

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of the City University of New York
Committee on Academic Standing
Minutes of April 26, 2023 (Loew Hall, 200)

Present: Saleh Ali (Stu, *arrived at 2:29pm*), Rasheen Allen (Bio), Evangelia Antonakos (Math, *arrived at 2:44pm*), Laurel Cummins (World Lang), Teresa Fisher (CommAS), Janet Heller (HPER), Kamal Ismail (Chem), Noah Jampol (Eng), Eugene Mananga (Eng Phy Tech, *arrived at 2:18pm*), Octavio Melendez (Adv, OAA), Stephen Powers (Edu), Wladyslaw Roczniak (Hist), Vivian Rodriguez (Nurs), James Watson (Library)

Present Alternates: Edward Lehner (Edu), Anita Rivers (Reg -- seated), James Simpson (Bus -- seated)

Guests: Cheryl Byrd (Ac Appeals Agent), Jessica Cabrera (ASAP), Elvira Karanaeva (Nur), Cynthia Suarez-Espinal (CD), Alex Ott (OAA)

Absent/Excused: Bernice Agyeiwaa (SGA), Julian Espinosa (Stu), Anthony Gatto (A&M), Paul Jaijairam (Bus), Veronica Rivera (Stu), Marjaline Sosa (Soc Sc), Karen Thomas (Reg), plus we are short one SGA member

1. **Call to Order:** At 2:06 P.M., meeting called to order by S. Powers.
2. **Approval of the March 22, 2023, minutes:** After a motion by N. Jampol, the minutes from 03/22/23 were approved unanimously by the 13 voting members present. *E. Mananga and S. Ali were not present for the vote.*
3. **Appeals report:** C. Byrd reported they are starting to pick up, as the SAP appeal period ends on May 1st. K. Ismail asked for clarification regarding the academic appeal process. A. Rivers asked a question about the WU and its impact on financial aid impact (it has no academic impact since Fall 2021). J. Heller asked regarding the W and whether the impact on financial liability changed with the change of deadline to withdraw with a W.
4. **Changes to the codification:** S. Powers reported that he'd presented the proposed changes in the codification due to changes in remediation and in the appeals section to the Senate on 3/23/23 with no questions asked. An email query after simply asked about the vote (which was unanimous).
5. **Nursing proposal:** S. Powers reported that he presented the proposal from Nursing to change the minimum grade for NUR 100/101 from a C+ to a C to the Senate on 3/23/23 with only one question clarifying which courses would be affected (only NUR 100/101).
6. **Valedictorian/Salutatorian selection process:** (see agenda) A. Ott, T. Fisher, and S. Powers began a discussion of the Valedictorian/Salutatorian selection process that will be addressed in the fall. Three primary queries have been raised: whether certificate students should be eligible for these honors, if summer graduates should be included in the prior year's graduation (the prior rather than the following June) or not at all, and how transferred courses as well as prior learning credits (e.g., AP) are factored into the calculations of the academic index determination. A. Ott also noted it's possible someone could turn down the honor or be unreachable and there is nothing in the policy to address that situation. Discussion ensued.
7. **May 10th meeting discussion:** S. Powers proposed that, as there is no actionable business left to attend this academic year, that the May 10th meeting be canceled. After a motion by S. Powers, the proposal was accepted unanimously by all 16 members present for the vote.

8. **Granting Registrar the right to graduate students:** S. Powers reminded members that the committee needs to grant the Registrar the right to graduate the classes of August 2022, January 2023, and June 2023. After a motion by S. Powers, the committee voted unanimously in favor of granting that right to the Registrar by all 16 members present.
9. **New Business:** C. Byrd asked, and S. Powers confirmed, that the same committee members as last summer would be reviewing summer appeals in 2023: S. Powers, N. Jampol, G. Cobb, P. Jaijairam, and T. Fisher.
10. **Adjournment:** S. Powers thanked members for their service. Members thanked T. Fisher for her service. After a motion from V. Rodriguez, the meeting adjourned at 2:53pm.

Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. The 2023-2024 meetings are currently scheduled on: 9/13, 9/27, 10/11, 10/25, 11/8, 12/13 (Reading Day); 2/14, 2/28, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 5/8. Meetings will take place in Loew Hall, 200.

Respectfully Submitted,



Teresa A. Fisher, Recording Secretary

Handouts: agenda

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC STANDING

April 26, 2023: 2:00 – 4:00
Loew Hall 200

AGENDA

1. **Call to order** Steve Powers
2. **Approval of Minutes from 3/22/2023** Teresa Fisher
3. **Appeals Report** Cheryl Byrd
4. **Changes to the Codification, due to Changes in Remediation Appeals Section of the Codification** Alex Ott
Octavio Melendez
To Senate 3/23/23 – no questions. I did get an emailed question 4/23 asking what the vote was on the motion. Unanimous.
5. **Changes to NUR Minimum Grade (NUR 100/101) From a C+ to a C** Vivian Rodriguez
To Senate 3/23/23 – only questions was a clarification as to which courses would be affected (NUR 100/101)
6. **Val/Sal Selection** (see attached) Alex Ott, et al
Meeting with Committee 4/19/23
6.A Val/Sal 11.7.b.ii - Calculation of the academic index for such determination shall include-grades for courses transferred, if any.
6.B Is a student who earns a 30 or so credit certificate, be Eligible to be the Val/Sal? At the moment, the answer is ‘yes.’
7. **May 10th Meeting** Steve Powers
We have no actionable business to attend to, though we have the Val/Sal for September. Therefore, a move to cancel the 5/10/23 Meeting. If so, then item 7A needs approval

7A. Motion to grant the right to Registrar to graduate the classes of August 2022, January 2023, and June 2023 Anita Rivers
Karen Thomas

Spring 2023 remaining meeting dates:

May 10, 2023 (depends on vote in item #7)

Tentative fall 2023 and spring 2024 meeting dates:

9/13, 9/27, 10/11, 10/25, 11/8, 12/13 (Reading Day)

2/14, 2/28, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 5/8

Revision: To modify the selection process used to determine the valedictorian and salutatorian by amending the objective criteria to address associate degree versus certificate program as well as explore questions regarding courses taken at prior colleges and prior learning.

Current Policy	Proposed Policy
<p>11.7 Graduation Honors</p> <p>a. It is generally recognized that the academic honor of valedictorian or salutatorian is reserved to students who have accomplished the highest academic achievements in their graduating class. The college commencement committee shall be responsible for the selection of the valedictorian and salutatorian.</p> <p>b. In making their selections the committee shall follow the following criteria and process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be those students having the highest and next highest academic index among those graduating. Calculation of the academic index for such determination shall include-grades for courses transferred, if any. Calculation of the academic index for June graduates shall include all courses taken exclusive of those currently being taken during their terminal Spring semester. Mid-term grades shall not be used to calculate the cumulative index for the purpose of selecting the valedictorian or salutatorian. In those cases where the foregoing procedures do not result in a clear difference among competing individuals, the commencement committee shall consider the following additional factors to distinguish the scholarship performance of candidates* <ol style="list-style-type: none"> number of credits with grade of A+ 	<p>11.7 Graduation Honors</p> <p>a. It is generally recognized that the academic honor of valedictorian or salutatorian is reserved to students who have accomplished the highest academic achievements in their graduating class. The college commencement committee shall be responsible for the selection of the valedictorian and salutatorian from the graduating associate degree students.</p> <p>b. In making their selections the committee shall follow the following criteria and process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be those students having the highest and next highest academic index among those graduating with an associate degree. Calculation of the academic index for such determination shall include-grades for courses transferred, if any. Calculation of the academic index for June graduates shall include all courses taken exclusive of those currently being taken during their terminal Spring semester. Mid-term grades shall not be used to calculate the cumulative index for the purpose of selecting the valedictorian or salutatorian. In those cases where the foregoing procedures do not result in a clear difference among competing individuals, the commencement committee shall consider the following additional factors to distinguish the scholarship performance of candidates*

Commented [AO1]: Recommend a discussion here on whether language should be changed to include all courses at previous college(s).

Commented [AO2]: Consider a new item that addresses CPL (e.g., AP) and whether the "grade" on the CPL should be considered equivalent to a college course grade.

<i>Current Policy</i>	<i>Proposed Policy</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) GPA after recalculation that includes all grades earned at all colleges, including F, NC grades and (or other grades) that may have been forgiven by institutional policies c) fewest number of P and CR grades d) fewest number of transfer credits e) number of credits with honors designation <p>*(Note that the above five items—a, b, c, d, e—are sequential and exclusive. That is, 5a shall be considered before 5b. If 5a distinguishes the candidates, no consideration of 5b is permissible, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi. In those cases where the foregoing procedures do not result in a clear difference among competing individuals, the commencement committee will name co-valedictorians and no salutatorian. <p>c. Note: In the above paragraphs the term “shall” is construed to be mandatory while the term “may” is construed to be permissive.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) number of credits with grade of A+ b) GPA after recalculation that includes all grades earned at all colleges, including F, NC grades and (or other grades) that may have been forgiven by institutional policies c) fewest number of P and CR grades d) fewest number of transfer credits e) number of credits with honors designation <p>*(Note that the above five items—a, b, c, d, e—are sequential and exclusive. That is, 5a shall be considered before 5b. If 5a distinguishes the candidates, no consideration of 5b is permissible, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi. In those cases where the foregoing procedures do not result in a clear difference among competing individuals, the commencement committee will name co-valedictorians and no salutatorian. <p>c. Note: In the above paragraphs the term “shall” is construed to be mandatory while the term “may” is construed to be permissive.</p>

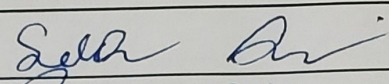
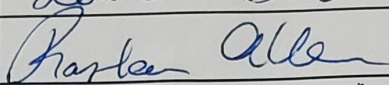
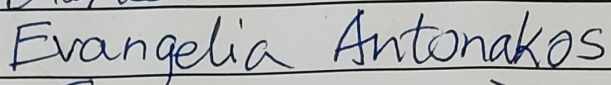
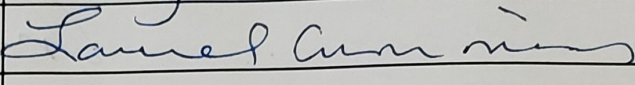
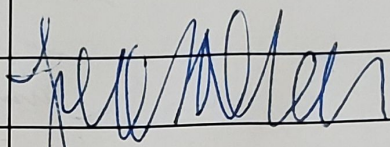
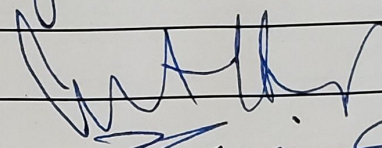
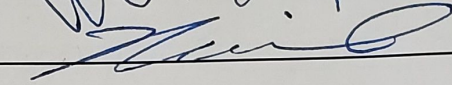
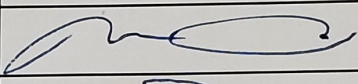
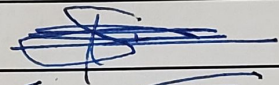
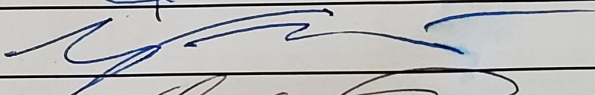
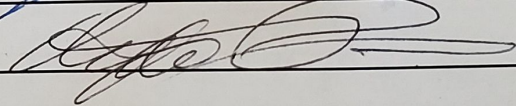
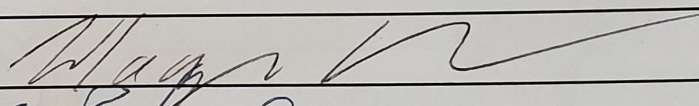
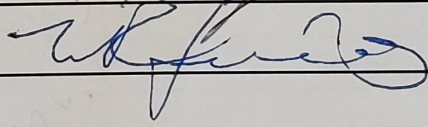
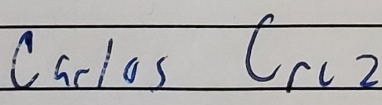
Rationale:

This new language now excludes certificate graduates given that their degree does not include the same number of credits (generally half) of the associate degree as well as...

Date: 04/26/2023

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE of the City University of New York

Committee on Academic Standing

Members: (22) (name and department)	Signature
Agyeiwaa, Bernice (SGA)	
Ali, Saleh (Student)	
Allen, Rasheen (Biology)	
Antonakos, Evangelia (Math & Comp Sc)	
Cummins, Laurel (World Lang)	
Espinosa, Julian (Student)	
Fisher, Teresa (Comm Art & Sc)	
Gatto, Anthony (Art and Music)	
Heller, Janet (HPER)	
Ismail, Kamal (Chemistry)	
Jaijairam, Paul (Business)	
Jampol, Noah (English)	
Mananga, Eugene (Eng Phy Tech) 2/18	
Melendez, Octavio (Adv-OAA)	
Powers, Stephen (Ed & Ac Lit), Chair	
Rivera, Veronica (Student)	
Roczniak, Wladyslaw (History)	
Rodriguez, Vivian (Nursing)	
Sosa, Marjaline (Soc Science)	
Thomas, Karen (Registrar)	
Watson, James (Library)	
(SGA)	
Alternates: (name and department)	Signature
Cano, Nefertiti (Nursing)	
Cobb, Gregory (Social Science)	
Cruz, Carlos (CommArtsSc)	
deJong-Lambert, William (History)	

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE of the City University of New York

Alternates: (name and department)	Signature
Di Tommaso, Kathryn (Eng)	
Hodges, Michael (HPER)	
Ingram, Z. (World Lang)	
Lehner, Edward (Ed & Ac Lit)	Esw
Rivers, Anita (Registrar)	Anita Rivers
Shang, Enyuan (Biology)	
Simpson, James (Business)	James C. Simpson, Jr.
Therese, Soosairaj (Chemistry)	
Tursi, Grace (Eng Phy Tech)	
Non-voting members:	Signature
Byrd, Cheryl (Appeals Agent)	Cheryl Byrd
Suarez-Espinal, Cynthia (CD)	Cynthia Suarez-Espinal
Guests: Please print name	Then sign here
Cabrera, Jessica (ASAP)	Jessica Cabrera
Ott, Alexander (OAA)	Alexander Ott
Elvira Karanqeva	Elvira Karanqeva