

EDUCATION COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON

Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 13:00
videoconference

Attendees:

Antonella Alves	Brent Kennedy	Lane Trotter*
Darren Bernaerdt (Chair)	Gerda Krause	Manveen Uppal (a)
Anna Biel	Tanya Lewis	Shubhankar Vakde (a)
Jim Bowers	Angelica Lillico-Ouachour	Yusuf Varachia
Arnie Clark*	Tess MacMillan (Vice-Chair)	Ryan Vernon
Margaret Heldman	Robin Macqueen	Sunita Wiebe
Harkhushdeep Kaur (a)	Wanda Pierson	Peter Warren*
Jaswinder Kaur	Jan Smith*	Lulin Zheng *
	Susan Sverdrup-Phillips (a)	

Regrets: Susan Sverdrup-Phillips

Minutes: Susan Smith

Guests: Patty Aroca-Ouellette, Jody Gordon, Carmen Larsen, Terri Rear, Maggie Ross, Emily Scarlett, Pablo Vargas

*non-voting
(a) absent

1. CALL TO ORDER / WELCOME

D Bernaerdt called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and guests were welcomed.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

D Bernaerdt acknowledged that this virtual meeting was hosted on the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam First Nation, who have given Langara College the name snəwəyət̓ leləm̓, *house of teachings*.

D Bernaerdt made a statement in recognition of the recently discovered graves at the sites of Indian Residential Schools in British Columbia and Saskatchewan, and shared a link for actions and resources for reconciliation, as provided by BCcampus.ca.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda includes the following items deemed operational by the Curriculum Review Committee.

A) Curriculum Changes (operational)

a) LIBRARY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

i) **Course Change:** LIBR 2595 – Special Topics: Aboriginal Reference Resources & Services

The course title is changed to *Indigenous Reference Resources and Services*.

ii) **Global Change:** To ensure all LIBR courses (except LIBR 3210) have the same program restriction.

In all LIBR courses except LIBR 3210, which is for non-program students, registration will be restricted to students in LIIT, LIBF and LIBT programs.

b) BIOINFORMATICS

i) **Program Change:** Bioinformatics (Cooperative Education)

The Computing Science and Information Systems Department is now known as the department of *Computer Science*. This proposal changes the one reference to the original department title on the Bioinformatics website, in the admission requirements page for the Associate of Science Degree in Bioinformatics (Cooperative Education).

B) Memorandum: Temporary Adjustment to the Final Exam Weight for Fall 2021

Changes in final exam weighting due to the COVID19 pandemic which were previously approved by Education Council for the period from Summer 2020 to Summer 2021, will be extended to Fall 2021.

IT WAS MOVED by A Alves, seconded by T Lewis, that the agenda/consent agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

4. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Education Council bylaws (Sec.5), Council members were provided an opportunity to declare a conflict of interest related to any item on the meeting agenda. No conflict was declared by any member in attendance.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED by R Macqueen, seconded by A Lillico-Ouachour, that the minutes of the meeting held on May 18, 2021 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

6. BUSINESS ARISING

A) Academic Plan 2025

D Bernaerdt noted that the motion from the previous meeting had been postponed pending distribution of additional information, which was provided by email on May 27, 2021 and also included in the current agenda package.

The main focus, or lenses, of the Plan for the next five years are:

- Curiosity, Creativity, and Innovation
- Holistic Student Engagement and Support
- Transformational Learning Experiences
- Social Responsibility/Community Relationships

IT WAS MOVED by M Heldman, seconded by S Sverdrup-Phillips, that Education Council endorse the *Langara College Academic Plan 2025*.

Following a member's question regarding Education Council's role with respect to endorsement, M Heldman described the development process for the Plan, noting that social responsibility was a key theme arising during consultations and that in order to be responsive, the plan is intentionally flexible. The College community will have additional opportunities for engagement with the Academic Plan, which will also be the focus of the EdCo 101 event on September 28. The previous Academic Plan received approval by Education Council in June 2014.

MOTION CARRIED

7. PRESENTATION: SharePoint Pilot

Terri Rear made a presentation highlighting the ways SharePoint/M365 will be used as a platform for Langara's internal website, and encouraged feedback from the College community.

Pilot projects include an improved workflow for curriculum development and approval which is currently in the design phase involving representatives of EdCo, AQA, RES and TCDC. D Bernaerdt noted that faculty volunteers will be needed to test the new site, which is expected to launch by Fall 2021.

8. POLICY

A) E1006: College Mandated Student Leave of Absence

- i) Policy revision
- ii) Procedures
- iii) Appeal Procedures

Maggie Ross highlighted the substantial revisions being proposed for this policy, including the policy title (formerly titled *Involuntary Leave of Absence*), which are intended to better capture Langara's commitment to student support prior to implementing an involuntary leave, and Langara's obligations under the BC Human Rights Code. Changes include redefining the definition of student to capture situations where students are between semesters or are pre-registration (applicants), which addresses gaps in the previous definition of student (limited to those currently registered). The revisions also introduce an intermediary step before implementation of a leave, in the form of a student support team which enables intervention and assists student retention. The revisions also streamline the process, enable a more comprehensive team-based approach, and add clarity and transparency around roles, responsibilities, and processes. These revisions were made in consultation with faculty, staff, and legal counsel.

IT WAS MOVED by T Lewis, seconded by W Pierson, that the revised policy *E1006: College-mandated Student Leave of Absence* be approved by Education Council, for immediate effect.

MOTION CARRIED

B) F1010: New Program Development

- i) Presentation
- ii) New Policy
- iii) Procedures

S Wiebe introduced the new policy with a presentation on the program development process at Langara College, noting that Langara does not currently have a policy or standardized procedures for new program development. The proposed policy would apply only to new credential programs, to define the principles and requirements that guide program development. The procedures were produced through thorough consultation and research in best practices, and will be continually refined.

IT WAS MOVED by S Wiebe, seconded by G Krause, that the new policy *F1010: New Program Development* be approved by Education Council.

MOTION CARRIED

C) E2006: Appeal of Final Grade

- i) Procedures revision (for information)

A Clark noted that a minor edit was made to correct an accidental omission in Section I.1.c. of the Procedures document. The revision adds words to clarify that "...the student meets the criteria *set out in item 3.4.*"

IT WAS MOVED by R Macqueen, seconded by T Lewis, that the corrected Procedures document for the *Policy E2006: Appeal of Final Grade* be received by Education Council for information.

MOTION CARRIED

9. CURRICULUM

A) LIBRARY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

a. New Course

i) LIBR 2516 – Readers’ Advisory Services

This course had proved very popular when initially offered as a Special Topics course and surveys of students and the Program Advisory Committee strongly support adding it as a regular offering. The course will acquaint students with reading interests of adults in preparation for readers’ advisory (RA) work, and will be offered annually in the Spring semester. Registration is restricted to students in the LIIT, LIBF and LIBR programs.

IT WAS MOVED by J Bowers, seconded by W Pierson that the new course *LIBR 2516 – Readers’ Advisory Services* be approved by Education Council.

MOTION CARRIED

b. Program Change

i) Library & Information Technology

ii) Library & Information Technology Flexible Participation Option

For both programs, the proposal will remove LIBR 2315 as a core course, as few graduates require the specific knowledge around cataloguing audio/visual materials covered by the course. Students will now be required to complete three special topics courses instead of two, which will allow an opportunity for exploring more specialized subjects. In addition, ENGL options are expanded and a comprehensive selection of cultural and Canadian content courses have been added as electives. A revised Notes section adds guidance for selecting electives and English courses.

IT WAS MOVED by J Bowers, seconded by R Macqueen, that the program revisions in the *Diploma in Library & Information Technology* and the *Diploma in Library & Information Technology Flexible Participation Option* be approved by Education Council.

MOTION CARRIED

The Chair was turned over to T MacMillan.

B) PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

a) Program Change

i) Diploma in Professional Photography

Recognizing that many students take longer than 2 years to complete their diplomas, this proposal will increase flexibility in course selection by adding *JOUR 1168 - Photojournalism* as an alternative to *PHOT 2320 – Documentary Photography* in Term 3 of the curriculum.

IT WAS MOVED by D Bernaerdt, seconded by T Lewis, that the curriculum revision in the *Diploma in Professional Photography* be approved by Education Council.

MOTION CARRIED

T MacMillan returned the chair to D Bernaerdt.

C) ENGLISH

a) Extension of LET Replacement Testing Plan for Fall 2021

T MacMillan noted that this extension will continue the existing plan to provide the alternatives to the Langara English Test that were implemented last year in response to the COVID19 closure. Although the English Department has now relaunched the LET, it is running at a limited capacity and cannot accommodate all students who require testing, as well as the many students who cannot yet attend campus in person. This plan will be re-evaluated by September 30, 2021.

IT WAS MOVED by T MacMillan, seconded by T Lewis, that Education Council approve the proposal to extend until September 30, 2021 the temporary *Langara English Test replacement plan* for English entrance levels testing.

MOTION CARRIED

10. OTHER BUSINESS

a. 2022 Education Council Submission Schedule

D Bernaerdt noted that the proposed 2022 schedule contains a slightly extended timeline for consultations and reviews, while conforming to the established format.

IT WAS MOVED by B Kennedy, seconded by T Lewis, that the *2022 Education Council Submission Schedule* be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

11. FOR INFORMATION

A) EDCO 101

D Bernaerdt informed Council members that this annual event would be held on September 28, 2021. He noted that the overlapping spheres of the Strategic Plan 2025, Academic Plan 2025, and the Quality Assurance Process Audit (QAPA) will intersect with the work of Education Council, and asked members to respond by email to a short set of related questions that will help guide the planning of this event.

B) AGC REPORT

D Bernaerdt provided a report on the June 1, 2021 meeting of the Academic Governance Council, in which the following topics were highlighted:

- Microcredentials.
- Processes, workflows, communications.
- Curriculum Software. (Most institutions are now using or have plans to implement.)
- Indigenization initiatives.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:09 p.m.