
Minutes of the Seventy-Ninth Council Meeting – 1-2 October 2020
Via videoconference

Council

Present: Dietmar Kennepohl (Co-Chair), Gayla Rogers (Co-Chair), Gurston Dacks, Jeff Goldberg, Paul Gooch, Annie Prud'homme-Généreux, Gord Nixon, John Stubbs, Lynn Taylor
Absent: Arlette Zinck

Secretariat Guy Germain (Director), Alex Makar (Research Officer)

Guests George Iwama (for agenda item 6 only – via videoconference)
Kylie Thomas, Maureen Toews, Jane MacNeil, Robbie Halonen, Alison Jeppesen (for agenda item 6 only – via videoconference)

Members were welcomed to the seventy-ninth meeting of the Campus Alberta Quality Council.

1. Approval of minutes – 15-16 June 2020

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the 15-16 June 2020 minutes be adopted.

CARRIED

2. CAQC Chair and Secretariat report

The Co-Chairs and Secretariat Director reviewed their report and responded to members' questions of clarification. The Alberta 2030 review was one of several items discussed, and members noted that they would be seeking whether and how it would be possible for Council to provide direct input into the review.

3. Meeting with the Minister – Follow-up discussion

On 24 August 2020, Council met with the Minister to discuss proposed changes to the degree program approval process. Members continued their discussion they had begun at that meeting, received an update from the Co-Chairs regarding meetings they had attended with institutional officials since the August meeting, and discussed next steps.

4. Looking back and looking forward

Members reflected on Council's achievements and challenges it has faced over the past year as well as future opportunities. During the discussion, members considered the feedback it solicits from evaluators and applicant institutions following each external review. They noted the generally positive comments and identified possible refinements to Council's processes, documents, and advice to institutions to address the few areas identified for improvement. Members also discussed the current reporting cycle for its two key documents – the Annual Report and the Action Plan – and what changes might be needed.

Council also discussed membership and transition planning, and each member reaffirmed the Member Code of Conduct.

5. Committees

(a) Proposal Review Standing Committee

The Proposal Review Standing Committee reported it had taken the following actions on behalf of Council since the previous meeting agenda update:

- began consideration of a request from Grant MacEwan University for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Fine Arts (Arts and Cultural Management, Music Theatre Performance, Studio Arts, Theatre Production) program.
- agreed to a request from the University of Calgary for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a Doctor of Philosophy (Law) program and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program.
- agreed to a request from the University of Calgary for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering program, and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program. The program was subsequently approved.
- requested further information from The King's University regarding its request for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Science (Interdisciplinary Science) program.
- after reviewing further information it had received from the institution, agreed to a request from Athabasca University for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Commerce (Indigenous Business) program and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program.
- after completing its review of a request from the University of Lethbridge to change the title of its approved program from 'Bachelor of Fine Arts (Native American Art)' to 'Bachelor of Fine Arts (Indigenous Art)', provided its feedback to the Ministry. The name change was subsequently approved.

(b) Monitoring Standing Committee

The Monitoring Standing Committee reported it had taken the following actions on behalf of Council since the previous meeting agenda update:

- began its consideration of the results of Grant MacEwan University's cyclical review of its 4-year Bachelor of Communication program.
- began its consideration of the results of Concordia University of Edmonton's cyclical review of its 3-year and 4-year Bachelor of Science (Biology) programs.
- began its consideration of the results of Concordia University of Edmonton's cyclical review of its 3-year and 4-year Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and 4-year Bachelor of Arts (Psychology – Applied Emphasis) programs.

- began its consideration of the results of Mount Royal University's cyclical review of its 4-year Bachelor of Arts (History) program.
- began its consideration of the results of Concordia University of Edmonton's cyclical review of its 3-year and 4-year Bachelor of Science (Environmental Science) programs.
- after concluding its review of revised policies and other documentation submitted by Lakeland College with respect to its application for a 4-year Bachelor of Applied Science (Agriculture Technology) program, conveyed its observations in a feedback letter.
- after reviewing information from Alberta University of the Arts regarding its substantial curriculum change, communicated its feedback to the institution.

6. Red Deer College – consideration of a proposal for a 4-yr Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences

Red Deer College is seeking approval to offer a new 4-year Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences program. Dr. George Iwama, Chair of the program evaluation team, joined the meeting via videoconference to answer questions of clarification on the evaluation team report and the College's response to it. At the end of the teleconference, Council's Co-Chair thanked Dr. Iwama for the team's report.

Kylie Thomas (Vice President Academic and Research), Dr. Maureen Toews (Associate Vice President, Teaching, Learning and Research), Dr. Jane MacNeil (Dean, School of Arts and Sciences and School of Creative Arts), Dr. Robbie Halonen (Associate Dean, School of Arts and Sciences and School of Creative Arts), and Dr. Alison Jeppesen (Associate Dean, School of Arts and Sciences and School of Creative Arts) joined the meeting via videoconference to discuss the College's response to the report.

After further discussion, Council AGREED to continue discussion of Red Deer College's 4-year Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences program at a subsequent meeting once further information is provided by the institution.

7. Follow-up

Members received for information implementation reporting for newly approved degree programs at Athabasca University, Concordia University of Edmonton, Mount Royal University, Grant MacEwan University, Newman Theological College, St. Mary's University, the University of Calgary, and the University of Alberta.

Members confirmed the process for reviewing the remaining documents from Lakeland College with respect to its proposed 4-year Bachelor of Applied Science (Agriculture Technology), clarified the review process for MacEwan's Second Comprehensive Evaluation, and discussed the need for an organizational evaluation for one institution.

After reviewing a revised draft of Council's financial security requirements, it was MOVED and SECONDED that changes to Appendix J: Financial security requirements for private resident and private non-resident institutions of the *Handbook* be adopted.

CARRIED

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for 10-11 December 2020.