



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

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Minutes  
November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Via Zoom

- I. CALL TO ORDER: 3:09 pm
- II. ATTENDANCE: A quorum was achieved. The following senators were absent: Joel Barker, Warren Benfield, James Berg, James Blake, Melissa Butler-Haughton, Arthur Cain, Cheryl Christopher, Corinne Crawford, Junia Doccy, Erik Freas, Hollis Glaser, Quintasia Harris, Orlando Justo, Mohamadou Sawadogo, Achraf Seyam, Ching Song, Ali Syed
- III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Minutes from the meeting of 10.28.2020 were unanimously approved.
- IV. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:
  - a. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE: The following items were unanimously approved by the Academic Senate:
    - i. **Course Revision:** FRN 160 French Caribbean Literature in Translation  
**Description:** The proposal updates the course description to be more inclusive and flexible with the literature covered.
    - ii. **Course Revision:** FRN 161 French-Speaking Women Writers in Translation  
**Description:** The proposal updates the course description to be more inclusive and flexible with the literature covered. Also, the pre-requisites are changed from *ENG 201 or ENG 121* to *ENG 101*.
    - iii. **Course Revision:** FRN 430 French V Survey of French Literature I  
**Description:** The proposal updates the course description to be more inclusive and flexible with the literature covered.
    - iv. **Course Revision:** FRN 435 French VI Survey of French Literature II  
**Description:** The proposal updates the course description to be more inclusive and flexible with the literature covered.
    - v. **Course Revision:** FRN 440: French VII 20th-century French Literature  
**Description:** The proposal updates the course description to be more inclusive and flexible with the literature covered.

- vi. **Course Revision:** FRN 461 The Individual and Society in 19th Century French Literature  
**Description:** The proposal updates the course description to be more inclusive and flexible with the literature covered.
- vii. **Curriculum Revision:** Science for Health Professions  
**Description:** This proposal would change the name of the curriculum from *Science for Health Professions* to *Science for Health* and make a change to the program requirements. The name change should reduce confusion between this major and the Science major which is better for students seeking certain health professions.
- viii. **Curriculum Revision:** Mathematics  
**Description:** This revision changes the second Modern Language requirement to a Program Elective which changes the total Program Electives from 9 to 12. It also adds CSC 211 as a possible Program Elective and notes that students taking CSC 110 or CSC 111 may have CSC 101 count towards the General Elective.
- ix. **Curriculum Revision:** AS in Art Foundations: Studio Art  
**Description:** There are two changes to the Art Foundations curriculum requirements that add breadth and depth to our Studio Art Curriculum. Adding a new 3D Design course requirement aligns BMCC with most CUNY and other art degree programs. Also requiring students to choose either ART 174 Painting Studio I, ART 133 Photography I, or ART 183 Sculpture Studio I expands their skill set and better prepares them for transfer.
- x. **New Course:** ART 143 3D Design: Materials and Methods  
**Description:** This course is an introduction to three-dimensional materials and methods. It is required in the Art Foundations Studio Major A.S. degree.
- xi. **New Course:** ART 270 Portrait Drawing  
**Description:** This course is a second-level Drawing class with a focus on the head. It counts toward the Drawing concentration and Art electives.
- xii. **New Course:** ART 285 Figure Sculpture I  
**Description:** This course is a second-level Sculpture class with a focus on the human figure. It counts toward the Sculpture concentration and Art electives.
- xiii. **New Course:** ART 335 Commercial Photography and Career Strategies  
**Description:** This course is a third-level Photography class focusing on preparation for running a photography business. It counts toward the Photography concentration and Art electives.
- xiv. **Course Revision:** ART 133 Photography I (previously ART 236 Introduction to Photography)  
**Description:** This revision updates the course title and number from *ART 236 Introduction to Photography* to *ART 133 Photography I* in order to align it with the Photography sequence numbering and avoid confusion for students.

- xv. **Withdrawn Course:** ART 234 Photography I  
**Description:** This course is withdrawn to avoid confusion with ART 133 Photography I. It does not align with the Photography sequence.
- xvi. **Course Revision:** ART 233 Photography II (previously ART 338 Digital Darkroom)  
**Description:** This revision updates the course title and number from *ART 338 Digital Darkroom* to *ART 233 Photography II* in order to align it with the Photography sequence numbering and avoid confusion for students. It also removes the Basic Skills and adds ART 133 as a possible pre-requisite.
- xvii. **Course Revision:** ART 237 Studio and Light (previously ART 337 Studio and Light)  
**Description:** This revision updates the course number from ART 337 to ART 237 in order to align it with the Photography sequence numbering and avoid confusion for students. It also removes the Basic Skills, adds ART 133 as a possible pre-requisite and removes ART 234 from the pre-requisites.
- xviii. **Course Revision:** ART 238 Advanced Photography (previously ART 336 Advanced Photography)  
**Description:** This revision updates the course number from ART 336 to ART 238 in order to align it with the Photography sequence numbering and avoid confusion for students. It also removes the Basic Skills, adds ART 133 as a possible pre-requisite and removes ART 234 from the pre-requisites.
- xix. **Course Revision:** ART 183 Sculpture Studio I (previously ART 183 Introduction to Sculpture Studio)  
**Description:** This revision updates the course title from *Introduction to Sculpture Studio* to *Sculpture Studio I* in order to align it with the Sculpture sequence numbering and avoid confusion for students.
- xx. **Course Revision:** ART 269 Life Drawing Studio I (previously ART 168 Life Drawing Studio I)  
**Description:** This revision updates the course number from ART 168 to ART 269 in order to align it with the Drawing sequence and avoid confusion for students.
- xxi. **Course Revision:** ART 369 Life Drawing Studio II (previously ART 268 Life Drawing Studio II)  
**Description:** This revision updates the course number from ART 268 to ART 369 in order to align it with the Drawing sequence and avoid confusion for students.
- xxii. **Course Revision:** MMA 215 Typography and Layout  
**Description:** This revision adds ART 101 as a possible pre-requisite.
- xxiii. **Course Revision:** MMA 225 Digital Imaging for Graphic Design  
**Description:** This revision adds ART 101 as a possible pre-requisite.
- xxiv. **Course Revision:** MMA 235 Visual Communication and Design

**Description:** This revision adds ART 101 as a possible pre-requisite.

xxv. **Curriculum Revision:** A.A.S. in Business Management

**Description:** This proposal adds three new courses (RMI 220, RMI 230, RMI 240) as options in the Finance and Banking elective area of the Business Management major. It also specifies MAT 206 as an option in the Common Core and both MAT 301 and new course RMI 110 as options in the Curriculum Requirements component of the degree requirements.

xxvi. **New Course:** RMI 110 Principles of Risk Management and Insurance

**Description:** This new course is part of a new series of course in Risk Management and Insurance in the Business Management Major.

xxvii. **New Course:** RMI 220 Property and Liability Insurance Principles

**Description:** This new course is part of a new series of course in Risk Management and Insurance in the Business Management Major.

xxviii. **New Course:** RMI 230 Commercial Insurance Principles

**Description:** This new course is part of a new series of course in Risk Management and Insurance in the Business Management Major.

xxix. **New Course:** RMI 240 Insurance Operations

**Description:** This new course is part of a new series of course in Risk Management and Insurance in the Business Management Major.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Motion to discuss new business before committee reports unanimously approved.
- b. Motion: We move that BMCC adopt an NC/CR policy for Fall 2020 through Spring 2021 (pending CUNY approval) with the understanding that students who might opt in are given sufficient information from advisors, Student Affairs and departments. Vote: 3 nays, 3 abstentions. Motion passed based on voice vote.

## VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES continued:

### b. FACULTY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- i. Faculty Development Day a success, with 10 presenters, 65 attendees and plenty of positive feedback.
- ii. Resolution (below): unanimously approved.

### c. INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE – resolutions (below)

- i. Peer observation resolution: In favor: 40; Against: 24. Resolution failed to pass.
- ii. Student evaluations resolution: In favor: 42; Against: 18. Resolution failed to pass.

### d. ACADEMIC STANDING COMMITTEE

- i. Read appeals.
- ii. Continued work on online appeals system.

- e. COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS
  - i. Hosted Zoom information session: [Housing Insecurity and Homelessness](#)
  - ii. Reviewing student support programs
  - iii. Updating “Teaching in Crisis” memo.
  - iv. Drop fees: investigating how many students are affected by this rule.
- f. ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE
  - i. Continued discussion on issues with students knowing how to navigate and where to go in order to register and enrollment.
- g. ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE
  - i. Discussed Purview of Academic Freedom Committee A. Statement to be drafted by the February 2021 meeting.
  - ii. StarFish Connect2Success discussion: Emails NOT written by professors, but signed in their names, should not be sent out by Connect2Success. Letter to be sent to Dean Zummo regarding this issue.

VII. CHAIR’S REPORT

- a. We are all aware of the pandemic hardships faculty are facing. Resolutions are important and need to be respected. However, AS Chair reminded faculty that Departmental Chairs are always trying to work in the best interests of their colleagues and are not looking to harm them. Chair encouraged all faculty to work together.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Proposal for creating Department of Ethnic and Race Studies unanimously approved. The new department will start work in January 2021.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 4:46 pm.

**Resolution from the Faculty Development Committee of Academic Senate**

WHEREAS the Faculty Development Grant was initiated, organized, and administered by the Faculty Development Committee of the Academic Senate to support full-time faculty to engage in scholarly and creative activities, and

WHEREAS the Faculty Development Committee, after the submission to Academic Affairs of the list of proposed awardees selected through a rigorous CFP (Call for Proposals) and Review process, is not aware of and excluded from the process of finalizing and notifying faculty awarded the grant, and

WHEREAS the Faculty Development Committee is not informed of the funding source(s), amount of funding, and its allocation.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Development Committee calls for full transparency from Office of Academic Affairs regarding the amount of funding available annually.

BE IT RESOLVED that the committee that conducts the grant review process retains the ability to determine which awardees receive awards or where those recommended by the committee were not funded by the Office of Academic Affairs be given a rationale why the awardees were unfunded

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Development Committee be kept abreast of the status of the disbursement of funds after the list of awardees is submitted to the Office of Academic Affairs.

### **Resolutions from the Instruction Committee of Academic Senate**

#### **Resolution concerning Peer Observations of remote teaching during pandemic**

WHEREAS in April of 2020, the Academic Senate passed guidelines for peer observation of online courses that are aligned with the contractual procedures for online peer observations and

WHEREAS a large number of classes have exceeded enrollment of 25, which was agreed upon as the appropriate maximum number of students of for online instruction, and

WHEREAS many faculty members have not elected to teach remotely and have had very little experience training in remote instruction and,

WHEREAS no faculty member can assume instructional or pedagogical expertise in teaching in a remote environment in which students have not elected to learn in a remote environment,

BE IT RESOLVED that during the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters, all peer observations only be used “formatively,” for the benefit of the observed professors; and that these observations not be included in decisions concerning reappointment, tenure, or promotion, unless it is the expressed preference of the observed faculty member.

#### **Resolution Concerning Student Evaluations of Teaching for Fall 2020**

WHEREAS many faculty members did not self-select to teach remotely and had very little prior experience and training in remote instruction, and

WHEREAS thousands of students currently in online courses had originally registered for face-to-face learning, and

WHEREAS the results of SETs can influence decisions regarding reappointment, tenure and promotion, and

WHEREAS some faculty may prefer not to have student evaluations from this semester in their personnel files,

BE IT RESOLVED that during the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semester, student evaluations be used as formative rather than summative assessments of faculty teaching. The evaluations should be utilized to improve teaching and learning, and specifically should not be used in decisions to deny re-appointment, promotion or tenure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that faculty can choose to have their student evaluations for Fall 2020 and/or Spring 2021 excluded from their personnel file.