

Western Regional Criminology Articulation Committee - WRCAC

MINUTES

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

Institution/Location: Mount Royal University – Calgary, AB

Meeting Date(s): 3-4/May/2018

Present:

Member Institution	Present	Regrets
BCCAT		Rob Adamoski
Bow Valley	Taran Taylor	
Camosun College	Blair Fisher	
Capilano University		
College of New Caledonia	Eric Tompkins	
College of the Rockies	Avery Hulbert	
Douglas College	Scott Brodie	
Justice Institute of BC	Greg Keenan	
Kwantlen Polytechnic University	Shereen Hassan	
Langara College	Melissa Roberts	
Lethbridge College	Barb Mantello & Ken Sauders	
Mount Royal University	Doug King, Leann Acheson	
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology	Lara-Lisa Condello	
NEC	Tamara Starblanket	
Northern Lights College	Jodi Campbell	
North Island College	Geri Bemister	
Northwest Community College		Michael Brandt
Okanagan College	Jarrko Jalava	
Red Deer College		Jane MacNeil
Royal Roads University	Kathleen Manion	
Selkirk College		
Simon Fraser University	Bryan Kinney	
Thompson Rivers University		
Trinity Western University		
University of the Fraser Valley	Amanda McCormick	
Vancouver Community College		
Vancouver Island University	Beth McLin	
Yukon College		
University of Regina	Hirsch Greenberg	
University of Winnipeg	Steven Kohm	
GUEST NAME		

Minutes recorder: Greg Keenan - JIBC

Meeting Chair: Avery Hulbert – COTR

1. Meeting Called to Order at 0910.

MRU Criminal Justice Student Taryn provides a traditional welcome to the territory

Avery welcomes all.

Thank you everyone for attending and for bringing together your reports. Our theme this year is building connections with community. Also from the reports we are seeing some common themes that we have seen in past years still present: high enrollments; academic honest; growth in Criminology and Criminal justice programs; and increasing numbers of international students. We hope that we can come away with sharing some best practices and solutions to support each other.

Instead of making formal motions and voting, we have adopted consensus decision making.

2. Introductions/welcome

Round of Introductions as we had many new members attend.

Regrets sent from Vice-Chair Michael Brandt, NWCC; Jane MacNeil, Red Deer College

3. Approval of Agenda and Any Additional Items

Addition to add a presentation on open textbooks by Wade Deisman via skype or Phone call (time to be determined)

Confirmation of tour of MRU Friday at 1 pm and the MMIW Moccasin Art Installment. Tour of Sheldon Kennedy centre on Friday at 3:30pm is confirmed and transportation will be via carpooling.

Resolved to approve with additions

4. Approval of minutes of the Articulation Committee meeting of 2017 at NEC

Minutes were distributed on listserv and reviewed by members.

Thank you to Michael Brandt for preparing the minutes

Resolved to accept the minutes with no changes.

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes (if any)

Discussed the follow up items from the last meeting May 2017:

- Information sent out about the Inside out program.
- Listserv updated and have representation from all programs with Criminology/Criminal justice
- Discussion on use of BCCAT moodle platform for articulation committees. With the amount of Institutions that are not using moodle and that we have an active membership on the current google groups we have decided to keep it as is. We tried a website in the past and as a group found it hard to check and visit. We all regularly use email and appreciate the way that we communicate and share information.

6. BCCAT Report

BCCAT report sent forth from Rob Adamoski who sent his regrets. We reviewed the report.

Discussions took place around the following highlights:

- Steve Earle's field work report which he met with us at articulation last year is published.
- Changes to K-12 curriculum
 - o How will K-12 changes impact post-secondary?
 - o Blair shared – Met with Deputy Minister and the changes will be made. Students assessed at grade 9 level and post-secondary will need to prepare for the shift. All school districts must align by 2021. Some research from Scandinavia but it is lifelong and life-wide so concerns on its relevance to BC education.
 - o Avery commented that BCCAT has been advocating for post-secondary system. Grade 10-12 held back for now. The hope is that students will be empowered to create own learning pathways.
 - o Admissions are a concern to our group and readiness for post-secondary studies

- Avery to follow-up with committee on any news and reports on this topic
- BCCAT report for Indigenous education pathways.
- Discussed issues with International Credit transfers- International students are outside mandate for MAVED. International credit transfer difficult due to differences in CJ System.
- Discussed the concerns that the outstanding transfer credit requests which may not be sent to the correct department. Ensured that we were diligent in forwarding on to other possible departments that could grant transfer credit (for example- sociology, law, psychology).

With large representation from out of province delegates along with new members we reviewed BCCAT and the history of WRCAC and the importance and uniqueness of this committee.

We had a discussion on other provincial Articulation systems (Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba) and reviewed the best ways for us to encourage course and program transfers and encourage student mobility

- Alberta (Doug/Barb) - Alberta CAT system exists but not as fulsome as BCCAT. It is institution to institution. Extra provincial transfers are case-by-case. No review of transcript prior to admission. Applications are required first. Might want to speak with others informally prior to admission.
 - MRU and BVC in process of agreements
 - MRU and Leth College have had agreements for the last 10 years
 - Lethbridge college has articulation specialists who assist faculty. They see more students coming from Sask rather than within Alberta
 - At MRU send articulation requests to the Chair
 - At Lethbridge College send requests to Articulation specialists
- Saskatchewan (Hirsch) – agreements within province for specific programs at other institutions. Approximately 10% of students have credits from other provinces. Applied courses, example investigations, become difficult.
 - Regina- block transfer with Sask. Polytech
 - Course by course with University of Sask
- Manitoba (Steven) – some longstanding transfers from other provincial institutions. Case-by case for other provinces.
 - Red River College have agreements from their diploma to small block transfer at UW.
- Hirsch asked about the interest in a National Criminology network.
- Outcome was to continue to work with our Western Regional partners one on one and where possible to continue to explore block transfers and course by course transfers.

Action Item – create a list of who the contacts are for articulation agreements at institutions.

7. GUEST PRESENTER

Guest Speaker- RCMP Inspector James McLaren -Indigenous policing in rural Alberta.

Shared his experiences, challenges and best practices in working with Indigenous communities in policing. He shared the importance of: building trust (it will protect you); listening to people and validating- stop talking; needing to understand intergenerational trauma; checking your ego and focus on caring and helping.

He suggested that we work with our students to help them identify if policing is something they should pursue. For those to succeed in policing, one needs to be good at working with people and be invested in relationship building and not their egos. Focus on value based practice.

8. Presentation of Institutional Reports – collated into one report and distributed on the listserv

Group set parameters of not reading institutional reports but to focus on key points, anything missing from their points and the best practices that they have used to build relationships with community as well as the common themes and challenges from the written reports.

The common themes were:

- High enrollments
- Growth and demand in programs with large waitlists (at urban centre institutions)
- Growth in International students (for BC Institutions)
- Cut backs and reduced budgets and sections
- Indigenization

9. Institutional Reports Roundtable

NIC: High level of international students, over 50%. International students are having trouble adapting from large city to small rural classroom. How can we better support them and the cultural challenges that they are experiencing.

JIBC: Low international enrollment in diploma and degree. One faculty member departed mid-semester. New Dean- Stuart Ruttan. Challenges with cheating and plagiarism; students not disclosing attendance at other institutions.

LC- Lethbridge: School of Justice studies and policing; Correctional studies degree; School of public safety-training for other organizations is competency based training Partnership with public safety sector leads to AVED certificate. Applied in nature. Applied degree – 900% increase in students. Challenges with field study placement. Croatia field trip took place this year. Deliver Both face to face and online courses (3 times years for online).

- Student understanding agreement- course overview quiz on syllabus and get 100% to proceed with online courses
 - o Many people requested a copy of this. Thank you Ken for agreeing to share this resource.

U Regina: Offer Diploma and degree program. Are seeing high enrollment. Indigenization office to support faculty – what does University need to do for TRC and what does that look like. First Nations University of Canada on campus. Have Pathways for Metis Students.

CNC: issues with International students- admin is not supporting the students or faculty on how to do things better.

- Digital Instruction- DDI- 5 satellite campuses one central location and then broadcast (videoconferencing). Do online/videoconference course transfer the same as are they getting same quality of education

UFV: new president, new chancellor and new Dean, and new Faculty. Due to program review, to include fewer required courses from crim. This could impact course enrollments. New course before practicum- professional practice requirement. CRIM 129- transitions class from Secondary to PSI- teach skills they need to succeed; APA, Writing and student support intensive. Finding that those who took this course first are doing much better in their program. Made it a pre-requisite for the practicum for second year.

- Not strong enrollment for international students. But with the introduction of a flat fee for International tuition, students are taking five courses and burning out.
- More sections in off semesters to avoid backlog of students waiting to get into classes if they miss one. Competency based assessment for entrance into Masters program – part of admissions. New course in MA program –special topics in Mental health with focus on self-care
- Plagiarism policy updating and struggling with this

UofW: Masters program with two streams (project or thesis) starting in September with 9 students. It features half courses in writing and research. Budget cuts were 1% and Indigenization funding was cut. Not a lot of international students.

NEC: PITA regulated as still considered a private institution. Have approximately 237 students. Eight students this year in program and seven will graduate this year. JPS with JIBC will run again for eleven months. Ongoing indigenization of content. Building content which incorporates confidence building. The notion that we cannot force indigenization on settlers but the settlers imposed their views and still do on Indigenous peoples. Need to value indigenous students and not render them invisible. We need to have these difficult conversations

- KPU transferring agreement close to complete.

KPU: grouping teaching contracts so no new positions. Indigenization with faculty and students is ongoing. Social justice centre very active. Transfer agreements with NEC, NWCC and NLC is complete. International students - 33% increase- freeze on International enrollment as do not have resources that these students need (counselling, writing)

- Almost 7,000 students on summer waitlists. No overloads allowed and No classroom space

VIU: 33 million from MasterCard foundation towards indigenization. Won a provost award. Students travelled for presentations in England, US. Theatre. Developed an Addictions certificate. Inside out program doing well. Ministry of Justice would like to see more post-secondary institutions working with custody centres. New Dean from UVic. Program review will be presented to the approval group next week. Michael Down will be incoming Chair

Douglas College: 2, 319 crim students with high waitlist numbers. 20 regular fulltime faculty and 9 contract faculty. Now have open education librarians. High international Enrollments (50% in Intro to CJ). STEP up program for students to research urban problems and each receives a bursary. Indigenization of curriculum and exploration of its meaning is ongoing.

MRU: budget is lean. Staffing and faculty positions are not being filled. Finished program review, strengths are practicum and honour students. Select students are taking a tour of China. Moved to a new school, economics, justice and policy. 90% average right now for students to get in crim program, third hardest program to get into at Mt Royal. Indigenous course in JS is moving to be a required course

Camosun: Full and waitlisted for the fall. Department received 0.5 FTE increase. New Dean, internally hired. Now have an associate Dean role. Held legalization of marijuana panel which was well attended. Input asked for some content and post-graduate certificate in addiction. Few international students. Running CJ professional seminars to assist with orientation to post-secondary.

Bow Valley: Justice Studies Program. Changes to President and CEO, VPA. Have 17000 learners Have Different ways for students to access materials. Courses available to public not just those enrolled in programs. Program review was done last year and committed resources to changing courses. Focus on De-colonizing versus indigenizing curriculum. Second year has an Aboriginal focus.

Royal Roads: New MA in justice studies. Have Block transfer model versus individual courses. Five year review included addition of 14 new courses. Launched Inside out program.

OC: no new faculty. Trying for BLES/JIBC but numbers are low. No program increase with development of new prison in area.

Langara: large restructuring taking place. Academic misconduct process is streamlined and now easier to report. Programs are waitlisted but domestic students are down. Added some summer courses to assist with

international numbers. Research methods class now has a pre-requisite as they were taking course as new International students.

COTR: Registration live as of Monday and numbers are going up, higher than we typically see at this time of year. New Social and criminal justice diploma and certificate program which means there is no longer the crime and corrections program. Increase in both domestic and high increase in International students. Also increase in social and criminal justice students.

SFU: adding Practicum experience to degree program. New faculty member. Had to trim credit hours to reduce fees. Revamping programs to offer full time and part time. Honours now 120 credits and can use last two semesters. Recognize they are having Retention issue and completion issue. Very lean faculty, hiring and retiring. Hampered by ability to hire. Block transfers being undertaken to keep students from leaving for other institutions. SFU- Bryan

NVIT: Smallest PS in BC mandate to serve indigenous students. Currently 1200+ students. Crim has three FT faculty via video conference. Best Practices- all board represents aboriginal communities; Elders' council with 16 members across two campuses involved in classrooms and co-teach.

Using video conferencing. Have an Elder council- 16 Elders for 2 campus. Merritt campus hosting Summer Institute on Indigenous Governance. Student success centre – coordinator from K-12 supporting students which focuses on writing intensive support and Confidence building. Dual Credit course offerings. Sexualized violence training and partnership to deliver training. Development of indigenous court in Merritt supporting through education. Challenges- housing, daycare, video conferencing, book costs

NLC: Satellite schools so videoconferencing occurs for every F2F course. International rates are 75% and domestic students are dropping. Best practices, a judge comes to class. Academic honesty is a struggle. Top hat-use for student check in using their phones – encourage participation.

NWCC is now Coast Mountain College.

Themes from Reports:

- Use of videoconferencing- Multiple locations for teaching with one primary instructor
- Indigenization.
- International students.
- Plagiarism/turn it in and privacy issues.
- Honours.
- Community connections.

10. Round Table Discussions - Best Practices on recurring issues/challenges

We took an hour and half to discuss the following main themes and issues that were brought up as concerns throughout our meeting. Below the topic are suggestions that were made to support and encourage solution based discussions.

Plagiarism

- Concerns about use of turn it in software and how we are using it.
- How can we avoid plagiarism
 - o Applied assignments with narrow scope that is unique
 - o Grade on process and outcome
 - Research notebook- where and what and when – Hirsch to send out
 - Flipped classroom so assessments are occurring in class.
 - Oral presentation

- Student understanding agreement- quiz and signed agreement based on expectations and policies on academic dishonesty.
- Grammarly being used at NVIT
- Academic honesty workshop and certificate of completion

What to watch for:

- Underground classrooms- It was brought to our attention of an underground classroom: Economics at SFU - classes being re-broadcasted.
- Some students using google translate.
- Students using online thesaurus tool; spinbot ; omeagle ; classnotes- sell their classnotes
 - (add ourselves to classnotes) Check for Websites “class notes.”
- Bullying regarding plagiarism.
- **Faculty Academic Misconduct** - Faculty academic dishonesty- discussion on if it is an issue
 - Retraction from journals. Steven Kohn (UW) is leading research on this topic. Check out www.Retractionwatch.com
- We agreed to use the listserv to forward new tools regarding cheating and plagiarism.

Assignment Completion and Evaluation Criteria

There was a discussion about requirements to have students hand in all their assignments. We discussed the articulation concerns as well as readiness for future courses resulting from students not completing all required assessment criteria as stated in the approved course outlines. Some institutions have policies around this. Also discussed the weighting for assignments. We discussed whether attendance should be mandatory or optional. Lastly we discussed the rise in Anxiety diagnosis for presentations and students requesting and in some cases demanding alternate assignments and how we are managing this and supporting learners.

Video conferencing

- Platforms being used are: cahoot, top hat, socrative

International Students

We recognized that diversity varies amongst all institutions and that the concerns with respect to International Students were how we can support their success. It appears that students from some cultures are struggling more than others with the culture shift and academic expectations.

- Camosun has resources for international students.
- Pressure on faculty to be lenient with these students. International used as a budget fix.
- Looking to use caps on percentage of a class.
- Domestic students not wanting to work with international due to grade impact.
- Racism in community.
- Lacking resources for housing, mental and physical health. Agents not being truthful about programs.
- Can lead to lower standards due to change from writing to multiple choice for grading.
- Can international students be counted as 1.25 or 1.5. with respect to classloads and workloads?
- Use preparatory English classes to onboard.
- International students facing depressions and shame and the lack resources to address.
- Support and counselling need
- Cultural variations within “international student”
- Need to be respectful of cultural differences but not change our practices and standards

Indigenization

We had an open discussion about resources and recommendations around supporting indigenization.

Lara-Lisa share her recommendations as a non-indigenous ally working for NVIT:

- Learn history, read outside crim.
- Build relationships.
- Use gathering places.
- Explore indigenous ways of knowing.
- Support local projects, and strength based practices.
- Learn an Indigenous language.
- Think holistically about teaching- Lee Brown thesis about emotional competencies and intellectual growth.

Other recommendations:

- Co-teaching with elders;
- hosting PD opportunities at COTR such as Unpacking the settlers backpack.
- Focus on Values based teaching.
- View Students as knowledge holders and holding us accountable.
- We do not have the answers, be curious and humble
- Support indigenous authors: "Pagans in the promised land" (Newcombe). Jack Forbes "Columbus and other cannibals." Sharon Venne and Cree understanding of treaty. Wanda McCaslin "Justice as Healing", Kalvin Helen. Amy Cisare's "Discourse on colonialism".
- Lisa Monchalin's book: also is an excellent guide on how to cite Elders and knowledge holders
- Leroy Littlebear readings
- Learn history of yourself – who are you, what is your culture etc.
- Share the manual for decolonization book online- Avery
- Consider inclusion of diverse worldviews and indigenous

11. Election/Re-Election of Chair and/or SLP (if required)

Nominations were made and accepted for Avery Hulbert to remain as Chair. With no further nominations, Avery accepted and was acclaimed

Michael Brandt was nominated as Vice-Chair. With no further nominations, Avery accepted and was acclaimed
Avery thanked everyone for their support and acknowledged it is an easy committee to chair as everyone works well together

12. Open Education Resource- Call for Interest- Wade Deismann

Wade called into our meeting and spoke about the call for an Introduction to criminology open source textbook and for contributors, which should occur by end of May 2018. They are estimating about 30 potential chapters. The group was very interested in learning more and participating by sharing the call for chapter ideas and authors.

Wade will follow up with the details and more information on our listserv.

13. Review of listserv

We passed around the current membership listserv and made updates where needed.

14. Future meetings

Douglas College (New Westminster, BC campus) offered to host in May 2-3, 2019. VIU expressed interest in 2020.

Suggestion to change format for next year and remove oral report and move to spending time on themes.

Suggest at end of institutional reports to add "items to address" so the themes can develop from there.

There was consensus on this and it was resolved that we will set an earlier date for Institutional reports to be submitted prior to the meeting dates and make changes to the template.

15. Chair and Vice-Chair

Avery will stay as Chair. Vice-Chair Michael Brandt will continue.

16. Any Other Business

- Tour of Mount Royal University
- Tour of "walking with our sisters" Vamps exhibit hosted at MRU
<http://walkingwithoursisters.ca/artwork/moccasin-vamps/>
- Tour of Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre - <http://sheldonkennedycac.ca/>

17. Next meeting:

Location: Douglas College

Date: May 2-3, 2019

Formal Meeting agenda adjourned at 1245 on May 4 ; Tours concluded at 1730 on May 4

Avery Hulbert

Chair, WRCAC

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