

LANGARA COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting
held on March 16, 2021
via Zoom meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Participants:

Elizabeth Barbeau	Margaret Heldman	Scott McLean
Darren Bernaerdt	Kerri Janota	Dawn Palmer*
Jim Bowers	Susan Kelsall	Wanda Pierson
Steven Brouse	Gerda Krause	Terri Rear
Patricia Cia	Gurbax Leelh	Viktor Sokha
Laura Cullen	Julie Longo	Ann Syme
Nora Franzova	Tess MacMillan (regrets)	Lane Trotter, Chair
Marianne Gianacopoulos	Robin Macqueen	Yusuf Varachia
Jody Gordon	Jane Mason	Pablo Vargas

* non-voting

Guests:

Chris Arnold-Forster, Director Organizational Risk & Internal Controls
Sandra Enns, Incoming Division Chair, Social Sciences

Recorder:

Alice Hsu, Executive Assistant to the President

Prior to the start of the meeting, L. Trotter introduced guests S. Enns and C. Arnold-Forster.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Feb. 23, 2021
- b) Workday@Langara Update
- c) IT Update
- d) President's Report

It was moved by M. Gianacopoulos, seconded by A. Syme:

THAT, the Langara Council approve the agenda/consent agenda and acknowledge receipt of the consent agenda materials for information.

Carried Unanimously.

2. For Action

a) 2021/22 Final Budget Recommendation to the President

V. Sokha first acknowledged the hard work by Finance and everyone who helped create the 2021/22 budget. He then gave a presentation to advise the key budget principles and major budget assumptions used in developing the 2021/22 budget, and show comparisons between the 2020/21 and 2021/22 budget.

In response to a comment from S. McLean, V. Sokha advised that more detailed budget figures can be found in the budget document attached to the agenda and noted that the budget document was prepared in the format requested by the government. V. Sokha acknowledged the need to see further category breakdowns and figures and will take the comment into consideration when preparing future budget documents.

Discussions ensued and members' questions were answered.

It was moved by D. Bernaerdt, seconded by N. Franzova:

THAT, the 2021/22 budget as presented be recommend to the President.

**In favour- 23
Against- 0
Abstained- 1**

3. FOR INFORMATION

a) Enrolment Update

M. Heldman presented the latest weekly report on Summer 2021 application numbers and numbers of offers accepted broken down by faculty and division. She noted that the comparing figures from 2020 are now more relevant as the COVID-19 pandemic started just around the same point of time last year.

Y. Varachia advised that the College is issuing waivers to international students who are not able to secure a study permit for summer 2021. The number of waivers issued to date for the summer 2021 term is much smaller than the waivers issued for the spring 2021 semester. With the anticipation that the fall 2021 semester will have more face-to-face courses, more students might choose to defer their studies to the fall term.

b) Fall Planning Update

M. Heldman gave a presentation on Fall Planning Update and Next Steps to advise the current vaccination schedule in BC and share UBC and SFU's plans developed in the past month that helped set the stage for the tabletop exercise our academic chairs and coordinators engaged during the spring break in February 2021. Individuals responsible for creating the fall term schedule were invited to this exercise and the feedback collected was to be used by the Deans to draft scheduling guidelines to be approved by the Deans, Directors and Division Chairs Committee (DDDC). She noted that the possibility of having to shift back to online learning again has made many expressed hesitation to return to face-to-face in the fall.

M. Heldman also provided a summary of the announcement made by the Hon. Anne Kang, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training on March 8, 2021 about a letter from Dr. Bonnie Henry, BC's Provincial Health Officer (PHO), issued on the same day advising post-secondary institutions to prepare for a safe resumption of on-campus education this fall. With this new direction provided by the PHO and Minister Kang, the College will plan to offer the majority of our classes face-to-face this fall with a plan B to return to online instruction if directed by the PHO. This plan has been shared with the College community via the Langara Town Hall held on March 11, 2021.

C. Arnold-Forster reinforced that the fall planning requires everyone to work together.

Employees will be consulted along the way as the feedback is critical to help the College figure out our plans moving forward.

Y. Varachia added that some international, indigenous, and out-of-province students might have difficulties coming and attending face-to-face classes. The College will keep everyone posted and provide leaders with the information needed to help make informed decisions.

L. Trotter stressed that the situation is kept fluid at the current stage and more information is yet to come from the Ministry. It is important that the College community work together closely as we do the planning for this fall.

Discussions ensued around student surveys, mental health, student services required for both short-term and long-term, and plan B. Members' questions were answered and concerns and comments were acknowledged by M. Heldman and C. Arnold-Forster.

L. Trotter thanked everyone and the entire College community for working through a very difficult year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 am.