

I am seeking a nomination to stand as a candidate for the SoCAS seat on the Education Council (EdCo) in the upcoming election.

BCIT faces challenging times, and EdCo must lead important changes that will shape our institute's future. I would be honoured to represent my colleagues in SoCAS in those discussions. I believe that I am qualified to represent SoCAS on the EdCo because in my ten years with BCIT I have spent three years as program head for both the CST and CIT programs, which included leading the completion of the last CST Program Review. Also, I am in my second year as a member and now vice chair of the School Quality Committee (SQC).

Experience as program head has provided insight into the academic operations, policies, and procedures of the institute, and exposure to the workings of EdCo through the Program Review. On the SQC, I have exposure to the early stages of curriculum changes across the school that lead ultimately to EdCo for decision-making. If elected to EdCo, I would like to remain on the SQC as well. I see no conflict of interest in simultaneously holding those two roles.

Of course, the proposed change to policy 5401, to reduce the number of credits required for diplomas, have important implications for SoCAS. is just one high profile example of the decisions that EdCo will have to make. The institute should be clear and transparent about the goals and motivations for proposing this policy change, and it should fall to EdCo to scrutinize that. If the Institute adopts the change—which we should plan for—EdCo and the SQCs will continue to play a critical role. They will ensure we maintain high standards and rigour in all anticipated program changes.

EdCo must not be a rubber stamp body in this. Members of EdCo must be prepared to scrutinize all proposed changes, to ask difficult questions, and be prepared to push back whenever necessary. The Institute stated that reducing required credits is an option and an opportunity, not a mandate. The processes that EdCo follows, and the decisions that it makes will establish precedents that will determine whether this intention holds up. I am prepared to take input and direction from my colleagues, and to ask those kinds of questions on your behalf at EdCo. I also would also like to leverage the EdCo platform to act and establish more robust curriculum change and review processes, to ensure that difficult questions can be asked, and some changes stopped, even before those future proposals reach EdCo.

I would be honoured if you would support my nomination.

**Trevor Lord**