



FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2020

Okanagan College, 1000 KLO Road, Kelowna, BC.

NOTE: At noon, we were joined by Allan Coyle (VP, Students) and Andrew Hay (VP Academic & Provost) for discussion, followed by a brief tour of the campus.

Minutes (Approved by Council)

EXPECTED ATTENDEES:

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

FLEMING, Robert	BCCAT Executive Director [CO-CHAIR]
HAMILTON, Jim	President, Okanagan College [CO-CHAIR]
CARDWELL, Steve	Vice-President, Students, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
DENTON, Kathy	President & CEO, Douglas College
DICK, Brian	Professor and Chair, Engineering, Vancouver Island University
KRAUSE, Gerda	Dean, Faculty of Science, Langara College
LOUIE, Brenda	Vice-Principal, Columbia College
McCAUSLAND, Elizabeth	English Instructor, Douglas College
McCREDIE, Karen	Interim Executive Director, EducationPlannerBC
O'MEARA, Tami	Dept. Head, Student Access and Support, and Counsellor, Selkirk College
ROE, Steve	Dean of Academic & Professional Programs, Northern Lights College
STYLES, Laureen <i>(by phone)</i>	Vice-President Academic & Provost, Capilano University

REGRETS: Verna Billy-Minnabarriet, Dorys Crespin-Mueller, Rummana Khan Hemani, Lisa McCullough, Diane Naugler, and Carolyn Russell.

STAFF MEMBERS:

ADAMOSKI, Robert	Director, Research & Admissions
WINSEMANN, Mike	Director, Transfer & Technology
YORKSTON, Valerie	Executive Assistant to the Council and Communications Coordinator

GUESTS: **Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training:** Jamie Edwardson, Executive Director, Corporate Planning, International and Quality Assurance Branch; and Randall Gerlach, Director, Intergovernmental Relations. *(calling in by phone)*
Guest Presenters: Adrienne Vedan (Director, Aboriginal Programs & Services), and Jackson Traplin (Program Analyst, Aboriginal Programs & Services), UBC Okanagan.

NEXT MEETINGS (2020/21):

- Wednesday, June 3, 2020 *(BCIT-Downtown Campus, Vancouver)*
- Friday, October 2, 2020 *(BCIT-Downtown Campus, Vancouver)*
- Friday, December 4, 2020 *(Location tbc)*
- Friday, March 12, 2021 *(Location tbc)*
- Wednesday, June 2, 2021 *(BCIT-Downtown Campus, Vancouver)*

MINUTES

Related pages	Item/Speaker
---------------	--------------

1. WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS – Rob Fleming & Jim Hamilton (Co-Chairs)

We acknowledge that we are meeting on the unceded territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) people. We also want to acknowledge and thank our host community, the Westbank First Nation.

2. PROPOSED AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented.

3. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (December 6, 2019)

The minutes of the December 2019 meeting were accepted as presented.

10:00 am - 12:00 noon

4. ANNUAL PLANNING SESSION

4.1. 2019-20 Budget & Work Plan

4.1.1. 2019-20 Budget Update (Effective March 3) and FYE Estimates

A chart outlining the status of 2019-20 projects and activities was provided as an overview. Rob Fleming reported that all are on target, but four projects will be carrying over into the next fiscal year so will be identified in the proposed budget for fiscal year 2021.

In presenting the 2019-20 budget allocations (vs. actual expenditures as of March 6, 2020), Rob Fleming noted that as a result of the transition to new accounting processes and timelines after the start of the fiscal year, at this point a shortfall of approximately \$40,000 is anticipated at year end. He also noted that staff have worked diligently to reduce expenditures and manage revenue offsets throughout the year to mitigate the shortfall. As per ongoing discussions with the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, the shortfall will be addressed at fiscal year-end as a component of BCCAT's budget reporting to the Ministry.

In ensuing discussion, members noted the challenges involved in making adjustments to the work plan mid-year to align with new accounting and reporting procedures, and acknowledged the importance of receiving one-time supplemental funds to cover the shortfall in this transitional fiscal year.

-> MOTION: To accept the 2019-20 Budget Update and FYE Estimates.

K. McCredie / S. Cardwell CARRIED.

4.2. 2020-21 Proposed Budget & Projects / Activities Plan

4.2.1. Overview & Proposed Operating Budget

Rob Fleming referred members to BCCAT's budget request letter to the Ministry and an overview of the proposal for BCCAT's 2020-21 budget. He also noted that the proposed budget will be adjusted to balance, based on actual Ministry funding when confirmed.

4.2.2. Proposed Projects Plan

BCCAT staff members walked through the proposed projects plan addressing key research projects, as well as information technology, communications, and collaborative (provincial, inter-provincial, and international) initiatives and activities.

In ensuing discussion, members raised the following points:

- Council members who have observations and recommendations to share regarding the research project plans (scope, approach, topics, etc.) from the standing committees are encouraged to provide that feedback to the appropriate BCCAT Director, who will follow up with the committee chair and committee as appropriate.
- Perhaps post-secondary institutions could be brought in as partners on collaborative research initiatives, as appropriate, and based on interest and relevance.
- Co-branding with post-secondary institutions for communications/promotional projects might be worth exploring. As well, EducationPlannerBC and BCCAT will continue to look for ways to collaborate. It may also be worth recruiting co-op students or those participating in work-integrated learning to assist with communications projects and initiatives.
- The newly revised Articulation Committee funding program is an improvement on the former Transfer Innovations framework, offering more scope, and perhaps warrants more funding for sub-committees.
- The ongoing and anticipated upgrades and advancements to the Transfer Credit System (TCS) are significant and encouraging.
- Moving the Adult Basic Education transfer guide to a more accessible format on BCTransferGuide.ca is needed and would be a significant improvement.

-> MOTION: To accept the proposed 2020-21 Budget and Projects / Activities Plan, on the understanding that the Executive Director will report back to the Council with a revised plan if the amount of confirmed Ministry funding requires significant changes to the proposal as presented.

K. McCredie / S. Roe CARRIED.

5. COUNCIL BUSINESS

5.1. Provincial Issues and Developments

5.1.1. Ministry Update

Jamie Edwardson provided a brief update on current Ministry issues and developments, touching on the following:

-
- BC Government's COVID19 Preparedness Statement
 - Indigenous post-secondary education – Ministry request for updates regarding Indigenization development at BC's post-secondary institutions.
 - Housing strategies and student loan program – injection of new funds to support students
 - Co-op Programs, and Open Educational Resources

5.1.2. EducationPlannerBC.ca (EPBC)

Karen McCredie provided a brief update regarding EPBC developments, touching on the following points:

- Onboarding continues, with all public post-secondary institutions due for completion over the next year. UBC will be brought onboard by early next year, and UVic by this summer.
- Next, the focus will be on enhancements to improve flexibility and dynamic functionality. The goal will be to allow institutions to make decisions based on user feedback, and to enable customization. The high school transfer exchange will use an XML format to allow for more flexibility, enabling earlier and more diverse decision making.
- Plans are underway to hold a session in mid-April to gather information and facilitate users.
- Engagement activities, such as sessions designed for parents, have been very well received. To date, these have been organized through school districts.

5.1.3. Degree Quality Assessment Board (DQAB)

Rob Fleming and Kathy Denton sit on the DQAB. Under the Degree Authorization Act (DAA) Private and Out-of-Province institutions may seek ministerial consent to offer a degree program in BC. As part of that process, the DQAB reviews and provides recommendations on proposals and requires annual reports from the institutions. BCCAT currently provides input on these annual reports regarding the participation of the institution in the BC Transfer System. The DQAB may provide recommendations for follow up by the institutions, including on transfer and articulation participation. It has become clear that it would be beneficial for the DQAB to copy BCCAT on its follow up correspondence and that it be shared with Council, since these institutions operate as members of the transfer system. Overall, there is recognition that the DQAB, BCCAT, and EPBC need to develop a common understanding and synergistic practices in conveying and monitoring expectations for new or existing DAA degree granting institutions that participate in their networks and services.

5.1.4. Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities: *Interstate Passport* <http://interstatepassport.wiche.edu/>

Lauren Styles spoke briefly about this network overseen by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). She recommended that the Council could learn from this approach and its focus on learning outcomes (beyond course-to-course transfer).

5.2. Staff Report to Council on External Activities

Members were referred to the staff report for an overview of recent external activities. Rob Fleming spoke briefly about the following:

-
- A BCCAT presentation to Ministry staff (March 2, 2020)
 - Various pan-Canadian projects and activities
 - Continued consultation with other jurisdictions (e.g. Saskatchewan and Manitoba) regarding credit transfer system and technology

5.3. BCCAT Transfer Awards

Val Yorkston reported that the Awards Committee met recently to consider whether or not to move to a biennial cycle for the Awards program. After weighing a variety of factors and issues, the decision was made to continue with the annual cycle, and to communicate with key sector groups and encourage potential nominations in a more proactive and strategic way. Council members provided some suggestions for how to proceed (e.g. contact articulation committee chairs, Registrar's offices, faculty, deans, and faculty chairs, and contact other post-secondary award offices to explore the possibility of collaborating with communications). Meanwhile, the 2020 BCCAT Transfer Awards will be launched shortly in conjunction with the launch of the refreshed BCCAT.ca website.

-> **ACTION:** Val noted that there is a vacancy for an additional Council member to sit on the Awards Committee. She will send out an email with further information, and also will provide a link to the Awards infographic for sharing.

5.4. Nominations for Student Representative on Council

Members referred to proposed, revised guidelines for nominating student representatives to the Council. The changes are designed to help identify students who have a general interest in policy and governance and that they are in a clear position to engage with the Council and its work.

-> **MOTION:** To accept the proposed revision to Guidelines for Student Nominees for Council Appointment.

E. McCausland / B. Dick CARRIED

-> **ACTION:** Council members were asked to contact Val or Rob if they have suggestions for potential student nominees.

6. TRANSFER & ARTICULATION

6.1. Transfer & Articulation Committee (Last Meeting: Jan. 31, 2020)

At the last meeting of the TAC, the committee finalized projects for the 2020-21 projects plan. Other key issues under discussion are covered below.

6.1.1. Flexible Pre-Majors (FPMs)

At the TAC meeting, Fiona McQuarrie provided a comprehensive update on FPM activity for each relevant articulation committee. Due to ongoing issues regarding lack of maintenance, BCCAT staff are recommending that we discontinue supporting FPMs as a transfer vehicle, and provide these on the BC Transfer Guide for reference only. Council members then raised a number of points in discussion:

- Could it be the term itself that is confusing or problematic?
- FPMs are not generally well understood.
- There may be other models that are more defined and more useful (e.g. common core agreements).

6.1.2. Transfer Credit System (TCS) Update

Members reviewed a one-page information sheet on the status of updates and enhancements to the TCS. Further, Mike Winsemann reported that two jurisdictions (Saskatchewan and Manitoba) are considering adapting BCCAT technologies for the development of their own transfer credit systems. Plans are underway to meet and discuss these potential projects over the next few weeks. (Members reviewed a MOU designed for these kinds of collaborative technology projects.)

6.2. TAC Projects

6.2.1. Stale-Dated Credit bccat.ca/pubs/StaleDatedCredit2020.pdf

The executive summary for this project report (recently published) was provided for information. The project looked at policies and calendar information regarding stale-dated credit at BC's transfer system institutions. The study showed some inconsistencies between policies. The report recommends (a) that institutions develop policies where they don't currently exist, and (b) that they be aligned across the system.

6.2.2. Transfer Innovation (TI) Program Review - *F. McQuarrie/M. Winsemann*

Members were introduced to the new framework for the TI program, now called the "Articulation Committee Project", or "ACP" funding program which was put together by a TAC subcommittee. As a result of the revisions, this program features a more rigorous application process (and vetting), and stipulates specific themes (e.g. Indigenization, international students, etc.) The new framework will be sent to articulation committees next week. Meanwhile, a Contractor Guide is being developed for use with this and other contract work undertaken for BCCAT.

6.2.3. Unarticulated Courses and Courses at Different Year Levels

The executive summary for this project was provided for information. This study looked at areas where there appear to be gaps in articulation data in the BC Transfer Guide. It involved evaluating (a) the volume of courses not yet articulated, and (b) the volume of courses that have been articulated at different year levels. The report has been approved by the TAC and is due for publication shortly.

6.3. Articulation Committees

The draft "Spring Update" was provided for information. (It will be posted to the Articulation section of the BCCAT website shortly.)

6.4. 2020 Joint Annual Meeting - Nov. 6, 2020

This year's event will be held at the Pinnacle Harbourfront Hotel, Vancouver. Council members are invited to register and participate. Meanwhile, see video highlights from the 2019 JAM at bccat.ca/articulation/jam

7. ADMISSIONS

7.1. Admissions Committee (Last Meeting: January 17, 2020) – K. McCredie (Chair)

Karen McCredie (Chair) gave a brief overview of discussions at the last Admissions Committee meeting. The committee looked at work accomplished on approved projects, and identified the proposed 2020/21 projects from a list developed through consultation over the last several months. At this point, there are two projects from the previous year approaching publication: Block Transfer and Degree Partnership Pathways, and Competency-based Admissions Processes.

7.2. Admissions Projects

7.2.1. Applying Credits to Multiple Credentials bccat.ca/pubs/MultipleCredentials2020.pdf

This recently published report focuses on situations where students seek to apply credits to multiple credentials that are *lateral* (e.g. a second baccalaureate degree) or *reverse* (e.g. where a student with a social work degree seeks to earn a certificate in addictions).

1:00-1:30pm

GUEST PRESENTATION:

Indigenous Educational Pathways: Access, Mobility, and Persistence from the Student Perspective

*by Adrienne Vedan, Director, Aboriginal Programs and Services, UBCO),
and Jackson Traplin, Program Analyst, Aboriginal Programs and Services, UBCO*

8. RESEARCH

8.1. Research Committee (Last Meeting: February 7, 2020)

Robert Adamoski gave a brief overview of discussions at the last Research Committee meeting, including: finalizing projects proposed for the 2020/21 work plan, review of work accomplished to date, upcoming research publications, and a number of presentations on current projects (e.g. Dual Credit).

8.2. Research Projects

8.2.1. Upcoming Research Committee Reports

Robert briefly updated members on two projects due for completion shortly. The Credits to Graduation project was undertaken by Anna Tikina; a report and summary will be published in April. Meanwhile, the Dual Credit PSE Performance project is in the final stages of edits, due for publication shortly.

9. TECHNOLOGIES/WEBSITES

9.1. BCCAT.ca - Redesigned Site

Mike Winsemann walked through key features of the refreshed BCCAT.ca website. In particular, he demonstrated the functionality of the publications search facility, and articulation committee information and resources. Jennifer Kook and Anabella Chun have been doing much of the work involved in carrying out updates and adapting changes to the new structure and features. Over the next few weeks, we will be addressing any apparent glitches or issues to further support easy usage of the site.

10. MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

10.1. Upcoming Events

Val spoke briefly about these two upcoming events; opportunities for BCCAT outreach to students, counsellors, teachers, and others. (Due to COVID-19 concerns, both were later cancelled.)

10.1.1. Gathering Our Voices/GOV2020 (Kamloops, March 16-19, 2020)
<https://gatheringourvoices.ca/>

10.1.2. Skills Canada National Competition (Vancouver, May 28-29, 2020)
https://www.skillscompetencescanada.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/SCNC2020-Agenda_En_191119.pdf

10.2. Video Projects – Update

Over the next few weeks, Val will be working with Elton (Eyes Multimedia) to finalize testimonial video clips from the interviews conducted last fall/winter. She also noted that Lane Trotter (President, Langara College) also agreed to sit for an interview. Highlights from his interview will be featured also in an upcoming video. Val expressed appreciation for the expertise and professionalism of Elton and his colleagues throughout these video projects.

11. INTER-PROVINCIAL/INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES – R. Fleming

11.1. Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admissions & Transfer (PCCAT) Conference
Niagara Falls, ON; June 24-25, 2020 <http://www.pccatweb.org>

Members were informed about the upcoming PCCAT conference, and the Call for Proposals was also provided.

11.2. ARUCC Groningen and Student Mobility Initiative
<https://www.arucc.ca/en/projects/task-force-groningen.html>

Rob Fleming provided a briefing document about the status of this initiative, along with the Request for Proposals.

ACTION: Karen McCredie will circulate details regarding an upcoming webinar about the National Network project.

11.3. Groningen Declaration Network Meeting and Conference
Delhi, India; April 15-17, 2020 <https://www.groningendeclaration.org/2020-delhi-india/>

BCCAT staff were planning to attend and present at this event. (The conference was cancelled, subsequent to the meeting.)

12. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST – A variety of relevant news articles were provided for information

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15. ADJOURNMENT
