

# CAMPUS ALBERTA QUALITY COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Eighth Council Meeting and Retreat – 9-10 September 2005 Chateau Suites Hotel, Sylvan Lake

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### **Council**

**Present:** Doug Owram (Chair), Michael Faulkner, Dianne Kieren, Garry McKinnon, Peter Meekison, Cliff Soper, Lucille Walter, Keith Ward, Mo Watanabe, Andrew Berczi (by teleconference for items #2 and part of #5)

**Absent:** Dan Gaynor

**Secretariat** Marilyn Patton (Director), Guy Germain (Manager), Meg Walker (Research and Policy Analyst)

**Guests** Phil Gougeon (for agenda #1), Bert Seinen (for agenda #1 and part of #2), Dr. Janet Paterson-Weir and Sharon Bookhalter (for part of agenda #2)

### **Friday, 9 September 2005**

The Chair welcomed members to the eighth meeting and first retreat of the Campus Alberta Quality Council. While the purpose of the retreat was to review Council's first year of operation and plan strategically for the future, Council also discussed some regular business.

The meeting began at 12:45 in the Marina Suite Conference Room. Phil Gougeon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Adult Learning and Bert Seinen, Acting Executive Director, Institutional and Community Services were in attendance.

#### **1. Strategic system planning**

##### **a. Advanced Education's vision for the future system**

Phil Gougeon, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Adult Learning Division, led discussion on Advanced Education's vision for the future, including the *A Learning Alberta* review.

##### **b. Relationship between system coordination and CAQC quality review**

The Chair led a discussion of the two-stage approval process and members provided their reflections on their experience with the three degree proposals that have completed the process. Bert Seinen, Acting Executive Director of Institutional and Community Services, was present to answer questions regarding the system coordination phase of the program approval process. Members suggested making refinements to the approval process to better meet the needs of Council, applicants and the department.

Prior to Phil Gougeon's departure, the Chair thanked him for attending.

**2. Grant MacEwan College – continued consideration of a proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Post-RN Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

Grant MacEwan College is seeking authority to offer a 4-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Post-RN Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Dr. Janet Paterson-Weir, Executive Vice President Academic and Sharon Bookhalter, Dean of the Faculty of Health and Community Studies, were in attendance to make a presentation to Council members. The College proposed further development of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, and requested that Council review a revised proposal in Spring 2006. The College also withdrew its proposal for the Post-RN Bachelor of Nursing program.

Prior to the departure of Bert Seinen and the College officials, the Chair thanked them for attending.

Council AGREED to continue consideration of MacEwan's request at the October meeting.

**3. Approval of minutes – 25 July 2005**

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the 25 July 2005 minutes be adopted.

CARRIED

**4. CAQC Chair and Secretariat report**

The Chair briefly reviewed the Chair and Secretariat report, provided updates on some issues, and responded to members' questions.

It was reported that the University of Calgary's proposal for a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree program had been received by the Minister, and that an agreement had been reached with the American Veterinary Medical Association's Council on Education (COE) to conduct a joint site visit should the proposal be referred to Council for review. Discussion ensued on how best to work with the COE accreditation review team.

The Chair noted that a notification of change to an approved program letter was received from an institution. Council AGREED that this type of issue could be delegated to the Chair and reported to members at a subsequent meeting.

Included in the agenda package was a letter from Athabasca University requesting a blended and partially expedited review with respect to their application to offer a Doctorate in Distance Education should the program be referred to Council by the Minister.

It was MOVED and SECONDED that in light of the recent accreditation of Athabasca University by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, Council strike a subcommittee to review the report and advise Council on whether or not to agree to the University's request for a partially or blended expedited review.

CARRIED

In doing its review, the subcommittee will examine the Commission's assessment standards as well as Council's organizational assessment standards.

**Saturday, 10 September 2005**

**5. CAQC Strategic Planning – Management Plan for 2005 to 2010**

Council discussed its strategic priorities and known activities for the next five years, including the content of its first management plan.

During discussion of workload issues, Council AGREED to form a pool of qualified and well-briefed organizational evaluators who would be available to conduct organizational evaluations.

In order to continuously assess and refine its activities, Council also reviewed and proposed changes to its key operating principles.

Council discussed having set meeting dates and established tentative dates for the next twelve months. Members also discussed activities related to council development, including meetings with stakeholder groups and presentations on topics relevant to Council's work.

Members discussed the size, composition and expertise of Council and the need to stagger terms of appointment.

**6. Quality assurance of degree programs in Canada**

Marilyn Patton updated members on the work of the Pan-Canadian Committee on Quality Assurance of Degree Programming, and Council members discussed how best to support the work of this committee.

Council also discussed ways to further the national and international recognition of the work of CAQC and the quality of Alberta degrees. Council AGREED to pursue membership in the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE).

**7. Degrees**

Members discussed degree nomenclature and the nature of core degrees (such as BA, BSc and PhD degrees) and determined that it would strike a subcommittee to develop guidelines.

Members also discussed online and distance learning degree programs and decided that Council would give these topics further consideration.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

The next scheduled meeting of Council is a teleconference set for 6 October 2005.