

Draft Resolution on Reconsideration of Pathways by Prof. Gerald Meyer*
Presented at the May 31, 2012 Special Meeting of the Hostos Community
College Senate Called to Discuss Pathways

Whereas, Pathways initiative to resolve the urgent transfer problems confronted by CUNY students creates a host of new transfer problems while unnecessarily intruding on pedagogical and curricular concerns;

Whereas, Pathways by-passes faculty governance and represents a crude administrative imposition;

Whereas, Pathways' insistence that all core courses be limited to three credits will prevent natural science courses from including a laboratory section, thereby requiring courses which have no equivalents outside of CUNY;

Whereas, Pathways' proposed social science core courses uniformly require a multidisciplinary approach that obliterates discipline-based learning that logically precedes multidisciplinary approaches;

Whereas, Pathways fails to include foreign-language study, an area essential to a deeper understanding of language per se and a necessity for the contemporary global environment;

Whereas, Pathways bypasses in-place articulation agreements that facilitate transfer;

Whereas, Pathways' outcomes listed in the four previous whereases will create obstacles to transfer of credits outside the CUNY system;

Whereas, Pathways' insistence on the uniformity of core courses in both the four-year and two-year CUNY colleges subverts the fundamental mission of CUNY's community colleges, which is to provide educational access and development for students not yet equipped for the four-year colleges (a fact encoded into CUNY's own admission requirements to these different-yet-complimentary educational institutions);

Whereas, Pathways' disregard for the community colleges' function of addressing the multiple linguistic and other barriers to learning threatens the most fundamental elements of their transfer components (the AA and the AS degrees) and, by extension, the terminal AAS degrees;

Whereas, Pathways has aroused ever-increasing opposition, which at this moments includes: the Professional Staff Congress, the University Faculty Senate, many CUNY college senates, innumerable academic departments, and over six-thousand individual faculty;

Be it resolved that: The Hostos Senate petitions the Board of Trustees of CUNY to suspend implementation of Pathways until an acceptable process can be established to address the concerns of this resolution.

* Lack of a quorum prevented this resolution from being acted upon.