

Academic Standards Committee
Motion to Modify the Requirements for Latin Honors at Graduation

Motion: That the minimum requirements for Latin honors at graduation be changed from:

3.60 *cum laude*
3.80 *magna cum laude*
3.95 *summa cum laude*

to:

3.50 *cum laude*
3.75 *magna cum laude*
3.90 *summa cum laude*

as soon as the Provost deems the change to be feasible.

Rationale: The recent changes to our grading scale, which include the introduction of minus grades, have made it more difficult for students to achieve these honors. At the request of the Provost and the Board of Trustees, John Newell, the Dean of the Honors College, conducted a survey comparing our requirements to those of other institutions. His report concluded that these new requirements would better reflect the realities of our new grading scale and the requirements of both our peers and our aspirational peers. After reviewing his findings, the Faculty Committee on Academic Standards committee voted unanimously last April to endorse his recommendations, and the current version of the committee voted unanimously to endorse them this August.