



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF EDUCATION COUNCIL

HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2013 AT 9:00AM
BOARDROOM - NEW WESTMINSTER CAMPUS

1. ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Deb Anderson (Vice Chair)
Brian Chapell
Bruce Clarke (Ex-Officio)
Kathy Denton
Iloradanon Efimoff
Gretchen Goertz
Todd Harper
Maria laquinta
Ted James (Ex-Officio)
Marina Kolar
Scott McAlpine (Ex-Officio)
Elizabeth McCausland (Chair)
Debbie McCloy
Lorne Patterson
Sanjin Ramovic
Graham Rodwell
Jenny Shin
Wesley Snider
Brian Thomas-Peter
Cathy Tremblay
Silvia Wilson
Kate Yoshitomi

Jo-Anne Bilquist (Recorder)

Regrets:

Guests:

Jillian Griffin
Bruce Hardy
Tracy Ho
Madison Paradis-Woodman

4.

ACTION: Please refer this item to your constituency groups for consideration of approval at the March meeting.

5.3 Academic Amnesty Request

The Chair welcomed guest speakers Madison Paradis-Woodman and Jillian Griffin.

Madison thanked Council for the opportunity to speak, and briefly outlined the Idle No More movement. He noted that the event at Douglas would be the first organized Idle No More event in New Westminster. The organizers feel it will provide an opportunity to synthesize learning concepts and theories from the classroom to practical and current events, and to engage on a deeper level with a culturally relevant issue.

Lengthy discussion followed, characterized by support for the spirit of the event but concern with regard to the timing, noting that many instructors have scheduled mid-term evaluations and other assessments following last week's study break. As well, given the extremely short timeframe, any messages sent to students and instructors may not reach them prior to the event.

The Chair advised that in similar situations in the past Council has encouraged support without requiring full amnesty.

Council deliberated on the wording of a proposed motion to be forwarded to all College email addresses today. In addition, they asked that the email include language indicating that individual instructors have the discretion to determine the level of accommodation they can offer, with the understanding that scheduled evaluations, practicums or clinical time may have an impact. Instructors are not expected to email each student with regard to their expectations; they may notify students at the start of class or via myDouglas or Blackboard.

There being no further discussion,

MOVED by J. Davies; SECONDED by M. Kolar, THAT members of the faculty are encouraged where possible to allow students to attend the Idle No More event without academic penalties, and to bring their classes to the event.

The Motion was CARRIED.

5.4 Memo re Planned Change

The Chair asked the Vice Chair to step in for this portion, as the Chair is the representative for the Faculty involved in the item.

The Vice Chair noted that Council is not debating the merits of the Senior Management Team's decision, but rather whether policy was correctly followed.

L. McCausland briefly summarized that the EASL Department felt they should have been consulted by Senior Management Team with regard to the decision to not offer ESL at Level 1. Citing the Planned Changes policy and the College and Institutes Act, she felt that cancellation of courses falls under the mandate of Education Council and Council's advice should have been sought. She noted that it might be helpful to ask the Board to clarify policy language so that it is clear when the Planned Change policy applies.

K. Denton noted, as in her written response, that the decision was operational in nature, to realign offerings with Ministry enrolment targets.

There was much discussion of the item.

MOVED by G. Rodwell; SECONDED by K. Yoshitomi, THAT Education Council request that the Board Chair rule on whether the EASL

by EdCo but the online version of the policy was not updated at that time. The error was not caught until recently because students were meeting the benchmark as indicated. The policy has now been corrected.

The Chair also advised that nominations for election to Education Council are due on Monday, February 25th. Information forums regarding College Board and Education Council positions are being held this week in the Boardroom at each campus (Wed at NW at 4:30; Thurs at DLC at 12:30).

a) January 2013 Report to the Board

6.2 Report from the President

S. McAlpine advised that the February President's Report is out, and he also encouraged Council to pay attention to the upcoming provincial budget announcements.

6.3 Report from the Vice President, Academic

K. Denton had nothing further to report.

6.4 Report from the Board Representative

There was no report.

6.5 Report from the Secretary

There was no report.

6.6 Report from the Curriculum Committee

There was nothing further to report.

6.7 Report from the Educational Excellence Committee

There was nothing further to report.

6.8 Report from the Committee on Admissions and Language Competency

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Correction to Credentials Policy Posted

The Chair encouraged members to share this information with their constituents.

8. NEXT MEETING

Monday, March 18, 2013 at 9:00am in the Boardroom (4920), New Westminster