

In attendance: Christine Jacknick, Glenny Valoy, Yuliya Shneyderman, Cara Kronen, Benjamin Haas, Maureen Matarese, Fareedat Abubakar, VP Marva Craig

At 1:45, James Blake from the Academic Standing sub-committee explained the three different types of appeals – reinstatement, grade change, and Title IV (financial aid), noting what kind of supporting documentation are needed for each. He explained the process of working with someone from the Counseling Center. He advocated for a first-year experience class for all students, which he believes will help students adjust to being in college better and thus lead to fewer academic probation/dismissal cases. VP Craig responded that this is being developed, Ken Levinson will chair a committee on creating this class. The Student Affairs sub-committee believes that moving the entire process of appeals online will make the process more accessible to students.

Minutes from meeting on 8/25/21 were unanimously approved.

Announcement – the date for the November Academic Senate meeting has moved to December 1st, so the sub-committee meeting will be moved to accommodate. A Doodle poll will be sent.

Free menstrual products – VP Yafar said this was now a CUNY-wide initiative and the decision about where these will be made is currently being discussed.

The committee discussed the process of changing names to one's preferred name at BMCC. This can be done through CUNYFirst, though this is not a legal name change. The language on the BMCC website about this needs to be changed to be in accordance with the law. The committee reviewed the Gender Change Request Form which is done through the Registrar's office. The committee had a question about pronouns, since those are not included in the form. Per VP Craig, the Office of Student Affairs tries not to use pronouns in any communication with students.

The committee discussed having an event on the process of filling out appeals to educate them on the process. There are changes to the process and rules that will be going into effect soon – how will students be informed on these? This event may be used to educate students on these new rules.

Daphne Gillis from the Office of Accessibility presented on a new type of accommodations for students, Adjustment to Assignment Deadline accommodation, for non-quiz and non-exam deadline accommodations. She presented the form that will be used to negotiate the process between the student and professor. Daphne will email the committee the form for further review and comments.

Sanjay Ramdath from Enrollment attended to answer questions. He presented on falling enrollments, stating that high school student numbers have been declining all over the country, but especially in the Northeast. This leaves community colleges to attract other types of students, e.g. adult learners. More data analysis is needed to understand why students are going more to four-year colleges, why some students are returning to community college after trying four-year colleges, etc.