

Committee on Academic Standing

Minutes for March 14, 2012 (APPROVED)

PRESENT:

Evangelia Antonakos, Frank Blanchard, Cheryl Byrd, Grace Campagna, Paula Green, Camilla Dacey-Groth, Helen Harrison, Mildred Hermina, Paul Jajairam, Cherno Jallow, Mary Lou McNichol, Octavio Melendez, Isabel Mirsky, Eugene Passer, Stephen Powers, Wladyslaw Roczniak, Ajaz Sana, Karen Thomas, Alexander Wolf. (*Note: Vote tallies below vary due to late arrivals.*)

The meeting commenced at 2:35 p.m.

- I. Approval of the Minutes of February 22, 2012 *Grace Campagna*
Minutes were distributed and reviewed. Lacking a quorum of those present on February 22nd, approval of the Minutes was tabled until later in the meeting.
2:50 p.m., after Item III.B: Minutes were approved, 13 in favor, 0 against, 3 abstaining: Blanchard, Green, Harrison. (*Note: Jallow and Sana not yet present.*)

- II. Appeals and Waivers *Cheryl Byrd*
No subcommittee decisions as to student appeals and waivers were presented for CAS review and approval. The recommendations of the March 7th and March 21st Appeals Subcommittees will be reviewed at the next CAS meeting on March 28th. (*Note: The update as to Appeals and Waivers occurred after Item III.A.*)

III. New Business

- A. Finding of the CAS Review Subcommittee on Grade Appeals *Stephen Powers*

The CAS subcommittee met at 2:00 p.m today, as per Section 8.8.3 of the Codification, to review procedures used by an Ad Hoc Committee of the Department of Nursing & Allied Health. A student had appealed an F grade received in the clinical course, NUR 48, but had already exhausted the curriculum's allowed number of course- repeats. The Ad Hoc Committee met January 17th, upheld the F grade, allowed the student to retake NUR 48, and reported its decision to the Registrar on January 30th. The matter before CAS is whether the Ad Hoc committee correctly followed procedures as per Section 8.8.3 of the Codification.

The CAS subcommittee concluded that the Ad Hoc Committee did not have purview to authorize the student to repeat the course, and did not comply with the requirement to report its decision to the Registrar within 5 days of its vote.

CAS approved the recommendations of the Subcommittee, 15 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining: Dacey-Groth. (*Note: Jallow and Sana not yet present.*) CAS will forward the recommendations to the Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs.

B. Report of Subcommittee on Grades: PEN Grade

Isabel Mirsky

The Subcommittee's recommendation is that the PEN grade be restricted to disciplinary cases, in accordance with CUNY-wide usage. To date, PEN has also been used at BCC for students who completed the ENG 02 course without passing the required CAT-W exam. Since the PEN grade has a derogatory connotation on student transcripts, it will be eliminated from the grade roster options, and assigned only by the Registrar in disciplinary situations. The Subcommittee will identify an alternative ENG 02 grade for students who have not yet passed the CAT-W.

IV. Old Business

A. Math Department Proposal: Course Repeat for College Proficiency

Isabel Mirsky

A proposal from the Math Department, "That all students be allowed, without special departmental permission, to repeat a credit-bearing math course in which they have received a passing grade lower than C," was discussed in light of feedback obtained by CAS representatives at their respective departmental meetings on March 15th. The proposal would allow students, as-of-right, to repeat passed courses in order to obtain at least a "C" grade in MTH 21, 23, 13, or 30, so as to demonstrate proficiency for purpose of transfer to a senior college. (Currently, students require Math Department permission.) The discussion included the possible implications of this proposal under CUNY Pathways, to take effect in fall 2013.

CAS approved the proposal, 14 in favor, 0 against, 3 abstaining: Green, Harrison, Passer. (*Note: Jallow not yet present.*) CAS will submit this item to the BCC Senate for action this semester.

B. Modern Language (ML) Exemption Proposal

Isabel Mirsky

A proposal from the Modern Language Department, "That exemption from the Modern Language requirement be based on completion of 2 years of high school language instruction with an average of 85 in the second year," was discussed in light of feedback obtained by CAS representatives at their respective departmental meetings on March 15th. The discussion included whether student high school transcripts provided to BCC by the University Applications Processing Center enabled the calculation of this 2-year average.

A CAS vote on this proposal did not carry; 11 were in favor, 3 were against: Green, Jaijiram, Mirsky; 3 abstained: Harrison, McNichol, Wolf. (*Note: Jallow not yet present.*)

C. Revision to the Codification as to the Committee on Academic Standing

Isabel Mirsky

(*Note: This is an item of "New Business."*) Various proposed changes to Section 1, "Committee on Academic Standing," and Section 2, "CAS Procedural Matters," were reviewed and discussed. The changes consist of non-material revisions to language, and to reflect recent online college notification practices. As such, CAS will provide these to the BCC Senate for the Senate's information, not as an action item. (However, CAS will address a revision to Section 2.4.2, Structure of the Executive Committee, in the future.)

In order to present the revisions to the Senate in April, in time for action this semester, CAS requires a two-thirds vote to waive the two-meeting rule; CAS approves this waiver, 17 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining: Passer. A motion to accept the revised language was approved, 17 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining: Passer.

D. Withdrawal Statement

Isabel Mirsky

Proposed changes to Section 7, Withdrawal and Reinstatement, were distributed for review and action at a future meeting. Additional language is needed to address time frames for academic sessions other than the fall and spring semester.

E. Revision to BCC Catalog Statement on Attendance

Isabel Mirsky

CAS action on this item is tabled pending distribution and review of the text of the CUNY attendance policy for comparison. Since the goal of this revision is to make BCC attendance policy consistent with that of CUNY, no Senate action will be needed.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held March 28th in Language Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Campagna