



Borough of Manhattan Community College
The City University of New York
Academic Senate

Minutes
November 27th, 2019
Room N451

- I. CALL TO ORDER: 2.37pm
- II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Minutes of 10.23.19 were unanimously approved.
- III. ATTENDANCE: A quorum was achieved. The following senators were absent: Hussein Abdulla, Jean Amaral, James Berg, Sharon Brickman, Horace Brockington, Henry Bulley, Arthur Cain, Cheryl Christopher, Gerald Clock, Anthony Creaco, Abraham Dasney, Noor Earpy, Judy Eng, Monica Foust, Abdoul-Hanane Gbadamassi, Talibah Khwaja, Jun Liang Rice, Yolanda Medina, Kaddy Monoh, Abel Navarro, Serine Ndiaye, Melanie Oram, Atef Osamah, Manita Pavel, Alicia Perdomo, Rebecca Smart, Ali Syed, Kiberwossen Tesfagiorgis, Janice Walters, Cynthia Wiseman, Abubakar Yussif, Emily Zheng
- IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:
 - a. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:
 1. Curriculum items
 - i. **Course SLO Revisions for Academic Literacy and Linguistics: Description:**
The SLOs for the following courses have been revised to reflect the Department and University move away from stand-alone courses to co-requisite courses. Some courses also have additional changes as noted below.
 1. ACR 95 Academic and Critical Reading II
 2. CRT 100.5 Critical Thinking Corequisite for Reading Proficiency. This also includes change of title, change of basic skills requirements and change of course description.
 3. ESL 49 English as a Second Language. This also included change of course description.
 4. ESL 54 English as a Second Language. This also included a change of course description.
 5. ESL 96 Intensive Reading and Writing

6. LIN 150.5 Language, Race, and Ethnicity in the US and its Territories
Corequisite for Reading Proficiency. This also includes change of title,
change of basic skills requirements and change of course description.
- ii. **New Course:** LIN 101.6 Introduction to Linguistics for ESL 95
Description: This new course combines two existing courses: LIN 101
and ESL 95.
- iii. **New Course:** LIN 140.4 World/Global Englishes Reading Corequisite
Description: This new course combines two existing courses: LIN 140
and ACR 94.
- iv. **New Course:** LIN 100.6 Language and Culture for ESL 95
Description: This new course combines two existing courses: LIN 100
and ESL 95.
- v. **New Course:** ACR 150.5 Literacy in American Society: Contexts & Practices
Corequisite for Reading Proficiency
Description: This new course combines two existing courses: ACR 150
and ACR 95.
- vi. **New Curriculum:** Public & Nonprofit Administration
Description: Business Department proposal for a new Associate in
Science degree in Public and Nonprofit Administration.
- vii. **Curriculum Revision:** Sociology
Description: This proposal changes the elective requirements to require
students to take more Sociology courses to give them a stronger
background in sociological theory and methods.

2. Proficiency resolution (below)

- a. All departments accepted the proficiency resolution so that students can register for spring classes. IP Wilks stated that all community college presidents are meeting regularly with the Chancellor regarding concerns. The proposed proficiency placement guidelines are being used a pilot for spring semester. Faculty expressed a number of comments and concerns* regarding this policy. IP Wilks welcomes any and all feedback and stated that what will be important is where students are placed and how they perform. BMCC will monitor the process and provide feedback.
- b. *Comments and concerns included whether BMCC can push back on rushing this process, the possibility of BMCC developing its own plan and using this as an opportunity to create change, developing a plan for students who do not have the appropriate index, concern that BMCC enrollment will drop, the opinion that BMCC should reject the policy change entirely, and the suggestion that BMCC consider ways to bring CunyStart, CLIP, BLIIS, basic skills lab program or a program offered by MEOC into governance. In the case of students without a proficiency index, BMCC will use an algorithm for placement; information acquired by the algorithm is not given out by CUNY.

3. VOTE to accept proficiency policy: 40 for, 13 against. No quorum - vote did not pass.
- a. COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
 - i. Islamophobia event very successful.
 - ii. Discussed ways to provide more space(s) for prayer and reflection on campus, as requested by the Muslim Students Association. There is a hold up on that because several groups are also requesting space: an LGBTQ Center, an Urban Men's Center, Study Space for Parents with Children, general-use lounges.
 - iii. Continued to explore and work on appeal forms (language). Also talked about possible interventions before appeals are needed e.g. through cohort programs.
 - iv. Connect2Success: considering the possibility of adding a midterm grade option.
 - b. FACULTY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
 - i. Faculty Development Day will be on December 4th, 9:45 am to 2:00 pm. Save the dates and RSVPs will be sent out as soon as possible. The website will be updated soon. Information will be included in the next CETLS newsletter and Dean Berg's office will also send out an email advertising the event.
 - ii. Continued work on getting the FDG submission process online.
 - iii. Continued work on finding speakers for the Joe Doctor colloquium.
 - iv. Committee will send out an email requesting volunteers for the Joe Doctor event and for FDG reviewers.
 - c. INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE
 - i. Continued work on guidelines for student evaluations of faculty and peer online observations.
 - d. ACADEMIC STANDING COMMITTEE
 - i. Read and acted on student appeals.
 - ii. Chair reported back on two meetings:
 - 1. Meeting with Financial Aid director regarding financial aid appeals.
 - 2. Registrar's office and IT concerning progress made toward an online version of the appeal system. IT demonstrated a proposed online process developed for filing a student appeal. The process in its current iteration is however not ready for use.
 - iii. J. Blake: faculty need to be careful in advising students. In some instances, students have appealed for the wrong semester. Alam: as long as the student's academic plan does not change, the appeal can be moved to the next semester without the need for a new appeal.
 - e. ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE
 - i. Remediation discussion:
 - 1. Admissions committee should be involved in the process of remediation– discussing how that could happen.

2. Chair will meet with representative in the Admission Office to discuss potential role.

f. ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE

- i. The matter concerning the request for information (Agenda) about a meeting prior to being granted a room has been closed to the satisfaction of all parties.
- ii. The question about the content of online course shells has been dropped.
- iii. The committee is seeking information on guidelines regarding students recording of classes.

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

- i. Co-requisite courses – the placement guidelines under discussion come from CUNY Central; there is some troublesome phrasing in them that should be considered as we continue with this process.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Chair informed Senate that the resolution raised in the AS meeting of 10.23.19 regarding Academic Senate Chair or a designee acting as a non-voting member of the BMCC Cabinet in order to fully represent and inform the faculty on relevant decisions has been denied by IP Wilks.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Student Technology Student Fee committee election results: Ahmet Mete Kok (CIS) 39; Berenice Darwich (MLD) 28; Christopher Stein (MEA) 42; Patrick Flink (ALL) 20. Committee comprised of Kok, Darwich and Stein.
- b. J. Blake thanked AS members who attended the 400th Anniversary of Slavery in America event.
- c. ASAP students are no longer getting early registration. Any student with 36 or more credits gets priority registration. The only exception is veteran students, in compliance with the law.
- d. January AS meeting – calendar amendment: the next AS meeting will be held on January 29th, 2020.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: 3:54 pm.

Curriculum Committee Resolution for the Departments to Approve

Effective spring 2020, for all credit-bearing courses requiring basic skills prerequisites, the academic department XXXXX approves of the College applying the appropriate proficiency index as a prerequisite.

General placement guidelines:

- a. to require that students are fully proficient, then:

- i. English Index Score: 65 or higher
- ii. Math Index Score: 60 or higher

- b. to require that students are in the higher-range basic skills, then:
 - i. English Index Score: 58-64
 - ii. Math Index Score: 40-59

- c. to require that students are in the mid-range basic skills, then:
 - i. English Index Score: 55-57
 - ii. Math Index Score: 40-59

The lowest level of proficiency is *:

English Index Score: 54 or lower

Math Index Score: 39 or lower

**Please note: Students with this proficiency index will need to enroll in CUNYStart, CLIP, BLIIS, basic skills lab program or a program offered by MEOC.*