

**2024 BCPSA  
Articulation Meeting  
Vancouver Island University - In Person  
Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**

Social Sciences Building 356

**In Attendance:**

Anna Tikina (BCCAT)  
Chris Beach (College of New Caledonia)  
Darin Nesbitt (Douglas)  
David Matijasevich (Capilano University)  
Defne Ezgi (Columbia College)  
Greg Millard (KPU, Co-Chair)  
Hugh Gordon (Northern Lights)  
Lauren Touchant (VIU)  
Leanne Smythe (Trinity Western)  
Marcel Dirk (College of the Rockies)  
Marisha Pandya (LaSalle College)  
Mark Crawford (Athabasca)  
Michael Laurence (Capilano University)  
Neil Cruickshank (North Island) (Liaison)  
Ramjee Parajulee (Langara)  
Richard Gbedoah (Alexander College)  
Rosalind Warner (Okanagan College, Co-Chair and Secretary)  
Saira Bano (Thompson Rivers University)  
Shereen Kotb (University CanWest)

**Regrets/Absent:**

Camosun College  
Coast Mountain College  
Coquitlam College  
Corpus Christi  
Selkirk College  
Simon Fraser University  
University of British Columbia Okanagan  
University of British Columbia Vancouver  
University of Northern BC  
University of the Fraser Valley  
University of Victoria  
Yukon College

## Minutes

1. Call to Order 9:15am Greg Millard Welcome and Introductions
2. Approvals

### 2.1 Approval of Agenda

**Motion: Chris B, Seconder: Hugh Gordon, Motion carried.**

### 2.2 Approval of the Minutes of 2023 Articulation Meeting

**Motion: Chris B, Seconder: David, Motion carried.**

### 2.3 Chair Election [Motion]

**Motion: That Greg Millard be elected Chair for the 2024-25 term.**

## Discussion

-Ana offered that Chairs also are able to attend BCCAT Jam in November – the largest articulation-related conference November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

Motion: Ros, Seconder: Ramji, Motion carried

**Motion to nominate Chris Beach as Co-Chair for the 2024-25 term.**

Moved: Greg, Seconder: Defne, Motion carried.

## 3. Business Arising

### 3.1 BCCAT Overview (Anna Tikina, Director, Research & Admissions)

## Discussion

-questions: regarding academic freedom in course content  
-contact person for each institution for BCCAT – available on the website  
-Q: training of advisors on transfer questions  
-registration office is often a good source of information  
-some course equivalencies are set to expire – attuned to check every 5 years to review those course equivalencies

## 4. New Business

### 4.1 Job Board (BCPSA business?)

-can help hiring committees – somebody is willing to spearhead – or could we liaise with BCPSA

executive

-memo to BCPSA – to request someone to do that

-liaising with BCPSA?

**Action Item (Co-Chairs) -will work on a memo with BCPSA – ways to better liaise with BCPSA – will share back with the membership**

## 5. Reports / Subcommittees

### 5.1 Institutional Reports

#### 5.1.1 Columbia College

- offers an Associate's degree in POLI, 6<sup>th</sup> year it has been offered
- mostly in person, few online courses
- gov't cap on international student visas – still unknown what the effect might be
- strong confidence in student preparedness for 4-year university programs

#### 5.1.2 University Canada West

- offer an Associate of Arts diploma but no POLI major – enrolment overall has increased substantially, with growth in international students
- 200 sessional faculty in the Associate of Arts, 2 full time faculty
- zero cost and open educational resources are a focus to reduce student costs
- bureaucratic nature of new course development has increased

#### 5.1.3 Capilano University

- in transition from College to University (for 10 years)
- some pushback from doing discipline-specific degree programs
- motivation and classroom management issues persist
- new campus in Squamish, formerly Quest University

Q: why they did not accept PPE program proposal? Unknown

#### 5.1.4 Langara

- modest drop in enrollments, but it is at pre-pandemic level
- offer a new Diploma in Peace and Conflict studies
- high demand for 1st year, low demand for 2<sup>nd</sup> year courses
- declining domestic enrolment, appear to be less interest in completing their degree

#### 5.1.5 Athabasca University

- some drop in POLI enrollment, despite growth in overall enrollment
- anticipated hiring in Public Management and Law Program
- new President, new draft Strategic Plan stresses equality, DEI, and Indigenization, decolonization

Q: where are you located, and questions about locating faculty and labour laws? How is Athabasca part of the BCCAT system? – many students are visiting students

#### 5.1.6 Trinity Western University

- considerable cross-disciplinary courses – many in Business, Education, learning ‘for different reasons’
- recruitment and cohesion a challenge for our department – there is an interest in Politics, but we want to change recruitment in Ottawa centre
- program review and mapping learning outcomes a focus

#### 5.1.7 Alexander College

- no continuing positions, all sessionals
- quality of students is a challenge, trying to change geographical focus of recruitment toward Latin America, higher ESL and writing skills expectations are now established
- students not serious about online classes
- proposing new courses on international studies, looking for enrolment stabilization before proceeding

#### 5.1.8 Northern Lights College

- several campuses across the northern part of the province
- increase of 23% in enrollment
- reassured by the Province that as a public institution, we would not be looking at a drop in enrollment due to international student enrolment caps
- more AI-tinged fake citations and fake urls, plagiarism a huge issue

#### 5.1.9 LaSalle College

- willing to host BCPSA next year as they have a new building
- demand for Poli is increasing, new Chief Academic Officer, hiring a Dean for Arts, renewal for Associate of Arts
- challenges in English proficiency, we are offering tutoring support
- AI to ‘decorate, not create’ their work

#### 5.1.10 College of the Rockies

- huge rise in enrollment from international students, poor levels of preparation also noted
- challenges of service courses (business and social work programs are often served by POLI)

#### 5.1.11 VIU

- dealing with a major deficit and we are likely to lose up to 60 faculty, 2 new hires in the department, looking at most losses through attrition.
- students are taking longer to complete and high number of drop outs – concern over competition with other Universities
- building out Public Administration and Environmental Law streams
- new course in Cybersecurity and AI in National Intelligence
- protest politics – new course
- Anti-Democratic Thought and Leadership
- How to be a Representative – Public Service skills course
- some discussion of the (pro-Palestinian) student protests on campus and the effects on the Conference

#### 5.1.12 College of New Caledonia

- mostly CRIM students in criminology programs, mostly Punjabi students
- hoping to add a course on Introduction to Indian Politics and Government
- negotiation/bargaining issues – new President

Q: textbooks and digital platforms from Pearson

Q: regarding open textbooks – OpenStax is a good source

Greg offered that his department recently offered an open textbook on Political Ideologies

Q: some disconnect between high school and University political content in courses

#### 5.1.13 Douglas College

- seem to be fewer international students in POLI
- department to develop additional second-year courses on Quantitative Methods, Future of Democracy, Gender and Politics
- SFU's changes in course offerings – more courses being transferred as unassigned credits due to course reductions at the larger research universities
- volume of cheating in online courses very high

**Motion: to send a letter noting the absence of major university representation from the 2024 Articulation meeting and urging them to consider the importance of the BC transfer system and to redouble their efforts to participate.**

Mover: Darin, Seconder: Chris, Motion carried. (See Attached Appendix)

#### 5.1.14 KPU

- Some pullback on course offerings in anticipation of international student enrollment drop
- Curriculum focused on anti-racism and indigenization plans
- Current collective Agreement poses challenges for sessional hiring in response to changing departmental needs

#### 5.1.15 Okanagan College

- High demand for International Development program, increasing enrollment
- Significant recruitment challenges in finding faculty to teach
- Planned Applied Degree in Public Administration

#### 5.1.16 TRU

- gaining a major in Political Science, immigration issues of students, overworking of students beyond the weekly limit
- AI also a concern, difficult to make a case that plagiarism is an issue – lots of work to ‘find the evidence’ and ‘make a case’ for AI cases
- writing samples, and drafts plus final version are typical strategies

#### 6. Next Meeting

TBA, arranged in partnership with BCPSA

#### 7. Adjournment 12:27

Mover: David, seconded: Chris, Motion carried.