards student opinion whenever possible, and makes poor decisions that negatively affect Princeton students in both the short and long term.

Grade inflation, increasing the student body I disagree with.

I seriously have misgivings about the continued effect that grade deflation has upon the University community as a whole and upon individual students. The fact that no other institution has hopped onto this sinking ship of a policy should be enough to deter Dean Malkiel from continuing this ill"-advised crusade.

The administration does a generally good job of running the University in a professional manner. Grade deflation is a philosophically sound policy. My only complaint is that the residential college system is forced and awkward and detracts from life at Princeton.

In 4 years of going to this school, I have not met or talked to any upper level administrator. The only name I know is Shirley Tilghman. As such, I find this question a bit disappointing since I see my answers of "No Opinion" to be a copout since "Don't Care" would have been more appropriate.

I think they are trying to change the social makeup of Princeton. Of course, things need to be improved like the bicker system for the eating clubs but what drew me to Princeton and what I think differentiates Princeton is that people here are exceptional in many ways but are also well-rounded and have a good time. It is important to have a diversity of options, but I do not think some options should be attacked by the administration.

I think the following comment on a Princeton article regarding grade deflation properly encapsulates Nancy Malkiel and grade deflation: "Nancy Malkiel is the George W. Bush of Higher Education, plowing ahead in policies that are clearly failing, insisting that history will bear her out irrespective of evidence in the present that she is wrong. She is akin to Will Ferrell's 'Frank the Tank' from Old School who drunkenly sets out to go streaking, insisting that others will follow him to those who express incredulity at this claim. Frank, however, at least has the excuse of being blackout drunk. Nancy: some people are leading a streaking movement and some people are running, alone and naked, down the street. Please put some clothes on." Now, a lot of people complain about how we need to bring Dean Fred back and that the student body just isn't the same as it used to be. I think it's great that they're trying to raise the academic caliber of incoming students. There are still many students here that are kind of a waste of space and essentially squander our academic resources (many development admits and athletes fall into this category). Overall, though, there are many more academic stars at Princeton today than there were 5 years ago. On the other hand, Shirley could cut down on swapping board seats at major tech companies for the admission of CEOs' daughters. I think it's a bad idea to unilaterally implement a grade deflation policy like ours in general, but when you combine it with an increasingly better-qualified student body, the school just gets unnecessarily competitive. One has to wonder what it would have been like to go to another elite school where there would be less of an incentive to grade-grub and strategically select courses. The assumption that what essentially amounts to grade capping leads to higher academic standards is faulty. The administration is entirely too concerned with the image of Princeton and feels the need to act on its insecurities by aggressively pursuing policies that end up being poorly executed PR stunts. Sadly, these stunts make the school a less desirable place to attend. Granted, Princeton is still a great school and I definitely had quite the experience here, but it could have been better and I don't really think my enjoyment stems from any of the policies of the current administration.

The administration has proven incapable of helping graduating students find employment in the face of the economic recession. Career Services is of very little use to students on the job market. Grade deflation only heightens the problem.

The lack of emphasis on science and engineering in major University academic awards has been disturbing.

Long live Charter!

Grade deflation needs to go. Seriously, you are hurting your students Princeton. I know that many high up administrators probably don't get to "see" how the policy really hurts students, but when you consistently come out with Bs and B+'s in your classes that you are working extremely hard in only to find out it's because there are only a certain number of students getting As it really does something to your spirit and drive to do better. I was personally told by a preceptor that he was

told to grade papers starting out as Bs or B-" work (80%) and then, based on what the "stellar papers" contain, they add or subtract points from a base grade of 80. WHAT IS THAT ABOUT!? It s insanity pure out flat insanity...

While in general I like the University s administration, I cannot say that I approve of the grade deflation policy. Likewise, I don t agree with the elimination of Early Decision...

Over the past years, I ve noticed negative changes in attitudes towards student"-athletes and a move towards recruiting and accepting more specialized students, rather than well"-rounded students, which detracts from the diversity of Princeton. Students come in now knowing exactly what they want to do, instead of coming in with a smattering of curiosities.

Administratively, the school runs impeccably. As for the identity the current administration has been aiming to craft "-" the target of this question, I presume "-" I think it s fine. I don t really even know which of the university s policies are decrees from the top"-level administrators , and which are simply pragmatic approaches to campus function enacted by lower agencies. I have enjoyed my time here at school very much, and to be honest, the areas of student life where students themselves have the most authority and the top"-level administrators the least (read: eating clubs, one of which I am a member of), have been among the least fulfilling for me. If you haven t gotten my drift, I think this is a nebulous, bitter, unproductive, and, frankly, stupid question.

Expanding the student body was a good plan, but it has come with some drawbacks on undergraduate life.

Find administration who went here. Also stop the 4"-year college thing and let Princeton be Princeton. Alums will STOP giving if their clubs die.

I believe that the top"-level administrators have lost touch with what has made Princeton the fine institution that it is today, which I believe is due in no small part by the fact that our president is not an alum of this fine University.

There is this tone of "yes, we ll listen to what you have to say about our decisions, but then we ll still go ahead and do exactly what we want and tell you why your concerns are trivial". It comes off to me as really bitchy. I m a woman myself, but I think we need to restore some balance to the administration instead of hiring all women, who then sometimes turn out to be nutcases (thinking Dean Herbold among others).