



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EDUCATION COUNCIL

HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2012 AT 4:15 PM
BOARDROOM - NEW WESTMINSTER CAMPUS

1. ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Deb Anderson (Vice Chair)
Catherine Carlson
Brian Chapell
Bruce Clarke
Kathy Denton
Ron de Villa
Gretchen Goertz
Todd Harper
Maria Iaquina
Gail Johnson
Marina Kolar
Scott McAlpine (Ex-Officio)
Elizabeth McCausland (Chair)
Debbie McCloy
Jerin Mece
Wesley Snider
Cody Sterzer-Larin
Gary Tennant
Cathy Tremblay
Kyle Vuorinen (alternate for T. James)
Robin Wylie
Kate Yoshitomi

Jo-Anne Bilquist (Secretary)

Regrets:

Ted James (Ex-Officio)

Guests:

Blair Fisher
Graham Rodwell

The Chair welcomed new Student Representative Cody Sterzer-Larin, who is representing David Lam Campus.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair noted that item 5.1 will again be removed from the agenda at the request of the department.

The Chair asked members to approve a fluid Agenda.

Council agreed and the Agenda was re-ordered.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The January 16, 2012 Minutes were approved as presented.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Curriculum Items

a) Curriculum Committee Recommendations

Council Chair reminded members of the addendum to the original memo, which was circulated early last week.

Sub-committee Chair Todd Harper noted that the addendum contains TESL courses that are slated for withdrawal.

Regarding the numbering adjustments in the TESL courses, the Chair explained that the courses already transfer as upper level, and the new numbering better reflects the actual level.

There being no further discussion,

There was unanimous consent to Short-cycle the Motion.

MOVED by J. Mece; SECONDED by M. Kolar,

BE IT AND IT WAS RESOLVED:

THAT Education Council approve the submitted/amended guidelines for:

STAC 1101; POLI 1101, 1103, 2201, 2200, 2210, 2203, and 2209; ANTH 1111, 1112, and 2212; PHIL 1101 and 1103; PNUR 2301; CSSW 1100 and 1200; INTR 1145, 1175, 1225, 1241, 1275, 1285, 1290, 2300, 2310, 2320, 2375, 2400, 2420, 2440, and 2475; TESL 4201, 4202, 4203, 4204, 4205, and 4206; PEFA 2220; DOPT 1100, 1112, 1200, 1210, 1212, 1310, 2101, 2111, 2113, 2201, 2211, 2213, and 2311; BIOL 2200.

And the course withdrawal requests for: TESL 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, and 2205

The Motion was CARRIED.

4.2 Policy Items

a) Revisions to Grading Systems Policy

The Chair noted that this is coming back to Council as a notice of motion since no feedback was received following last meeting's request for constituents to forward feedback to EdCo Secretary. The Chair reminded members that this revision was initially brought forward in November to address concerns about the College's grading system being out of line with other institutions in the province, potentially disadvantaging our students with regard to transfer admissions and/or scholarships.

A Council member reported that their FEC had serious concerns around the consultation process, and weren't convinced there was enough of an issue to warrant change, nor that the proposed model came with any objective criteria. A discussion followed around the need for further data and information regarding this issue.

It was noted by K. Vuorinen (alternate for T. James) that part of the issue is that only letter grades and not percentages appear on our transcripts; when other institutions interpret those letter grades using their own system of grading a student could be losing the benefit of several percentage points.

A member noted that as this seems to be an issue of equity and fairness among colleges, it might be helpful to see data of frequency distributions among other institutions, if possible.

The Chair advised that there is no sense of urgency regarding this issue, as implementation couldn't take place until the fall. This is a significant decision and should be a considered one.

The Chair will create a list of the concerns and data Council is seeking in order to gather more information. The data/information requested, if available, would include: whether it would be possible to have percentages on College transcripts, the number of students that might be impacted by the revision, and comparisons with other institution's frequency of grade distribution.

b) Revisions to Credentials Policy

The Chair reminded Council members that this item had been discussed previously and sent back to the Policy sub-committee for language clarification. The directive was for the language to be broad so as to apply to any credential. It was noted that the wording on page 2 should be changed from "Honours Diploma" to "Honours Credential".

ACTION: Please refer this item to your constituency groups for consideration of approval at the March meeting.

4.3 Matrix Operational Guidelines

The Chair reminded Council that we are formulating feedback to be forwarded to SMT.

Discussion followed regarding the Monday meeting block, and the availability of rooms with video conferencing equipment to help facilitate collegial consultation between campuses. There is a concern that the flow of consultation via meetings (ie FEC, EdCo etc) may be disrupted, and departments need to be aware of this.

The Chair will formulate feedback and send it forward to SMT.

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Credential Withdrawal: Certificate in Dispensing Opticianry – Eyeglasses

The Chair noted that this item has been removed from the agenda.

5.2 Education Excellence Committee

This item was conducted in-camera.

There was unanimous consent to Short-cycle the Motion.

MOVED by G. Tennant; SECONDED by B. Chapell,

BE IT AND IT WAS RESOLVED:

THAT Education Council ratify the recommendation of the Education Excellence Committee, and to recommend that Senior Management Team approve the nomination.

The Motion was CARRIED.

5.3 Program Revisions: Music Technology Certificate

Blair Fisher was invited to speak to this item.

Blair noted that these changes stem from a survey of the students as well as faculty feedback following the first offering of the courses. The curriculum guidelines are being revised including numbering and naming of courses as well as course maximums. Responding to a query around expansion, he advised that there is not much room to expand as a one year program, though perhaps it could become feasible in the future.

There being no further discussion,

There was unanimous consent to Short-cycle the Motion.

MOVED by C. Tremblay; SECONDED by K. Yoshitomi,

BE IT AND IT WAS RESOLVED:

THAT Education Council approve the revisions to the Music Technology Certificate.

The Motion was CARRIED.

6. REPORTS

6.1 Report from the Chair

a) January Report to the Board

6.2 Report from the President

Scott McAlpine reminded Council members of the upcoming Strategic Planning Forums, and encouraged all to attend.

He noted the provincial budget release tomorrow, and the College's own Budget Forums will be coming soon.

Notifications of forum dates will come via email and can also be found in the President's Report.

Finally, he encouraged all faculty to take a look at the former student survey results information package in 7.1.

6.3 Report from the Board Representative

There was no report.

6.4 Report from the Secretary

J. Bilquist advised that she is working on the meeting schedule for next year, and the draft version will come to Council next month.

6.5 Report from the Curriculum Committee

T. Harper noted that many of the guidelines received require further follow up. He asked Council to remind their colleagues to be sure to submit complete CGs.

6.6 Report from the Educational Excellence Committee

There was nothing further to report.

6.7 Report from the Standing Committee on Admissions and Language Competency Standards

There was no report.

6.8 Report from the Standing Committee on Educational Policies

There was no report.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Results from Former Student Survey

ACTION: Please refer this item to your constituency groups for information.

7.2 Discussion

The Chair noted that faculty have been asking about the China issue, and questions have been raised around Education Council's involvement. She noted that there may be changes in process moving forward. Specifically with regard to the Supplemental Exam policy approved in April 2011, she noted that the documentation would have been in the March 2011 Agenda Package, available in all faculties, online to those with password access, or by contacting herself or EdCo Secretary Jo Bilquist.

Scott McAlpine confirmed that it's possible policy and procedural processes may be adjusted following the external review. He noted that the review should be concluding sometime around the end of March.

Scott reiterated that he would be happy to talk to anyone at any time on this issue, whether as individuals or to attend a meeting with a group. He indicated that SMT have responded to all emails sent to feedback@douglascollege.ca and will continue to do so.

8. NEXT MEETING

Monday, March 19, 2012 at 4:15pm in the Boardroom (4920), New Westminster Campus

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by K. Denton; **SECONDED** by C. Tremblay that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:05pm.

Chair

Secretary