Meeting Minutes

Education Council

Date: 8 March 2023
Time: 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Meeting location: SE40, Royal Oak Boardroom
In attendance: Eric Fry, Chair; Shawna Waberi, Vice Chair; Michael Currie, Vice Chair; Andrea Matthews; Bobby Davidson; Celine Loriot; Edward Fajardo; James Rout; Kirksal Icoz; Margareta Dovgal; Morgan Westcott; Shan Satoglu; Stephen McMillan; Tanya Fuchs; Jennifer Figner; Cheryl Cahill (Zoom); Andrea Ralph (Zoom).
Official Guests: Erika Ram; Giovanna Catussi**;** Peter Warren; Tami Pierce
Minute taker: Kerri Macmillan
Regrets: Angie Chan; Gigi Machtaler; Lyle Reid; Scott Paterson; Laura Vail.

Chair Eric Fry called the meeting to order at 2:31.

1. Eric opened the meeting with an Indigenous Territory Acknowledgement. And recognized March 8 is International Women's Day.

2. Approval of Agenda
    MOTION: It was moved by Morgan Westcott and seconded by Shan Satoglu that the agenda be approved. The motion was carried.

3. Approval of Education Council Meeting Minutes
    MOTION: It was moved by Kirksol Icoz and seconded by Margareta Dovgal that the Minutes of February 1, 2023 be approved. The motion was carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes
    ACTION: Eric to invite Jackie Gruber, Director RDI, to future EdCo mtg to speak about accessibility.

5. Reports

    5.1 Report from the Chair – Eric Fry
    - BCIT has a new policy advisor Robert Penkala.
    - Cheryl Cahill has moved into an Interim Associate Dean role, in consultation with the union it has been decided that the SoT BCGEU Faculty seat will remain empty until the end of the term when a new election will be held for this seat. The current Programming Vice Chair Shawna Waberi will become the Chair.
    - The Board announced the selection of the new president, Dr. Jeff Zabudsky, who will join BCIT July 10.
    - Jennifer Figner will remain in the VP Academic role until December 2023.
    - The EdCo Reconciliation working group met Feb 17 with preliminary discussions on the Indian Act, systemic racism and continued discrimination. Next meeting is March 13, participation is encouraged. Contact Eric or Kerri for details.
    - March is Work Integrated Learning month

    5.2 Institutional Report, Interim VP Academic – Jennifer Figner
        a. VP Academic Report
           - The DQAB has approved the Bachelor of Technology in Computer Systems credential and program name change to move forward as a program change and will not be required to be submitted as a

new program through their "determination of new degree" process. This major change was approved by Education Council at the Feb. 1, 2023 meeting.

- BCIT signed an MoU with YVR with a focus on education, project support, research & innovation. Will be co-developing a YVR Academy.

- As reported at the last meeting, the Trade-Up initiative is continuing to move forward as a provincial initiative focusing on upskilling for red seal trades workers. It also includes conversations with Skilled Trades BC on inclusive workplaces.

b. Program Suspension
- For informational purposes, Jennifer advised council that the MSc in Ecological Restoration, SoC&E has been approved for suspension. This is a joint degree with SFU which began in 2015 and had great success of graduates. SFU has chosen not to renew the partnership agreement for this program. BCIT met with the ministry & DQAB to request continuation on our own, and in order to do so it will need to be submitted as a new degree.

5.3 Program Reviews
  a. Final Recommendation and Action Plan (formerly called Final Report)
    i. Diploma in Fish, Wildlife and Recreation, SoC&E
       Wayne Hand, Dean of Construction & Environment, provided highlights from the extensive program review: a reduction of 18 credits in total; complexity and time to implement indigeneity into the program; added technology such as GPS, digital maps; and a new field school and safety week.

  b. One-Year Status Reports
    i. Bachelor of Science in Nursing, SoHS
       Lisa Chu, Dean of Health Sciences, noted that BCIT was first to create a concept-based curriculum and the only post-secondary able to expand with ministry funding announced last spring for September. Progress highlights: process for accreditation review; data analysis; grad survey results; increased simulation; HR succession planning, and scholarship development.

5.4 Report from Students – Tanya Fuchs
- Nominations open now for 12 executive seats, due March 10. Promoting to students to increase the student engagement.
- Referendum to increase student activity fees running alongside elections.
- Nominations for SA Awards open, due April.
- Recent events include a club executive forum to support clubs; De-Stress day aligned with the Tech Collider opening at the DTC.

6. Report from Standing Committees
6.1 Programming Committee – Shawna Waberi
The Programming committee met on Feb. 22, 2023 and reviewed the following:

  a. Major Program Changes
    i. Advanced Certificate in Pediatric Nursing Specialty, SoHS
       Addition of a new option – Anesthesia Care.

       MOTION: It was moved by Shawna Waberi and seconded by Shan Satoglu that the proposal for a major change to the Advanced Certificate in Pediatric Nursing Specialty be approved.

       The motion was carried with one abstention.

    ii. Diploma in Marketing Management, SoB+M
        All five options reviewed to update courses.

        MOTION: It was moved by Shawna Waberi and seconded by Margareta Dovgal that the proposal for a major change to the Diploma in Marketing Management be approved.

The motion was carried with one abstention.

iii. Certificate in Software Systems Developer (Web Programmer option), SoCAS
Name change and curriculum changes.

MOTION: It was moved by Shawna Waberi and seconded by Morgan Westcott that the proposal for a major change to the Certificate in Software Systems Developer (Web Programmer option) be approved.

The motion was carried.

b. Proposals

i. Master of Science in Applied Computing, SoCAS
This new program will fill projected needs for software engineers and designers with a focus on advanced computing knowledge. The proposal includes internship or thesis paths with a variety of graduate job options. Duration is four terms with the first intake in September 2024 for 25 seats.

MOTION: It was moved by Shawna Waberi and seconded by Edward Fajardo that the proposal for a new Master of Science in Applied Computing be recommended to the Board of Governors for approval.

The motion was carried.

6.2 Policy Committee – Michael Currie
- Policy 5012 Assigning of Credits to Courses has finished the review process. The policy and procedures documents will go out to the community for 30-day consultation.
- Laura is synthesizing the community feedback on the new attendance policy. This will be discussed at next meeting and go for further community consultation. The working group could use more GEU Faculty representation.
- Policy 5103 Student Evaluations is going through the process of separating into policy and procedures documents.
- As previously reported Policy 5102 Code of Conduct (Non-Academic) has moved outside of EdCo.
- The working group is developing draft documents for the new Withdrawals policy.

6.3 Educational Technology and Learning Design Committee – Erika Ram
- The committee met on Feb. 8 and is exploring guidance on ChatGPT usage and other AI tools. LTC presenting on the topic next week. Student Life office is focusing on academic integrity side and also offering a workshop and toolkit. The library is also developing resources.
- ITS is conducting a Unified Communications Tool project that will undergo consultation and needs assessment.
- ETS is reviewing replacing BONGO.
- Terms of reference and bylaw suggestions were provided to Executive committee.

7. New Business
7.1 Request for Exemption from Policy
a. Master of Science in Applied Computing, Policy No. 5103 Student Evaluation. The program is requesting a reduction from seven years to five years citing rapid advancement in the field.

MOTION: it was moved by Eric Fry and seconded by Stephen McMillan to approve the exemption from Policy 5103 to reduce completion time of the Master of Science in Applied Computing from seven years to five years.

The Motion was carried.

      7.2 Notice of Motion to revise Education Council Bylaws
         Eric shared the bylaw changes that have received engagement from sub committees, this is part of an annual review process.

         A vote will be held at the May 3 EdCo meeting.

8.   Any Other Business

    8.1 A suggestion was raised to create a dashboard of policies under review to show the progression stages to assist with communication and engagement in the BCIT community. A tool to track the process steps to increase transparency and educate the community. Suggestion to reach out to Sarah Dunn in IRP for possible assistance in creating a tracking tool.

    ACTION: Eric will bring forward to the Executive committee to discuss.

    8.2 Nominations and elections are coming up. Eric has reached out to constituents who are coming to the end of their EdCo term. The Registrar's Office is in the process of using a new voting system.

9.   Next Meeting Date
      Wednesday, May 3, 2023, 2:30-4:30pm, Royal Oak Boardroom

10.   Adjournment
      The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.