

**Minutes of Western Regional Criminology Articulation Committee (WRCAC) Meeting,
2017**

**Location: Native Education College, Vancouver BC, ROOM 103-104
Meeting called by: Avery Hulbert, Chair. Michael Brandt, Vice-Chair**

In Attendance:

Avery Hulbert, College of the Rockies
Michael Brandt, Northwest Community College
Amanda McCormick, University of the Fraser Valley
Geri Bemister, North Island College
Michael Down, Vancouver Island University
Catharine Huth, Langara College
Jason La Rochelle, Tamara Starbanket, Native Education Centre
Shereen Hassan, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Barb Mantello, Lethbridge College
Sheri Fabian, SFU
Kathleen Manion, Royal Roads University
Scott Brodie, Douglas College
Carla Hotel, Douglas College
Charles Stuart, Yukon College
Jarko Jalava, Okanagan College
Blair Fisher, Camosun College

Minutes

1. Avery Hulbert, Chair, Michael Brandt, Vice-Chair, WRCAC: Welcome to the group.
2. Welcome Ceremony- entering the Long House. NEC elders, staff and students welcomed us to NEC and invited us to walk through the ceremonial long house door.
3. Robert Adamoski, BCCAT: Provided an update on activity at BCCAT. This included discussion of: changes to BCCAT web site, tools students can utilize at BCCAT web site to assist them in planning their courses; development of a common application portal (a BC Ministry initiative); field school co-ordination project (to be discussed later in more detail by Steve Earle); methods to track demand for certain programs; sharing of information among institutions; and pending articulation requests.
 - We reviewed the list for outstanding transfer response (to send out with minutes)
 - BCCAT's new report on changes to the K-12 Curriculum
<http://www.bccat.ca/pubs/K12Changes.pdf>
4. Institutional Reports (See individual reports – attached - for details about each institution). Discussion of program and course changes/updates, new courses, credentials. Institutional changes.

Scott Brodie, Douglas College
Geri Bermister, North Island College

Michael Brandt, Northwest Community College
Barb Mantello, Lethbridge College
Blair Fisher, Camosun College
Kathleen Manion, Royal Roads University
Jarkko Jalava, Okanagan College
Tamara Starblanket, Native Education Centre

5. Tour of Native Education College
6. Guest Speaker: Steven Earle, BCCAT
Topic: Field School Project.

Discussed BCCAT research project that is collecting information on field schools running throughout the post-secondary system in order to more effectively expand/enhance cooperation among Colleges/universities. The aim is to be able to provide a platform that would allow potential students to easily see what field school options exist across the province as well as to encourage collaboration in the area of field schools.

7. Institutional Reports Continued

See individual reports –attached -- for details about each institution. Discussion of program and course changes/updates, new courses, credentials, institutional changes.

Charles Stuart, Yukon College
Shereen Hassan, Kwantlen Polytechnique University
Sheri Fabian, Simon Fraser University
Amanda McCormick, University of the Fraser Valley
Michael Down, Vancouver Island University
Avery Hulbert, College of the Rockies
Catharine Huth, Langara College

8. Presentation: “Suffer the Little Children”
Speaker: Tamara Starblanket

Tamara Starblanket discussed her research for her LLM, and the upcoming publication of her book, *“Suffer the Little Children”*. The thesis of her research is that the Canadian state engaged in the crime of genocide through forced assimilation, colonialism and residential school abuse. Starblanket discussed, in particular, how language needs to be de-colonized, hiding as it does, brutal realities. She notes the difference between talking about “sexual abuse” that happened in residential schools versus talking about it in terms of institutionalized pedophilia. Starblanket also discussed how Indigenous peoples continue to be oppressed and traumatized in the context of the foster care system, where they are overrepresented. Finally, Starblanket talked about recommendations made as

part of the Truth and Reconciliation Report, as well as some of the challenges associated with them.

9. Discussion: Truth and Reconciliation
Facilitator: Avery Hulbert

Avery Hulbert facilitated a discussion about the recommendations that emerged out of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls for action. Tamara share the position from her work that reconciliation is a bare minimum as genocide occurred and we need to take responsibility. A key theme summarized by the Desmond Tutu quote (paraphrased here): “How can we talk about forgiveness if it hasn’t stopped”. Discussion of: social, political context of Indigenous over-representation in the criminal justice system, foster care crisis, continuing marginalization, de-colonization; and what institutions are doing with respect to Truth and Reconciliation Report. We reviewed the calls for action in education and justice and agreed with our shared responsibility as educators to ensure we are working towards reconciliation.

10. Inside-Outside Presentation
Speaker: Michael Brandt

Michael Brandt discussed the recent training he received in the Inside-Outside Prison Exchange Program -- a Program designed to teach Criminology/Criminal Justice faculty how to run a criminology class inside a prison with a group of “inside students” (i.e., those incarcerated) and “outside students” (i.e., those in a college or university class). Bringing the 2 groups together to study crime/criminal justice issues provides an opportunity to break down barriers, shatter stereotypes, and open up authentic learning. Virtually completely hands on, experiential and dialogic, the training provides a unique format for exploring crime and criminal justice issues.

11. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair:

The WRCAC re-elected Avery Hulbert as Chair of WRCAC and Michael Brandt was re-elected as Vice-Chair.

In keeping with the city – rural – out-of-province rotation, Mount Royal University was selected as the location of the 2018 WRCAC. It was agreed to keep the 2018 meeting on a Thursday/Friday and to have it within the first two weeks of May if possible.

12. Themes & Trends

Several themes and trends emerged through reviewing Institutional Reports and ensuing discussions.

- High Enrollments- there was a theme that most re experiencing high enrollments in their criminology/criminal justice courses/ programs, In reviewing minutes from previous years, this appears a recurring trend.

- Honours programs

13. Tour of the Musqueam Cultural Centre was cancelled due to a death in the community.

14. Adjournment.

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm, Friday, May 15th, 2017.

Themes

- We had several members who needed to leave early on Friday so we did not delve into the themes but felt they were addressed in our reports and ensuing discussions.

The themes that emerged:

- Healthy enrollment trends in criminology and criminal justice programs.
- Increase in International students within programs and courses
- Hiring of faculty at many institutions
 - ensuring that correct number of sections are assessed ahead of time to avoid last minute hiring and more stable positions.
- Compensation for faculty
 - discussions on the variance of how institutions compensate faculty
- Section Caps
 - Variations in section maximums
- Mandatory courses supporting Indigenous knowledge within the Institutions
 - These are at UFV, Camosun, Langara, RRU (will have in place Fall 2017)
- Online programs
 - Discussions on resources, capacity, professional development, student success

Action Items

- Avery and Michael to follow up with Doug at MRU for hosting of 2018 WRCAC and the dates.
- Avery to update the group listserv with corrections and additions to the membership
- Tamara to keep us updated on the release of her book.
- Michael to follow up with group on the Inside out training for 2018.
- Avery to send out the outstanding BCCAT Articulation request list with the minutes.