



Members:

Antonella Alves
Linda Arnold
Lynn Carter (absent)
Laura Cullen
Deanna Douglas
Martin Gerson
Jim Goard
Linda Holmes, Chair
Jim Hooton
Ken Jillings (absent)
Terry Kornutiak (absent)

Gerda Krause
Wendy Low
Cheryl McKeeman
Kevin Paul (absent)
Ken Pawlak
Brian Pendleton
Roger Semmens
Doug Soo
Chris Vincent
Arran Walshe (absent)
Nancy Wickham

Visitors:

Barry Coulson
Gloria Swadden

1. REVIEW OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the following addition:

5. Information

a) Langara Letter

2. REVIEW OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

a) Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on March 4, 2008

It was moved by K. Pawlak, seconded by L. Cullen

THAT, the minutes of the Langara Council meeting held on March 4, 2008 be approved.

Carried.

3. CURRICULUM ITEMS

a) Education Council Meeting held March 11, 2008

L. Cullen introduced the Summary Report of the Education Council meeting held March 11, 2008, noting that the Modern Languages department has developed two third-year Chinese courses which are a progressive continuation of CHIN 2213 and the credits are university transferable. She noted that Interdisciplinary Studies has developed an Environmental Problems & Solutions course which will enhance the Environmental Studies program by introducing

environmental topics of regional, national and international importance, and will serve as a potential gateway to improve enrolment in the program.

L. Cullen noted that Education Council carried a motion that the College would no longer require the B.C. Provincial Examinations effective Fall 2008, which will bring Langara in line with other colleges.

L. Cullen noted that Education Council approved Policy F1001: Credentials which will allow the college to offer Baccalaureate degrees, and will describe and regulate credentials earned through Regular Studies.

L. Holmes asked if the college is less or equal in comparison to Universities with regards to the Dogwood with the 4 provincial examinations. M. Gerson responded that the college is equal to UVIC, less than UBC, and SFU had a recommendation that came forward in January that would be similar to what was approved but it was returned for further consideration and SFU is still undecided. This approval is the same as the policies of Capilano, Douglas, Kwantlen and Camosun.

It was noted that the awarding of a Dogwood does not include any provincial examinations except English. M. Gerson noted that the college's requirements are the same as the provincial graduation requirements which do not require students to take what the province claims are optional provincial examinations.

L. Holmes noted that the approval of the college no longer requiring provincial examinations needs to be made very clear in the calendar to avoid any misinterpretation as in fact Graduation does require the English provincial examination. L. Cullen noted that she will ensure it is clear.

C. McKeeman asked if departments would now have to change their prerequisites and determine what an acceptable grade is and then put them through Education Council. L. Cullen responded that since Education Council approved that Langara will no longer require the B.C. Provincial Examinations, only consequential changes would need to be made. Discussion ensued and L. Holmes noted that there are a lot of consequences of this because not only were the provincial examinations required for entrance to the college but the examinations were also utilized in a variety of places for entrance into specific courses within the college. She noted that Education Council will have to go back to every department, especially Arts & Science, regarding requirements for prerequisites relative to entrance into courses to verify that what has been done for entrance into the college suits the department(s).

L. Holmes noted that there is great potential for mixed messages and recommended that once Education Council has followed up with all of its areas, that a grid be created that clearly shows if there are some areas that require provincial examinations for entrance into their courses that are not required for entrance into the college. The grid should be easily accessible. L. Cullen noted that she would check with the Registrar's Office since they can search the system and find any references to this which might help.

It was moved by L. Cullen, seconded by W. Low

**THAT, the summary report of the Education Council meeting held
March 11, 2008, be received.**

Carried.

4. ACTION ITEMS

a) 2008-09 Budget

L. Holmes referenced the minutes of March 4, 2008 where it was outlined that the budget would be revisited once the funding letter from the Ministry is received. She noted that a funding letter has not been received but she had a meeting with the Ministry last Wednesday along with all of the other President's and/or Budget Officers. She identified the following facts:

- During the 2006/07 fiscal year, the college received one-time funding to address the inflationary pressures identified in the Perrin Report, and these funds were used to balance the 2007-08 budget.
- The Ministry has reviewed their Strategic Investment Plan (SIP), the plan that allocated the 25,000 new growth FTE's, and have suspended the plan since they consider that they have met its target of "everyone with a B" being able to get into University.
- From 2004/05 up to 2006/07 the System received 11,800 additional funded seats and only 3,510 have been filled.
- The Treasury Board has decided that any of the remaining seats will be only targeted at special areas and those areas are health programs, skilled trades, graduate student spaces, and Aboriginal access.
- While all post-secondary institutions are receiving grant increases when compared to the grant they received last year, the increases are less than the anticipated funding that was identified in last year's funding letter.
- The grant funding that has been identified includes funds for negotiated increases, increased pension costs and replacement of Adult Basic Education (ABE) tuition to allow those courses to be tuition-free.
- We received \$745,000 less than we anticipated which brings our structural deficit to \$1.6M. It is a structural deficit because we have frozen capital, counted on lapse time to fix positions, and reduced unallocated sections.

L. Holmes noted that a proposal presented by D. Douglas and supported by Executive, is based on several factors:

- There is going to be a new President and it is not good for the college to start identifying programs or support services that later might need to be reduced should it not be the direction the new President wants to take.
- In 1997 when the college was escalating to 107% production, a decision was made to reduce the sections and put that money into support services because support had not been growing like the sections had been. The college is no longer at 107% but is at 92%. We need to take a look at the facts of what has gone on in every one of our areas from 107% production to the current 92% production.

A Fact Book will be created which looks at the College from the time it was producing at the 107% level, to the current day. This will start after the completion of year-end and will be completed by the end of September 2008. It will provide everyone with the facts which will be based on information that comes from the office of Institutional Research.

ACTION: D. Douglas

In addition, for each non-instructional area, up to five business drivers may be identified in addition to the obvious one of the number of students that we served.

The impact in the instructional area means that the Deans will be looking and working carefully with all of their areas. If one area suddenly gets a demand, then they will be looking at other areas for those sections if there is lesser uptake.

It is therefore recommended that the remaining unallocated sections be removed and the remainder of the money up to \$745,000 be taken out of contingency, so that way areas are not disrupted. In addition, there will be no automatic replacement for retirement; all replacement and new positions must be approved by the Executive Committee; any replacements in fixed programs will occur; and replacements that have commenced in the current budget year (2007/2008) will be completed. This proposal causes the least disruption to the college and provides everyone and the new President an ability to make decisions based on facts contained in the Fact Book.

B. Pendleton indicated that it would be better if only one version of the proposed operating plan was provided to the college community. M. Gerson advised that at DDC last week, it was discussed and agreed that D. Douglas would attend the Department Chairs Workshop and provide an overview. L. Holmes noted that she would write a memo to the college community providing the background for the Operating Plan for next year.

It was moved by D. Douglas, seconded by J. Hooton

THAT, the budget that was recommended to the President on March 4, 2008 for the Operating Plan for 2008/09, be revised as follows: remaining unallocated sections be removed, and the remainder of the money up to \$745,000 be taken out of contingency to balance the 2008/09 budget.

**Carried.
Abstained – C. McKeeman.**

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

a) Langara Letter

L. Holmes presented an idea to members that follow some of the initiatives that the college currently does to get the name of Langara College to the community as a commonly recognized name when people think about education and post-secondary education. The Langara Dialogues accomplishes this and the Langara Lecture Series has accomplished this for the past 25 years. The concept is called the “Langara Letter” and expands on the write-ups in the Vancouver Courier. In the middle of the spring and fall semester a series of articles written by Langara experts which address issues the public would be interested in will be inserted and delivered in the Vancouver Sun. An example of an article would be the Criminal Justice department writing a piece about working with gangs, or the Nursing department writing a piece about maximizing the kind of health care you receive when utilizing emergency wards. The pieces are not meant to be argumentative or provoking, but to be general, helpful kinds of information. Discussion ensued and members felt it was a good idea and would definitely get the name of Langara out to the community. L. Holmes noted that the target audience would include parents of children who attend the college plus

anyone who would be interested in returning to Langara College. D. Soo noted that since last fall Continuing Studies has been working with Communications and Marketing to develop a "Time Magazine" style format of the CS brochure which people would be inclined to keep around because of the articles that it would include. The target audience would be immense and the Langara Letter could be included. L. Holmes noted that this would be perfect if it would be in place for the September 2008 semester. D. Soo noted that it would be appropriate for the Langara Letter to be distributed via the Vancouver Sun as planned with the idea of merging it into the Catalogue production process when the format is established. The consensus of members was positive for the Langara Letter.

Other

C. McKeeman enquired regarding the status of the 2010 Olympic survey and if there were any results. L. Holmes noted that she received two responses, one being a large manual which she is still reviewing. A letter was sent to approximately 10 institutions in Salt Lake City and all of them altered the time for the class offerings, except for some courses that couldn't be changed, and all of them permitted and encouraged their employees to participate in the Olympics by utilizing holiday and gratuity time. C. McKeeman also enquired about the employee and student survey that was to identify what employees and students thought about altering the class time. L. Holmes noted that this is still being developed and should be out shortly. L. Holmes noted that she will bring the results of the 2010 survey in a couple of weeks. C. McKeeman indicated that she would have the Social Science department's suggestions regarding survey questions forwarded to L. Holmes.

ACTION: L. Holmes, C. McKeeman

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 1030 hours.