

ESL Articulation Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

May 2 & 3, 2019

Room S0620

Douglas College, New Westminster campus

Thursday, May 2: 9:00-4:00

Chairs: Andrea Matthews, BCIT, and Marta Tejero, College of New Caledonia

Secretary: Geoff Taylor, SFU

Attending:

Nathan Devos, BCIT
Patrick Best, Coquitlam College
Alex Ferguson, Coquitlam College
Mya McKay, Fairleigh Dickinson University
Lisa Robertson, Camosun College
Tony Vernon, Camosun College
Shayna Cuttilan, Acsenda School of Management
Ray Rahimi, Acsenda School of Management
Maggie Reagh, Capilano University
Rachelle Jorgenson, Capilano University
Geoff Taylor, Simon Fraser University
Shana Rablah, Selkirk College
Annette Aarts, College of the Rockies
Cathy Aquart, University of Victoria
Cathy Ebert, University of Victoria
Elizabeth Stigger, Alexander College
Carel Schoch, University Canada West
Lynette Manton, Kwantlen Polytechnic University
Joe Dobson, Thompson Rivers University
Brian Bouthillier, Thompson Rivers University
Kirsten Bunton, Camosun College
Aleah Gustafson, Camosun College
Maria Bos-Chan, University of the Fraser Valley
Mary Wendling, Vancouver Island University
Vicki Vogel, Langara College
Jamella Hagen, Yukon College
Ian Schellenberg, Yukon College
Anna Tikina, BCCAT
Kim McMorris, Vancouver Community College
Ashley O'Connell, La Salle College Vancouver
Barb Binczyk, Ministry of Advanced Education
Dilia Hasanova, Douglas College
Karen Reppin, Douglas College
Ardiss Stutters, Okanagan College

Regrets / Not Attending:

Jas Gill, UBC
Bjorn Peterson, UNBC
Ben Hecht, North Island College
Coast Mountain College (no current rep)
Corpus Christi College (no current rep)
Emily Carr College (no current rep)
Northern Lights College (no current rep)

9:00 a.m. Coffee (hosted by Douglas College)

9:30 a.m. BCCAT ESL Articulation Steering Committee Meeting

I. Welcome from Douglas College:

- Dave Seaweed, Aboriginal Student Services Coordinator
- Dr. Manuela Constantino, Interim Dean, Faculty of Language, Literature, and Performing Arts

II. Approval of the Agenda

Approved Cathy Ebert, UVic

Seconded Maria Bos-Chan, UFV

II. Approval of the Minutes of May 7-8, 2018 (held at VCC)

Approved Lisa Robertson, Camosun College

Seconded Mary Wendling, VIU

IV. "Housekeeping" (9:40)

- 1) Orientation to meeting venue
- 2) Wifi access
- 3) Election nominations for 1 Co-Chair
 - a. Any interested parties, speak to Marta Tejero and Andrea Matthews
- 4) Check contact info, describe process for updating contacts
 - a. **PLAN:** changes to format to make contact info for institutions more streamlined
 - b. **ACTION:** Attendees to ensure accuracy of contact information
- 5) Next year's meeting: date and location
- 6) Limited to venues in the Lower Mainland – Maggie Reagh volunteered Capliano University for 2020 BCCAT Committee Meeting; To be discussed on Day 2
- 7) Dinner plans for Thursday evening – sign up sheet

V. BCCAT rep introductions: Dr. Anna Tikina, Research Officer (9:45-10:05)

- 1) Role: support articulation committees across BC
- 2) BCCAT website has many resources to support articulation
 - a. Recommends members to review: How to Articulate; Articulation Companion
 - b. BCCAT Joint Annual Meeting resources available
- 3) BCCAT updates:
 - a. Nominations for awards can be submitted until the end of June 2019
 - b. Flexible Pre-Majors – Under Review by BCCAT – may or may not continue
 - c. Transfer Innovation Funding – Under Review. No new projects being funded this year
 - d. International Credit Practices report available
 - e. Issues and Challenges in program transfers report available – reviews issues on under-represented students including indigenous, minority,
 - f. Indigenous Educational Pathways project – Phase One Educators Perspectives complete, and Phase Two is underway on Student perspectives on indigenous persistence
 - g. **Question from committee:** If BCCAT is keeping last year's recommendations from Committee in mind; **Anna's Response** - letter from Steering Committee to BCCAT needed as per 2018 minutes; **Chair** - Will be discussed later today
- 4) **ACTION:** Andrea Matthews – Committee members have a responsibility to contact the Institutional Contact Person for their Institution and make that connection. Can access list of ICPs here: <https://www.bccat.ca/articulation/icp>

VI. Introductions & roundtable to briefly summarize new initiatives at institutions: one rep per institution, 3 mins each (10:05-11:30)

- 1) Institution Reports are posted on Moodle site for review.
- 2) Overall Trends:

Demographics:

- Increase in students from India to the point that largest population of EAL students in many institutions are now from India. (UFV, Langara, VCC, Coquitlam, Fairleigh Dickinson, Ascenda, Cap U, Selkirk, College of the Rockies, Columbia)
 - Many of these students experience challenges with university readiness in addition to language
 - Some of these students the goal is immigration and not study
 - Challenges with IELTS scores reflecting English ability (concerns about corruption)
 - Anna remarked that 2018-2019 was the first year where the number of Indian students was the largest province-wide

Enrollment:

- Many institutions have experienced a drop in numbers of international students (UFV, VIU, Douglas, Camosun, Cap U, Langara, KPU)
 - Impact of raising IELTS scores to 6.5 for entry to university in some institutions (VIU)
 - Restrictions on numbers of international students at some institutions (Douglas, Alexander, KPU)
 - Impact of Student Direct Stream (SDS) which requires an IELTS 6.0 meaning fewer students coming to EAP programs from India – most are direct entry
 - “Vietnam wave is over”
 - Some institutions required to lay off staff due to decreasing enrollment (KPU)
 - Proposal to discontinue Faculty at KPU and move departments to other Faculties
 - Students bypassing ESL programs at BCIT – register for Part-Time studies, no proof required for language proficiency – under review
- Responses:
 - Several institutions have had an increase in domestic students, or are pushing to increase domestic enrollment (Douglas, Camosun, Cap U)
 - Increase in short-term programs or “add-on” programs (eg. business,) – UVIC
 - New Partnerships with universities abroad (Cap U, SFU)

Leadership:

- Leadership changes in majority of schools – new Deans, Presidents, VP Academic or reported current search for new leadership (VIU, Langara, Douglas College, Selkirk, College of the Rockies, Alexander, UCW, KPU, TRU, Columbia, BCIT, CNC)

Support Systems:

- New support systems for students and staff
 - Langara – new mental health framework and Internationalization strategy;
 - Cap U - Internationalization committee;
 - Selkirk – Community meetings with local community and international students; partnership with BC Transit between campuses / cities (Nelson, Trail and Castlegar)
 - ESL Learning Centre – TRU
- Dealing with the stigma of “ESL” “EAP” – new subject codes proposed (Cap U, Alexander)

Changes to Curriculum / Modes of Delivery:

- New curricular structures and modes of delivery
 - Redesign / Renewal (Lasalle, TRU, UNC, SFU, Douglas)
 - Skills-Based to Integrated (Coquitlam, TRU) and vice versa
 - Intercultural Communication (VCC)
 - Increased amount of blended delivery classes (VCC)
 - Shift from Academic to General English (UVic)

- Institutions seeking articulation or re-articulation in 2020 (Yukon College, SFU, TRU)

Change in Institution's Status:

- Yukon College to become a University in 2020

11:30-11:15 a.m. BREAK (Coffee & refreshments provided by Douglas College)

VII. Provincial ESL Update: Barb Binczyk, Adult Education Unit, Programs Branch, Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training (12:05-12:30)

- 1) Senior Policy advisor for AEU – Involved with Adult Basic Education, Adult Special Education and EAL
- 2) Adult Upgrading Grant – Eligibility thresholds increased to \$30,600 for funding
- 3) Maximum amount allowable reduced to \$30,000; more demand on community; Ministry is currently reviewing 101 proposals
- 4) Tuition Free Policy for EAL – December 2017 – Since then Institutions Invoicing Ministry - \$24 million budget – should be stable over new couple of years. Can possibly request more from Treasury.
- 5) Model for 19-20 – tuition reimbursements upfront – amount based on forecasted FTEs (based on ABE and ELL - 19-20 forecast); No increase in base funding
- 6) After reductions were implemented in 14-15; ELL fell by 56%, ABE by 27%; 35% reduction overall;
- 7) ABE numbers have remained largely static
- 8) Many students still don't realize EAL is tuition free; relying on individual institutions to promote; ministry does not promote
- 9) Why are ELL students still coming? Response – hitting the pavement; Facebook campaign; marketing has helped numbers
- 10) How much capacity do institutions have to keep increasing when current government funding only covers cost of tuition, not overhead costs?
- 11) Year-End Funding
 - a. Surplus – needs to be used to directly benefit students; for Adult Special Education – aimed at reducing waitlists; re-new / relaunch programs that had been cut
 - b. Funding for Disabilities projects – universal design; nurse practitioner

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. LUNCH hosted by Douglas College

VIII. Campus tour (1:30 – 2:15)

X. Member Issues roundtable discussions (2:15-3:30)

XI. Working groups meet to preview tomorrow's documents (3:30 – 4:00)

Groups divided into CNC/Capilano and Douglas/Capilano

Documents found on Moodle

End of Day 1. Optional group dinner

Friday, May 3th: 8:30-3:00, Room S0620

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Coffee (hosted by Douglas College)

XII. EAP action plan for 2019 (key items, research proposal potentials (TIFs), call for volunteers, etc.) (9:00 – 9:30) and Report from System Liaison Person and Deans and Directors: Tanis Sawkins

- 1) SLP – Role: Administrator from BC Transfer System committee, mentor co-chairs, attend JAM, institutional contact person attends JAM, acts as liaison between ESL articulation committee and other articulation committees in developmental education including ESL, ABE, ASE, advocates on behalf of ESL committee.
- 2) Initiative in ABE in changing their curriculum to align with K-12 school system which has dominated development education meetings in the last 3 years.
- 3) Recommended **ACTION**: visiting BCCAT website – committee companion guide.
- 4) Committee request to bring forward ability to hold committee meetings outside Lower Mainland.
 - a. **Response**: Original decision to keep BCCAT meetings to the Lower Mainland due to ABE having a disproportionate cost in expenses because of a larger number of committees
 - b. Tanis suggested developing a rationale for need to travel to other communities for BCCAT Meetings
 - c. **Ideas**: Missing representation and voice from Northern Communities; Expensive for schools outside of lower mainland board to travel every year, can often send only one person or sometimes cannot attend
- 5) Concern about decline in numbers of domestic students
- 6) Concern from the committee on why an articulated course not recognized at a receiving institution, while a LINC report card is for the purposes of language requirement for the federal government.

Last year's action items:

- 1.) Visibility of the EAP Articulation Guide on the BCCAT website
- 2.) Usability of EAP Articulation Guide
 - a. Missing information about which courses are credit bearing – difficult for advisors
 - b. Need to change guide to a format where registrars and those making transfer decisions can understand and make decisions. Need equivalency information. Suggested interactive equivalency tool.

Discussion:

1. Concern that some Institutions not accepting EAP 4 even when articulated.
 - a. **Response**: Institutions have the autonomy to make admissions decisions separate from articulation. Registration sometimes missing knowledge about articulation. Articulation Guide in its current form is cumbersome and hard to use.
2. **ACTION**: Suggestion for committee members to review prerequisites for one's own institutions – does it say EAP 4 or the school's own EAP 4 course.
3. **ACTION**: Committee members are to connect with institutional contact person

XIII. Guest speakers: Gordana Sokic, Cyndy Reimer, Janice Sestan - Douglas College curriculum development project (9:30 – 10:30)

- **Question:** Does Douglas College accept “mastery” at 70% of outcomes at ACE 3 (IELTS 6.0) to be accepted into Douglas College (IELTS 6.5) for entry?
 - Three out of four courses need to be at 6.5 in order for entry to Douglas.

10:30-10:45 a.m. BREAK (Coffee & refreshments provided by Douglas College)

Working Groups Meetings

10:45-12:30

- English for Work and Access Working Groups meeting
- Discussion of new articulations and changes

10:45-12:30 (possibly 1:00 pm)

- EAP Working Group meeting

12:30-1:30 p.m. LUNCH (not provided)

12:30-1:00 Working Group Chairs

- Ensure all articulations are in consistent format
- Make revisions in pen on the current Articulation Guide pages exactly as they should appear in the new Articulation Guide
- Sign off on articulations and changes
- Deliver revisions to Steering Committee Co-Chairs

Steering Committee Reconvenes. Ensure everyone has updated contact info in guide.

XIII. Working Groups report back (1:30-2:00)

a. Douglas College EAP IV

i. ELLA 0310, ELLA 0320, ELLA 0330, ELLA 0340

- Courses were 70-100% in matching BCCAT Objectives for EAP IV.
- Confusion on outcomes meeting objectives with Curriculum guidelines.
 - a. Learning outcomes are only part of curriculum guidelines document; Outcomes were also imbedded in course content descriptions; practice at Douglas College
 - b. Recommendation to Committee: Future articulation proposals, integrate submission outcomes so committee can see everything that matches. Show sample

of where courses fit on grid when changes are met. Try to avoid “omnibus” lists of EAP outcomes from the Guide tied to one course outcome / objective

- c. Concerns regarding complexity within integrated skills category of the grid; ACTION – Labelling is need for Douglas College in grid to ensure that it’s understood that the integration covers reading and listening

Motion to approve articulation to EAP IV
All in favour; None opposed – Motion passed

- b. Douglas College EAP III
 - i. ELLA 0210, ELLA 0220, ELLA 0230, ELLA 0240
 - Courses were 70-100% in matching BCCAT Objectives for EAP IV.

Motion to approve articulation to EAP III
All in favour; None opposed – Motion passed

- c. College of New Caledonia EAP II
 - i. ENLA 031, ENLA 033, ENLA 035
 - EAP 2 courses – listening and speaking for re-articulation one; grammar and accuracy embedded in speaking, listening and writing courses
 - Concerns:
 - Comment on grammar points, may be too high for EAP II
 - Some Areas with no match to guide – eg. Appropriate Academic conventions
 - Hours = Maintain 21 hours per week by moving hours to speaking listening and writing courses
 - Courses were 70-100% in matching BCCAT Objectives for EAP II.

Motion to approve articulation to EAP II
All in favour; None opposed – Motion passed

- d. College of New Caledonia EAP I
 - i. ENLA 021, ENLA 023, ENLA 025
 - Questions on types of assignments used to meet learning outcomes
 - Courses were 70-100% in matching BCCAT Objectives for EAP I.

Motion to approve articulation to EAP II
All in favour; None opposed – Motion passed

XIV. Election: for 1 Co-Chair (2:00-2:15)

- **Nomination for Andrea Matthews, BCIT, to continue as co-chair for a second term.** No other nominees.

Motion – Vicki Vogel, Langara College
Seconded – Maria Bos-Chan, UFV
All in favour; None opposed – Motion passed

XV. Closing Items (2:15-3:00)

1. Other Business/Motions

- a) Location for next year's committee; Request for Okanagan College, Kelowna for 2020; back up location is Capilano University.
 - i. **ACTION** – Develop rationale for request
 - a. **Ideas:** Missing representation and voice from Northern Communities; Expensive for schools outside of lower mainland board to travel every year, can often send only one person or sometimes cannot attend
- b) Dates for next year's committee (voting):
 - i. Top choice - May 14-15;
 - ii. Second Choice - Apr 23-24;
 - iii. Third Choice - May 7-8
- c) Working Group – 2018 Action Items 1 and 2 Joint Working Group on ESL Articulation Guide revision
 - Members: Carel Schoch, UCW; Ken McMorris, VCC; Karen Reppin, Douglas College; Marta Tejero, CNC; Andrea Matthews, BCIT; and Lisa Robertson, Camosun College
- d) 2018 Action Item 3 – Connection with Registrars
 - **ACTION:** All Committee Members to connect with Institution Contact Person
 - a. Contact Person can be found on BCCAT website:
<https://www.bccat.ca/articulation/icp>
- e) Question about IELTS - any actions we could take about IELTS fraud concerns?
 - i. Suggestion: literature review examining standards of admission standards other than grade 12Q Literature review can lay the groundwork for a TIF.
 - ii. Suggestion: collect and share data on performance of students as related their entrance placement (IELTS, others)
 - iii. Suggestion: Ask Tanis about provincial English Language Proficiency standards;
 - iv. Open Question (survey? Reflection?): How does your institution handle IELTS scores?
 - v. Concern: Development student outcome DEVCOS- not being currently measured at many institutions

XVI. Additional points for discussion for inclusion on next year's agenda – none raised

Meeting adjourned.