

MEETING MINUTES (Approved)

Attendees:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Roger Barnsley	<i>BCCAT Co-Chair & President Emeritus, Thompson Rivers University</i>
Rob Fleming	<i>BCCAT Executive Director & Co-Chair</i>
Verna Billy-Minnabarriet	<i>Vice-President Academic & Strategic Partnerships, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology</i>
Ian Cavers	<i>Associate Dean, Science, Curriculum & Learning, University of British Columbia</i>
Nicole Greengoe	<i>Director, Student Services & Registrar, Camosun College</i>
Jim Hamilton	<i>President, Okanagan College</i>
Julie Longo	<i>Dean of Arts, Langara College</i>
Karen McCredie	<i>Registrar, Capilano University</i>
Neil Mort	<i>Director of Enrolment Services, Fairleigh Dickinson University</i>
Gordon Myers	<i>Associate Vice-President, Simon Fraser University</i>
Tami O'Meara	<i>Counsellor, Selkirk College</i>
Scott Robinson	<i>Superintendent, Vancouver School Board</i>
Graham Rodwell	<i>Chair, Psychology & Social Science, Douglas College</i>
Carolyn Russell	<i>Director, Recruitment, University of Victoria</i>
Ralf St. Clair	<i>Dean of Education, University of Victoria</i>
Kate Sutherland	<i>Associate Vice-President Academic & Interim Vice-Provost, Open Learning, Thompson Rivers University</i>

Regrets were received from: Sheila Hancock (Faculty Member - English, Kwantlen Polytechnic University), Bill Owen (Dean, Student Success & Enrolment Management, University of Northern BC), and Katy Sparrow (Student Representative, Thompson Rivers University)

BCCAT STAFF MEMBERS:

Robert Adamoski	<i>Associate Director, Admissions & Research</i>
Joanne Heslop	<i>Student Transitions Project (STP) Manager</i>
Mike Winsemann	<i>Assistant Director, Transfer & Technology</i>
Valerie Yorkston	<i>Executive Assistant to the Council and Communications Coordinator</i>

GUESTS: Kate Cotie (Strategic Policy & Planning, Ministry of Advanced Education). In addition, the following representatives from Selkirk College joined us for lunch, discussion and an overview about Selkirk's distinctive programs:

- Angus Graeme, President
 - Rhys Andrew, Dean of Instruction
 - Neil Coburn, Vice-President, Education & Students
 - Randy Janzen, Chair of the Mir Centre for Peace
 - Gary Leier, Vice-President, College Services
 - Elizabeth Lund, Rural Pre-Medicine Program Coordinator
 - Rob MacRae, Instructor, IEP
 - Kate Pelletier, Dean of Instruction
 - Ron Zaitsoff, Director of Facilities
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1. Call to Order & Welcome

Angus Graeme, President of Selkirk College welcomed the Council to the campus. Roger Barnsley then opened the meeting and provided a brief overview of the day. Introductions were made all around, and special welcomes extended to newly appointed members:

- Karen McCredie, Registrar, Capilano University
- Gordon Myers, Associate Vice-President, Simon Fraser University
- Tami O'Meara, Counsellor, Selkirk College
- Scott Robinson, Superintendent, Vancouver School Board
- Carolyn Russell, Director, Recruitment, University of Victoria
- Ralf St. Clair, Dean of Education, University of Victoria
- Katy Sparrow, Student (BSc, Chemical Biology, Thompson Rivers University) (*in absentia*)

2. Approval of Proposed Agenda

The proposed agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting (June 4-5, 2015)

The minutes of the June 4-5, 2015 meeting of Council were accepted as presented. Rob Fleming reported on the status of action items arising:

5.2.3 John FitzGibbon has edited the Articulation Themes document and presented it to the Transfer and Articulation Committee.

It will be disseminated as appropriate.

7.1.2 Robert Adamoski has made the requested revision to the Research Plan. The newsletter will be published shortly after the Council meeting.

7.2.1 The request to include program partnership data in the next Profile Report has been noted.

4. BCCAT: General Business

4.1. Staff Report to Council on External Activities

Robert Fleming highlighted the following:

- In recent months, staff has spent considerable time on activities related to the Ministry's common application project (COAP – see item 4.4.4) and the Degree Quality Assessment Board (DQAB).
- There has also been a variety of inter-provincial activities (see Item 8 for details), including hosting the Inter-provincial Transfer Forum and the WestCAT meeting, the National Transcript Guide, work on the PCCAT Board and planning the 2016 conference, and discussions related to sharing technology across jurisdictions.
- BCCAT continues its engagement with the Ministries and committees regarding K-12 to post-secondary transitions and curricular renewal.

4.2. 2015-16 Projects and Activities Chart

This chart was provided as an overview of the status of projects and activities scheduled for 2015-16. Rob noted that most items are currently on target. There were no comments or questions.

4.3. 2015 BCCAT Transfer Awards

Valerie Yorkston referred members to the report of the Awards Committee recommending the following three candidates for the following awards:

- **Dr. Carol Pollock**, Professor of Teaching, and Director of First Year Biology, Dept. of Zoology, University of British Columbia
TRANSFER & ARTICULATION COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARDS
- **Dr. Peter Wylie**, Associate Professor, Economics, University of British Columbia – Okanagan
LEADERSHIP AWARD
- **Dr. David Leeming**, Professor Emeritus and Education Coordinator/Liaison for BC and Alberta Colleges and Universities, Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences, University of Victoria
FRANKLIN GELIN LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

➤ **MOTION:** To approve the recommendations of the Awards Committee regarding this year's awardees.

J. Hamilton / G. Rodwell
CARRIED.

Some discussion ensued regarding the question of how to engage system partners and encourage higher numbers of nomination submissions. There was also some advice regarding strengthening communication to invite and promote increased diversity of candidates (e.g. transfer credit practitioners, admissions officers, from a variety of institutions, etc.). A number of suggestions were forwarded, including:

- Consider revising the nomination period/timeline; move the deadline to spring instead of the end of summer?
- Awards committee members proactively search out candidates and encourage submissions
- Gather feedback regarding the nomination process to identify potential barriers (e.g. is the stipulation to notify nominees an issue for nominators?)
- Move to a biennial cycle? Or stagger the award categories from year to year.
- Include more information regarding nominations (numbers, stats) in the committee report to Council in future years.

ACTION: These comments will be taken into account by the Awards Committee which will meet for a debrief session and return to the Council to report on recommendations for next steps at the December 2015 meeting.

In general, members noted the high calibre of nominees this year, and expressed the view that it is important to sustain (and increase) engagement for the awards program, as system partners have made it clear that it is seen as a valued and effective means for acknowledging and celebrating exemplary individuals and their contributions to the BC Transfer System.

The Awards Ceremony is being scheduled for the evening prior to JAM this year (Thursday, November 5, 2015) at the Radisson Hotel in Richmond. Council members are warmly invited to participate in both events, but it was noted that BCCAT is not in a position to cover travel expenses for members. One member queried the decision to separate the event from JAM; it was agreed that we would evaluate the situation this year in order to be informed for next year's decision regarding scheduling the ceremony. As well, we will make a point of highlighting the awards at JAM.

ACTION: The awards program will be provided in the JAM folder and announcements regarding this year's winners will be made at the start of the day.

4.4. Provincial Issues and Developments

4.4.1 Ministry Update

Kate Cotie provided a brief update regarding issues and developments currently facing the Ministry.

4.4.2 Associate Degree Developments

Rob Fleming reported that he is of the understanding that the DQAB Secretariat will be presenting the proposed revisions to the existing Associate Degrees (in Arts and Science) to the Minister over the next few weeks. Meanwhile, the DQAB has received Robert Campbell's report on the proposed new *Associate Degree in Specialized Studies* which he presented to the board on September 14th. They will be looking at the recommendations at a later date after carrying out a more general consultation on other credential matters.

4.4.3 Graduation Years Consultation

Rob referred members to a report prepared by John FitzGibbon providing an update on developments related to the new Graduation Requirements, including Grades 10-12 curriculum outlines, a Post-Secondary Institution Advisory Committee, the Advisory Group on Provincial Assessment (AGPA) draft paper, and BCCAT research.

4.4.4 Common Online Application Platform (COAP)

a) EducationPlanner.ca Application Service

Rob and other BCCAT staff members have been busy in recent months participating in the Ministry initiative to explore the development of a common application service. The Ministry created an advisory committee with Terms of Reference and timelines. There are three different working groups dedicated to Governance, Technology, and Business Process. A report with Committee recommendations will be finalized by Ministry staff and presented to the Minister in October. The recommendations include a recommendation to combine existing resources (EducationPlanner.ca and ApplyBC) to offer admissions information and application services to students. The proposed name of the new service is the Education Planning and Application Service (EPAS). Concurrent to this recommendation, the development of EPAS would allow time for a more detailed consultation and analysis towards expanding the provincial application service. The EPAS would require dedicated resources for both technological support and to rebrand Education Planner and ApplyBC. Funding for EPAS has been requested in the report to the Minister.

There was some discussion regarding the need to develop application resources in a way that allows for the complexity of the system and technological changes. As well, members agreed on the importance of addressing change management for a project of this kind of scope for institutions and the system at large.

4.4.5 BCCPAC Member Resolutions

Rob referred members to a letter from the President of the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC) regarding a resolution (2015.7) to urge the Ministries of Education and Advanced Education to work together on issues related to the transfer of special needs supports and adaptations to post-secondary institutions. (For information only.)

ACTION: Mike will present the changes to EducationPlanner.ca at the December meeting of Council.

4.4.6 *Aboriginal Issues and Developments* <http://academica/top-ten/37-m-aboriginal-pse-bc>

Verna Billy-Minnabarriet gave a presentation outlining major issues and developments impacting aboriginal issues and developments in BC. A key point focused on the distinctive needs of aboriginal students to remain connected with their communities to promote their engagement and success. Community-based programs such as those offered by NVIT and IAHLA are designed to address these needs.

5. Transfer & Articulation

5.1 Transfer & Articulation Committee (TAC)

5.1.1 *TAC (Last Meeting: September 18, 2015)*

Ian Cavers (Committee Chair) provided a brief overview of the last TAC meeting. Key items are highlighted below.

5.2 2015 Joint Annual Meeting (JAM); November 6, 2015 – bccat.ca/articulation/jam

Plans are well underway for this year's JAM. The draft program is available and registration has opened. The Minister has agreed to speak at the start of the day. Council members are invited to participate; the event is free but travel expenses would not be covered by BCCAT.

5.3 Articulation Committees

The new Hairdressing/Cosmetology Articulation Committee met on September 25th, and there are efforts underway to facilitate a meeting of the First Nations Studies Articulation Committee.

5.4 TAC Projects

5.4.1 *Special Report: Student Mobility, Credit Transfer, and the Post-Secondary System*

This report, prepared by John FitzGibbon, looks at a range of potential transfer and articulation activities and considers BCCAT's role in that context. It may be used as an internal report to inform discussion and practice with provincial and inter-provincial stakeholders.

5.4.2 *Experiential Learning Research Update*

The TAC reviewed this two-page summary which looks at existing practices impacting the transferability of experiential learning. The TAC has recommended that the contractor narrow the scope to experiential learning that is granted credit and is potentially transferable. The peer reviewers for this project suggested that they review the methodology early in the data gathering process.

5.4.3 *Impact of K-12 on PSE – Call for Proposals*

This Call for Proposals will be issued over the next few weeks. The report will be an internal resource, particularly for use by the post-secondary advisory committee (see item 4.4.3 above).

5.4.4 *MOOCS Special Report*

Mike Winsemann authored this report which looks at the impact of the rise of MOOCs on student educational planning and transferability of credits. It will be published as a Special Report. In short, it shows that MOOCs are not as transformative as originally suspected. Members commented on the conciseness and usefulness of the report.

5.5 Transfer Innovation (TI) Projects

Members referred to the update provided by John FitzGibbon. Ian Cavers noted that most recent projects are Flexible Pre-Majors.

6. Admissions

6.1 Admissions Committee

6.1.1 Admissions Committee (Next Meeting: October 23, 2015)

Key items for the agenda for this meeting are outlined below.

6.2 Admissions Projects

6.2.1 International Student Survey

Robert Adamoski reported on the status of this project, noting that the survey data is under review at institutions and the report is nearing completion with a possible publication date in October or November. The survey identified high levels of satisfaction by international students with their BC post-secondary experiences. Robert presented on the early findings at the BC Council on International Education (BCCIE) Summer Seminar and will be presenting at the Canadian Bureau for International Education conference in November. This project was initiated by the Ministry. When the report is published, BCCAT's commitment will be fulfilled.

6.2.2 Other Project Updates

Robert also gave brief updates regarding two projects: Availability of Central Data Warehouse (CDW) Data and Dual Credits. (See bccat.ca/research/projects for information regarding these projects.)

6.3 Student Transitions Project (STP)

6.3.1 BC Bachelor's Degree Completers of 2013/14: A Longitudinal Research Study - Presentation by Joanne Heslop

This report is due for publication over the next few weeks. Check the STP website for details: http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/student_transitions/

7. Research

7.1 Research Committee

Rob Fleming reported that Kate Ross (Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services and Registrar, UBC and former Council member) has been appointed as the new Chair of the Research Committee.

7.1.1 Research Committee (Next Meeting: November 20, 2015)

7.1.2 BCCAT Research Plan

The Research Plan has been revised as per the request at the last Council meeting and is due for publication shortly.

7.2 Research Projects

The focus of the Research Committee is both on long-term objectives and current projects, as outlined in the Research Plan. Rob offered two examples of key projects underway at this stage:

- *Dual Admissions* – A Study of existing dual admission agreements in BC to learn about student motivations, experiences and outcomes.
- *Measuring Transfer Student Performance* – a look at how other jurisdictions measure success and what definitions are used.

8. Interprovincial Issues & Developments

8.1 Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions & Transfer (PCCAT)

The PCCAT Board is focusing on its strategic planning, looking at the scope of research, policy and connectivity with provinces. This may lead to recommendations for a more formal role for CATs in Board Governance and setting the PCCAT agenda on transfer and mobility in Canada.

8.1.1 2016 PCCAT Conference – June 22-23, 2016; Vancouver, BC

Planning is underway for next year's conference; it will overlap with the ARUCC conference for a half day. Council members are encouraged to attend. Check <http://pccatweb.org/pccat/> for further details.

8.2 Inter-Provincial Forum and WestCAT - Sept. 21-22, 2015

This event drew strong attendance and good, productive discussion with a range of recommendations likely to lead to a national agenda for credit transfer, facilitating work by the CATs and PCCAT in a more formal, coordinated way. Key themes called for coordinated approaches to research, aligning technologies, and better understanding the distinctions and commonalities across different jurisdictions. The program was provided for information. Meanwhile, work is underway on a report and video overviews which will be provided on the BCCAT website. See bccat.ca/about/iptf

On the following day, WestCAT (BC and counterparts from Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba) met for their annual meeting. This time they were also joined by partners from OnCAT and NBCAT. The agenda was provided for information. Issues arising from the forum conversation helped to inform discussions at the meeting.

8.3 ARUCC/PCCAT National Transcript Guide Project (Phase 2)

The newly developed transcript guide is scheduled to go live in November. The committee is focused on putting together communications and renewal plans for going forward. Robert Adamoski gave a brief demo of the guide.

8.4 Shared Technologies

The Transfer Credit Evaluation Service (TCES) is currently being used as a model for other Canadian jurisdictions as they develop their own systems. Campus Manitoba is currently developing their own version of the TCES and transfer guide with an anticipated launch of Spring, 2016. Manitoba's transfer credit evaluation system will be modeled on BCCAT's TCES and will use an updated software platform which they will share back to BCCAT. Ontario, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and Alberta are also considering moving in this direction. Mike Winsemann noted that this is an example of how the sharing works both ways and all partners can benefit in the end. These steps help to move us closer to the development of a national transfer network.

In relation to the initiative described above, BCIT, AVED, and BCCAT are reviewing potential implications and changes for the operating MoU concerning BCCAT. . As well, Manitoba and BC are discussing their roles and responsibilities as "founding partners" of the new transfer credit evaluation resource.

8.5 Groningen Declaration Task Force

This item was provided for information. It was noted that ARUCC is one of the signatories. See <http://www.groningendeclaration.org/>

9. Websites and Communications

9.1 Education Planner Advisory Committee (Next Meeting: November 20, 2015)

The main focus for the next meeting of this committee will mainly focus on the proposed new EPAS initiative. (See item 4.4.4 for details.)

10. Other Items of Interest - The following articles were presented for information only.

- *Universities Canada releases federal election policy briefs* <http://academica.ca/top-ten/universities-canada-releases-federal-election-policy-briefs>
 - *\$3.7 M for Aboriginal PSE in BC* <http://academica.ca/top-ten/37-m-aboriginal-pse-bc>
 - *Improving the Discourse on Skills and Education* <http://higheredstrategy.com/improving-discourse-on-skills-and-education/>
 - *Review of Ontario's Labour Market Related Post-Secondary Credential Mix Final Report* <http://www.tcu.gov.on.ca/pepa/srdc/>
 - *Microcredentials could pave the way forward for online education providers* <http://academica.ca/top-ten/microcredentials-could-pave-way-forward-online-education-providers>
 - *Effective PSE learning assessment prevented by "established oligopoly," says academic* <http://academica.ca/top-ten/effective-pse-learning-assessment-prevented-established-oligopoly-says-academic>
 - *Despite hurdles, students keep switching colleges* <http://chronicle.com/article/Despite-Hurdles-Students-Keep/231397/>
 - *HEQCO releases report on interpretation of learning outcomes* <http://academica.ca/top-ten/heqco-releases-report-interpretation-learning-outcomes>
 - *Lumina Foundation releases beta version of common credentialing framework* <http://academica.ca/top-ten/lumina-foundation-releases-beta-version-common-credentialing-framework>
 - *How and Whether Certificates and Associate Degrees Lead to B.A.s* http://chronicle.com/blogs/ticker/paving-the-way-to-bachelors-degrees/100799?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en
 - *When my son discovered RateMyProfessors.com* <https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2015/06/15/essay-about-professor-who-learns-his-son-has-discovered-ratemyprofessorscom>
 - *Boards of Governors* <http://higheredstrategy.com/boards-of-governors/>
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11. Any Other Business - There were no other items of business.

12. Adjournment & Next Meetings:

- **Friday, December 4, 2015 (9:30am – 3:30pm)** – BCIT-Downtown Campus
 - **Friday, March 4, 2016 (9:30am – 3:30pm)** – University of British Columbia (Vancouver, BC)
 - **Thursday, June 2, 2016 (pm) AND Friday, June 3, 2016 (am)** – BCIT Downtown Campus
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