

BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
of the City University of New York
Committee on Academic Standing
Minutes of October 25, 2017

Present: Rasheen Allen (Biology), Nicholas Anuku (Chemistry), Erica Arcelay (SGA), Bryan Betancur (Modern Language), Gregory Cobb (Social Sciences), Teresa Fisher (Communication), Eugene Mananga (Engineering, Physics and Technology), Octavio Melendez (Advisement, OAA), Sharmila Mukherjee (English), Elda Polanco (SGA), Stephen Powers (Education), Stacia Reader (HPER), Anita Rivers (Registrar), Wladyslaw Roczniak (History), Alnisa Shabazz (Nursing), Sa-Rawla Stoute (Student Dev), James Watson (Library), Suzanne Zybert (Math)

Present Alternates: Olusola Alamu (Nursing), Andrea Ortuño (Art and Music) – seated, Kaemanje Thomas (Education)

Guests: Francisco Legasa (ASAP), Alexander Ott (OAA)

Absent/Excused: Anthony Gatto (Art & Music) – on sabbatical, Alam Gonzalez (SGA – Student), Paul Jajairam (Business), Ellen Mareneck (Communication), Enyuan Shang (Biology), James Simpson (Business), Shirley Skelt (Appeals Agent), Karen Thomas (Registrar), Marjaline Vizcarrondo (Social Sciences), 2 SGA reps

1. **Call to Order:** 2:07 P.M., meeting called to order by Stephen Powers.
2. **Approval of the Minutes of September 27, 2017; and October 11, 2017:** The minutes of September 27, 2017 were approved unanimously as amended by the 16 members in attendance who were present at that meeting. The minutes of October 11, 2017 were approved unanimously as amended by the 16 members in attendance who were present at that meeting.
3. **Student Appeals:** Octavio Melendez reported there were no appeals to present.
4. **CUNY Uniform Grade Glossary:** This was the fourth meeting in which the proposed policies were discussed. After discussion of the new language including an addition to part “c” (“for students”), questions were asked and answered. The policy passed with 18 in favor, 1 opposed (Fisher), and no abstentions.
 - **Section XI:** The grade of “P” or “NC” may be given as part of a ‘Pass/No Pass’ agreement between a student and instructor. The instructor is not obligated to grant this request. In order to receive this grade, a student needs to continue attending the class, complete all assignments, and take the final exam. If a passing grade is earned (A+ through D-), the student will receive a grade of ‘P’ and credit for the course with no impact on GPA. If a failing grade is earned (F), the student will receive a grade of NC which does not affect the GPA. The required form is available from the Office of the Registrar.
 - a. This option must be requested prior to the last day a student can withdraw and receive a grade of “W” via an agreement with the Office of the Registrar.
 - b. Students must remain in compliance with Federal and State Satisfactory Academic Progress guidelines. A student will be eligible for a maximum of two P/NC grades while attending BCC.
 - c. P/NC is not an option for courses **for students** in a major that require a specific minimum grade and/or have specific requirements due to programmatic accreditation or licensure regulations.

- a. **Section XIII:** *A college may choose to offer a First Year Freshman Forgiveness policy. If the student passes the course, they will receive the grade earned which will carry the designated GPA. If the student fails the course, the grade will be administratively converted to NC and have no impact on the GPA. This policy is limited to first year Freshman as defined by the college.*

S. Powers provided data on the number of students in Spring 2016, Fall 2016, and Spring 2017 who would have been eligible to take advantage of a First Year Freshman Forgiveness policy. He noted that approximately one-third of the freshman population would have been in academic distress based on having earned an F or WU grade in one or more credit-bearing classes at the end of their first semester at BCC. Noting that the policy itself may only postpone the problem for some academically struggling students, he posed the question of what the College can do to best help these students succeed including aligning existing programs and strategies when formulating an intervention. Discussion ensued. Francisco Legasa suggested there is a difference between a student who has failed a class and a student who is academically distressed. He expressed concern that the scope of intervention discussed is both too great to implement successfully and unnecessary for many of the identified students. A. Ott and O. Melendez as well as S. Powers noted that flexibility would be needed with any proposed intervention to account for various student situations as well as simplicity to ensure its effectiveness. F. Legasa noted that ASAP is expanding so will likely cover most of the affected students within its umbrella of programs and interventions. S. Powers reported that members will receive information at the next CAS meeting that they can bring back to their departments to review regarding this proposed policy.

5. **Revision of Academic Rules and Regulations:** Alexander Ott reported the sub-committee met after the CAS meeting on October 11. He noted a plan was put in place to make the previously noted corrections to the codification and is in the process of being implemented by sub-committee members.
6. **New Business:** None
7. **Adjournment:** 2:56 P.M.

The next meeting, the last for this semester, is scheduled for November 8, 2017, from 2-4 p.m. in the South Hall Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,
Teresa A. Fisher, Recording Secretary

Handouts:

- CUNY Uniform Grade Policy memo from March 2017
- First Year Freshman Forgiveness Policy data