SPECIAL REPORT

of the

ACADEMIC MATTERS COUNCIL

concerning

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION
MAGNA OR SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Presented at the
628th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate
March 11, 2004

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I. Background/Rationale

The present requirements for graduation with high Latin honors are tied to the University’s current grading system (A, AB, B, etc.). In preparation for the change to the use of A, A-, B+, etc., in AY 2004 – 2005, the Commonwealth College Curriculum Committee discussed both the GPA requirement (which could stay the same) and the requirement for a specific grade on the culminating experience (which must be reframed in the new grades).

The current GPA requirements are 3.500 or better for magna cum laude, and 3.800 for summa cum laude. It is further required that, on the culminating experience credits and their artifact, whether thesis or product of a project or a capstone course, the student earn a grade of AB explicitly for magna and A for summa cum laude.

The Commonwealth College Curriculum Committee proposes that under the new grading system, the GPA requirements remain the same.

It further proposes that the grade that students must earn for their culminating experience course/s and for their documentation manuscripts and any accompanying artifacts (if these grades differ from the course grade/s) be a B+ or higher for Magna cum laude and an A- or A for Summa cum laude.

II. Recommendation of the AMC

The Council unanimously agreed with the Commonwealth College Curriculum Committee’s proposal and the following MOTION.

MOVED: That students must earn for their culminating experience course/s and for their documentation manuscripts and any accompanying artifacts (if these grades differ from the course grade/s) a B+ or higher for Magna cum laude and an A- or A for Summa cum laude, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 04-026.