

County Community College  
Michael J. Grant Campus

Academic Assembly

**Resolution 2021-02 [01]**

**Calling for a Fall 2021 Class Schedule**

**that Allows for the Possibility of Face-to-Face Instruction**

**Whereas** Priority Registration begins on April 5 for Fall 2021 classes beginning five months later on September 2, and

**Whereas** a schedule of face-to-face classes can be converted to online classes if the public health situation does not improve, but a schedule of online classes cannot easily be converted to face-to-face, and

**Whereas** students forced into online learning are known to suffer mental, emotional, and academic impacts,[[1]](#footnote-2) with disadvantaged students increasingly discouraged from pursuing higher education,[[2]](#footnote-3) and

**Whereas** the federal government has plans to deliver enough vaccine to inoculate the entire country by the end of July,[[3]](#footnote-4) and

**Whereas** in light of improving public health, the State of New York may lift social distancing requirements and may mandate that SUNY students show proof of Covid vaccination, and

**Whereas** SCCC and community colleges nationwide have suffered enrollment declines as we moved to remote learning during the pandemic; therefore be it

**Resolved** that the Academic Assembly calls on the Office of Academic Affairs to create a Priority Registration schedule for Fall 2021 that allows for classroom instruction at pre-pandemic levels, and be it further

**Resolved** that the Academic Assembly calls on Central administration to coordinate with faculty, staff, and students; Faculty Association and Guild; as well as authorities with the State of New York, to create a plan with benchmarks for opening the campuses and allowing for classroom instruction, shifting some classes online as the public health situation requires, and be it further

**Resolved** that the Academic Assembly calls on the Office of Human Resources and the Office of Disabilities Services to begin conversations with advocates in the community, and the FA and Guild, to develop compassionate policies to allow for faculty, staff, and students with legitimate fears about medical conditions and other circumstances to return to campus only when they have complete confidence about health and safety, and be it further

**Resolved** that the Academic Assembly calls on the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, together with the Chief Diversity Officer, to research the impact of the pandemic on various student populations, and to communicate results to the governance bodies in a timely manner.

Passed [33-9-12] by the Assembly on February 23, 2021

1. “Long-term online learning in pandemic may impact students’ well-being” *Inside Higher Ed* https://www.insidehighered.com/digital-learning/article/2020/10/27/long-term-online-learning-pandemic-may-impact-students-well [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. “Aid application data portend dip in low-income, minority students” *Inside Higher Ed* https://www.insidehighered.com/admissions/article/2021/02/11/data-financial-aid-applications-portend-drop-low-income-minority [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. “Biden says the U.S. will soon have enough vaccine for all Americans, but logistical hurdles remain” *New York Times* https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/11/us/politics/biden-coronavirus-vaccines.html [↑](#footnote-ref-4)