S.A. Resolution #68
Online Platform to answer Student Questions

ABSTRACT: This resolution recommends that instructors utilize an online platform to answer any questions students may have. Asking and answering questions is an important part of the learning process. Furthermore, this resolution increases interactions between students and course staff outside traditional office hours. All students could benefit from this platform, as it fosters an open dialogue.

Sponsored by: Rachel Marciano ’20, Tasnia Haque ’22, Timothy Hunt ’20, Grace Wang ‘22

Whereas, students’ personal schedules often conflict with the course’s office hours;
Whereas, students may have to spend additional time in office hours to get a brief question answered, which may also be difficult for some students due to lack of transportation;
Whereas, students often have urgent questions;
Whereas, office hours can overcrowd and may not fulfill students’ needs;
Whereas, professors get many emails asking the same or similar questions;
Whereas, students are able to learn from seeing previously answered questions and answering other students’ questions based on their understanding of the material;

Be it therefore resolved, that professors are strongly encouraged to implement an online question or discussion forum for their classes, such as Piazza

Be it therefore resolved, with an online platform they will not have to wait until the next office hour time-slot to get their urgent questions answered

Be it therefore resolved, to promote reliability professors can endorse accurate answers provided by other students and course staff

Be it further resolved, that professors and teaching assistants dedicate time to answer questions on these forums as part of their teaching responsibilities

Respectfully Submitted,
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(Reviewed by: Academic Policy Committee, 10-0-2, 05/04/2020)