

## Another Faked Grade Scandal

We have already written about the **scandal** of faked grades where a student's grade can be raised or lowered as a method of discipline. Now we have heard of **another** scandal of faked grades where a student's marks can be raised or lowered depending on whether they have "made an effort":

Two Benedict College science professors have been fired after they refused to assign grades that rewarded students' effort as much as acquired knowledge.

President David Swinton dismissed Milwood Motley and Larry Williams when they defied his Success Equals Effort policy, which Swinton said provides struggling freshmen a leg up in adapting to college academics.

Swinton implemented SEE at the historically black private college in the 2003-04 school year. The formula calls for calculating freshman grades based on a 60-40 formula, with effort counting for 60 percent and academics counting for 40 percent.

There are many good ways for a university to help students to adapt to academic life, but this policy is not one of them. Grades must be based on competence not effort, otherwise they are either fraudulent or worthless. This policy can only hurt the students at the college and we salute Motley and Williams for refusing to participate.

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