

**EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
Tuesday, March 16, 2004 in Room B201**

Membership:

Antonella Alves
Linda Arnold
Eric Ball
Lynn Carter
Laura Cullen
Martin Gerson (Vice Chair)

Guests:

Megan Otton
Dave Pearson
Doug Soo

Linda Holmes (a)

Marg Heldman
Terry Kornutiak
Gerda Krause
Judith Neamtan (non-voting)
Pam Novak-Cawley (Chair)

Lisa Randell

Penny Gallagher
Brian Pendleton
Roger Semmens
Dennis Steeves (a)

Student Representatives:

Dee Dahl (a)
Christian Gonzalez (a)
Swappna Kamath (a)

Amy Kwan (notes)

Copy of minutes to be sent to: Doug Soo, Shirley Kamerling-Roberts

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1310 hours.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: That the agenda be approved with the following addition:

6. For Information
EDCO Chair/Vice Chair Election

Moved by L. Carter/Seconded by L. Cullen
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

MOTION: That the minutes of February 17, 2004 be approved as circulated.

Moved by L. Carter/Seconded by R. Semmens
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. CURRICULUM
4a) ABORIGINAL STUDIES
New Course Proposal

ABST 1207 – Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge & Contemporary Science

B. Pendleton thanked M. Gerson for making the presentations for him in his absence at the last meeting. He then spoke to this new course proposal. D. Pearson was invited to this meeting to answer any questions that might arise. The Aboriginal Studies department proposed adding a science course to this program. This science course will integrate Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge with the basic elements of the physical and biological sciences. Contemporary science will be examined and compared with Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge.

G. Krause commented that the Biology text chosen for this course may be too comprehensive for a one-term course and she offered to provide other textbook selections. D. Pearson will check this with the instructor of this course.

MOTION: That the new course, ABST 1207, be approved as recommended.

Moved by B. Pendleton/Seconded by L. Carter
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4b) BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
Discontinued Program Request

Small Business Entrepreneur

The Business Management department proposed discontinuing this program due to low enrolment.

MOTION: That this program be discontinued as recommended.

Moved by L. Cullen/Seconded by A. Alves
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4c) ENGLISH
Minor Course Revision

CMNS 1116 – Review of Spelling Punctuation
CMNS 1126 – Advanced Spelling, Punctuation & Proofreading

R. Semmens invited E. Ball to present the minor course revisions. E. Ball presented these two revisions as a package. CMNS 1116 and CMNS 1126 have, in the past, been geared to the Realtime Reporting program. However, with that program having been cancelled, it was the intent of the English department to make these courses attractive and available to the general student population.

MOTION: That these minor course revisions be approved as recommended.

Moved by E. Ball/Seconded by L. Cullen
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4d) FIELD SCHOOL
New Course Proposal
i) FSIE 1116 – Study in London

M. Gerson advised that FSIE 1116 is a shell course for the Study in London program that will be offered in summer 2004.

MOTION: That the new course, FSIE 1116, for the Field School be approved as recommended.

Moved by M. Gerson/Seconded by L. Carter
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P. Novak-Cawley turned the chair to M. Gerson while she presented the following program revision.

4e) RECREATION
Program Revision

Recreation Diploma Program

P. Novak-Cawley advised that FSRV 2672 was a required course for the Facilities Stream in the Recreation department. After consultation with the Human Performance & Recreation department and Nutrition & Food Services Management department, it was recommended that the Recreation Diploma Program be revised to eliminate this particular course due to declining enrolment. Students are now required to take four credits of electives instead of two credits, and these electives will be chosen from Arts & Science, or from Recreation, or from Human Performance. In addition, they are required to take two certificates: Serving it Right (Licensee) and Food Safe (Level 1).

MOTION: That this program revision be approved as recommended.

Moved by P. Novak-Cawley/Seconded by L. Cullen
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. ENGLISH TRANSFER CREDIT ISSUES

R. Semmens and M. Otton spoke to this topic. In 2002, K. MacMillan, Division Chair of Humanities, and P. Headrick, Department Chair of English, became increasingly concerned that students who transferred their English credits from Coquitlam College to Langara were actually not able to meet the standard required for any of our UT (university transferable) English courses. K. MacMillan wrote a letter to the Chair of the University Transfer English Department (Coquitlam College) addressing this issue with supporting statistics, but this individual questioned the validity of this data. Since that time, the English department at Langara College has been tracking students' scores from Coquitlam and had a meeting with F. Finlay from BCCAT (British Columbia Council on Admissions & Transfer), joined by representatives from UBC, Capilano College, Douglas College, and Kwantlen University College. Representatives from these institutions have also expressed their concerns about the English transfer credits issues with Coquitlam

College and noted that this has become a major problem.

The same situation arose with another institution, Athabasca University in Alberta, which provides online education and assigns students English transfer credits through Century College in Vancouver. Students who had taken credits of UT English online courses from Athabasca University at Century College were found incapable of taking any of the UT English courses offered at Langara as they could not get better than a Level 1 or Level 2 on the LET.

M. Otton and R. Semmens met with representatives from Coquitlam College, who still denied that this was a problem. Langara's English department has stopped accepting credits transferred from both Coquitlam College and Athabasca University for ENGL 1127 and ENGL 1129, pending investigation. The English department sought an endorsement from Education Council of the following motion in order to remedy the situation.

MOTION: That Langara College will require that students wishing to transfer university transferable English credit here for courses completed at Coquitlam College or at Athabasca University after May 1, 2004 will have to achieve a minimum Langara English Test level 3 (or a minimum LPI 4 with 5/10 or higher in English usage) in order for the credit to be transferable on an assigned or unassigned basis, and

That students wishing to transfer English credit from these institutions and who achieve only a Langara English Test level 3 (or a minimum LPI 4 with 5/10 in English usage) will be strongly encouraged to enroll in English 1121 for further developmental work, and

That university transferable English courses completed at these institutions before May 1, 2004 will be eligible for unassigned English transfer credit only and will receive an exemption from the LET and LPI.

Moved by R. Semmens/Seconded by L. Cullen
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P. Gallagher proposed minor calendar changes to the admission requirements for international students and career programs:

International Students

Under "Academic Requirements", change "*post-secondary*" to "*university level*" to read "Successful completion of university level English or Communications course for which Langara College awards transfer credit, ..."

Career Programs

Under "Academic Requirements", add "university level English or Communications course for which Langara College awards transfer credit..."

6. FOR INFORMATION

C.S. Certificates and Countable FTEs

D. Soo spoke to this topic. The Ministry terminated funding institutions for part-time vocational courses last year. It has recently declared that 2003-04 continuing education FTEs would be countable, subject to meeting the following

conditions:

Student registrations are documented in a college administrative system;
Courses are part of a program leading to a recognized credential;
Student records contain the results of student performance evaluation; and
The Education Council of the institution has approved the program and credential.

The first three conditions are readily met; however, the fourth condition, to some degree, may contravene the College and Institute Act. Therefore, further clarification was sought from the Ministry, which advised that the process of dealing with continuing education matters through Education Council ought to be consistent with the College and Institute Act; the section that pertains to this is Article 23 {c} of the Act.

In future, each certificate program will be presented through Education Council on an individual basis, as practised in the past. Referencing the information package as distributed with the agenda, D. Soo provided an overview of the current CS certificate programs, including the summary, and the description and course content of each program. He would be pleased to discuss this matter with council members should there be further interest or concerns about the programs or courses; or to bring program managers/coordinators to give presentations at Education Council.

Summary of Changes to Shell Courses

M. Gerson advised that the summary of changes to shell courses presented for information at the last Education Council meeting had omitted the new course, Tuscany Field School, which was offered last summer.

EDCO Chair/Vice Chair Election

P. Novak-Cawley reminded council members that the annual election for EDCO Chair and Vice Chair is approaching. EDCO members are encouraged to consider running for either of these positions.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1420 hours.

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