



LANGARA COLLEGE

MINUTES Langara Council Meeting held on Tuesday, May 1, 2007 Room B201 at 0930 hours

Members:

Antonella Alves	Jim Hooton (absent)
Linda Arnold	Ken Jillings
Remona Charlie (absent)	Terry Kornutiak
Alan Cooper	Wendy Low
Laura Cullen	Kevin Paul
Deanna Douglas (10:30 am)	Ken Pawlak
Martin Gerson	Brian Pendleton
Jim Goard	David Pepper
Ali Hassam (absent)	Roger Semmens
Marg Heldman	Doug Soo
Linda Holmes, Chair	Nancy Wickham

1. REVIEW OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as circulated.

2. REVIEW OF MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING

a. Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on March 20, 2007

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

THAT, the minutes of the Langara Council meeting held on March 20, 2007 be approved.

Carried.

3. CURRICULUM ITEMS

a. Education Council Meeting held April 17, 2007

L. Cullen introduced the Summary Report of the Education Council meeting held April 17, 2007 and noted that effective September 1 2007, Pacific Rim courses will be renamed "Asian Studies" and it is expected that the contemporary name will have better public appeal.

She further noted that Cooperative Education opted to add an English LET/LPI requirement to BUSM 1310 which will confirm English competency and ensure that students start with the skills needed to successfully complete the course. Also, wording will be added to all Coop Education courses to clarify that these courses may only be used towards a Cooperative Education credential and cannot be used to meet elective requirements.

L. Cullen noted that the report contained no items with financial implications.

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

**THAT, the Summary Report for the Education Council
meeting held April 17, 2007 be received.**

Carried.

4. ACTION ITEMS

Nil.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. SOS Campaign 2007

L. Holmes noted that, although the proceeds from the Golf Tournament have not yet been included, the 2007 SOS campaign raised \$32,500 to date through Employee donations and Campaign special events, coming very close to its campaign goal. She noted that she will make an announcement of funds raised once she receives the final total. Thanks went to everyone who contributed by donating or participating in a special event.

b. Campus 2020 Final Report

L. Holmes referenced her memo dated April 26, 2007 (attached to the agenda), and noted that the Campus 2020 Final Report was released on April 23, 2007 by Geoff Plant and is available online at www.aved.gov.bc.ca/campus2020. Members were asked for feedback as to what they thought of the report and the recommendations that were made, and if they felt the College should be doing anything. Discussion ensued and the following points were noted:

- The report recommends two different provincial structures to be responsive to the way the post-secondary system *ought* to work: a *Higher Education President's Council* and a *Higher Education Board*. The Higher Education President's Council must bring all post-secondary institutions together in a common purpose, and the Higher Education Board is required to represent the whole public interest in the public learning enterprise.
- The report's recommendations suggest creating three new regional universities to reinforce their mandates as teaching-intensive, regional learning institutions (namely Kwantlen, Malaspina and University College of Fraser Valley), trumpeting the value of big universities and limiting the growth potential of urban colleges.
- There were decisions and prejudices made in the Executive Summary that seem to point to reverting back to a traditional approach to education.
- Emphasis seems to be on limiting the capacity of the four lower mainland institutions and promoting the growth of private institutions at the other's expense.

- There seems to be some differential treatment between public and private institutions providing degrees, with favour being given to private institutions.
- Concern was noted on recommendations 21 and 22 regarding integrating the provision of post-secondary library services, including the Electronic Library Network (ELN), and creating an integrated, comprehensive, online British Columbia post-secondary digital library. If the Ministry wants a seamless integration of resource-sharing between private and public institutions, does this mean that public institutions are expected to open up all of its resources? Taxpayers may not willingly accept the fact that they will be funding the library resources for private institutions. There is also a Steering Committee in place that has to vote on anything the ELN proposes.
- It was noted that recommendations 25, 26, and 27 were favourable. A real accreditation system makes sense and a Canada-wide accreditation system should be put into place.
- Concern was noted on recommendations 30 and 31 regarding developing and recommending a plan to expand the existing BC transfer system to extend the benefits of transfer to students in BC programs and institutions not currently covered and implementing this plan by 2010. It was noted that the only programs and institutions not currently covered are the private institutions and if public institutions are forced to give everyone credit, it may become a major issue.
- Concern was noted on recommendation 37 regarding restoring the primary focus of community colleges by precluding colleges from granting degrees. There was overall disappointment that the fundamental basis of this recommendation was that the only reason colleges want to grant degrees was to climb the elite ladder. This recommendation has the ability to become quite damaging in retaining and drawing students. The Ministry needs to take immediate action to quell this issue and make it clear to the public that the colleges are not being unbundled or changed in the near future.
- The report is basically requiring colleges to meet their FTE's even though the rug is being pulled out from under them.
- Since this is not a Ministry document, colleges should not assume that all or any of these recommendations will be adopted by the Ministry, therefore an attack on the government would be premature at this point.
- The Ministry has received the Campus 2020 Report and will be considering all recommendations carefully. In the meantime, all College program plans should be "business as usual", and students should be reassured that programs that are currently in place will remain so.
- College Board members have received the document and are currently reviewing it.
- K. Jillings noted that there will be a Standing Committee on Human Resources Practices Planning Workshop at PSEA on Thursday, May 3rd and Friday, May 4th where Ruth Wittenberg will be providing an update on the Campus 2020 Report.
- M. Gerson also indicated that Ruth Wittenberg would be attending the Senior Academic Administrators' Forum to be held on Friday, May 4, 2007.
- L. Holmes noted that there will be a Sector Leadership Forum on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 in Victoria with Deputy Minister of Advanced Education, Moura Quayle, for sector presidents and leaders to discuss with the Ministry the Campus 2020 report

submitted to the government by Geoff Plant. She noted that she will provide an update of this meeting to Langara Council.

Agenda Item

- L. Holmes noted that at this time the College should not do anything except prepare itself with the strongest, unemotional, rational case to the Ministry as to why some of these recommendations should or should not be adopted. She noted that if there are any statistics (ie: downturn in applications compared to previous years, etc.) that would help, then these should be included.
- B. Pendleton circulated a full-page Vancouver Sun advertisement placed by Capilano College titled "What's Up". The ad supported Capilano's position on becoming a regional university. In past, there was discussion amongst Capilano, Douglas, VCC, and Langara regarding becoming a consortium of Regional Universities in the Lower Mainland. Since Capilano has gone out on its own to become a regional university, the question remains if the College wants to continue to consider becoming a consortium of regional universities with Douglas and VCC and let Capilano decide if they want to join us.

Other

A. Cooper noted that he received a phone call from a faculty member who is in the process of getting a brochure amended and was having some difficulty obtaining assistance. He further noted that this has been a long-standing issue with faculty members and Communications and Marketing and recommended the following:

It was moved by A. Cooper, seconded by R. Semmens

THAT, Whereas faculty from many areas have expressed first concern, then anxiety, and finally desperation about the timeliness and effectiveness of brochures and other marketing materials that they need in order to promote their programs, and also about various other related issues, leading to a loss of confidence in the College's Communications and Marketing function; and

THAT, Whereas the College's actions so far in response to these concerns have not proven effective;

Be it Resolved,

THAT, Langara Council recommends that the Deans and Division Chairs meet regularly with the LFA President in order to monitor the effectiveness of the College's action in response to these and related concerns and make recommendations to the College President which she will undertake to implement.

L. Holmes briefly provided background information for members who were not aware of the situation. She noted that a Communications Specialist was retained on a temporary basis to work with the Deans and Division Chairs to resolve this issue.

K. Jillings noted that this sounds like an operations management issue and was wondering why the Langara Faculty Association President was involved.

A. Cooper noted that because the issue has been going on for some time in getting marketing materials in a timely manner, that faculty started coming to him to try to find resolution. He noted that over a year ago the issue was addressed through the proper channels. He noted that distribution of the marketing materials is leading to a concern if the programs are going to bring in the required number of students. He noted that recently the issue was brought to the College Board where it was noted that discussion had taken place with the College President and action was taking place. However, resolution has not taken place.

L. Arnold noted that the Deans and Division Chairs group has been working with the Communications Specialist to meet the needs properly to ensure they are dealt with as quickly as possible. She noted that the process of faculty going to the Department Chairs, Division Chairs, and Deans is still in place and they have not heard of any one department whose needs are not being met. She thought these issues were being dealt with and this is the first time she has heard about any problems.

A. Cooper noted that the situation needs to be monitored to include the LFA in order to come up with a solution that works better.

L. Holmes questioned if the Union is inserting itself into the administrative structure of the business of the college.

M. Gerson noted that as of Tuesday, April 24, 2007, the Communications Specialist that had been hired was told that they would be reporting directly to the Deans, and at a meeting held on Thursday, April 26, 2007 with the incumbent, the responsibilities were outlined and were going to be discussed at the DDC meeting on Wednesday, May 2, 2007. He noted that faculty may be going to the wrong person for assistance which then creates frustration and misinterpretation of the services.

B. Pendleton questioned how long the Communications Specialists services were retained for.

L. Holmes noted that at the beginning the Communications Specialist was retained for 3 months and then it was elongated to 6 months, and now they are looking at 1 year. However, the current incumbent has taken a full-time position and will be leaving. A plan has been put into place to provide a seamless way of replacing the current incumbent without leaving a gap in the system. She further noted that at the DDC meeting, the lines of communication will be open for Department Chairs to express their needs to Division Chairs.

N. Wickham noted that it appeared short-term turnaround is the scope. She noted that 2 C&M staff members attended the Division Chairs meeting and 2 items were identified as more urgent. She noted that clarification is needed on items as to when they are short-term turnaround and when they are long-term turnaround.

A. Cooper noted that even though it seems a process is in place or is coming into place that may resolve the issue, he requests that the LFA be in a position to deliberate whether or not the process is working.

D. Pepper commented that the way this issue has come to Langara Council is not in keeping with procedure. Normally, the item would be placed on the agenda with appropriate background information in order for Council Members to have an opportunity to review. He did not think a motion at this time was appropriate given the way the issue was presented to Langara Council.

M. Gerson agreed with D. Pepper and noted that the Deans do not have a problem in keeping in touch with the LFA and keeping them abreast of decisions and progress.

L. Holmes asked for either a vote on the main motion or that a motion to table be made.

It was moved by M. Heldman, seconded by L. Cullen

THAT, the motion be tabled.

Carried unanimously.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 1125 hours.