

Minutes of the Forty-Eighth Council Meeting – 28 February 2014
University of Alberta, Edmonton

Council

Present: Peter Mahaffy (Interim Co-Chair), Art Quinney (Interim Co-Chair), Neil Besner, Gurston Dacks, Judy Eifert, Paul Gooch, Jane O’Dea, Peggy Patterson, John Waterhouse, Robert Woodrow

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

Guests Patti Papirnik (for entire meeting– in person)
Carl Amrhein, Olive Yonge, Martin Ferguson-Pell (for agenda item 1 only – in person)
Ron Bond (for agenda item 2 only – via teleconference)
Kathryn Shailer, Randy Genereux (for agenda item 2 only – via teleconference)
Gilbert Perras (for agenda items 6 and 7 only – in person)

Members were welcomed to the forty-eighth meeting of the Campus Alberta Quality Council.

1. University of Alberta presentation and discussion

Dr. Carl Amrhein, Provost, Dr. Martin Ferguson-Pell, Senior Advisor, President’s Office, and Dr. Olive Yonge, Deputy Provost, gave a presentation that focused on new initiatives at the institution, including changes to the University’s quality assurance processes. A question and answer period followed.

2. Mount Royal University – Comprehensive Evaluation

Council is responsible for the monitoring of the degree programs approved by the Minister to ensure they continue to meet Council’s conditions and standards of institutional and program quality. In June 2012 Council notified Mount Royal that it would be conducting a comprehensive evaluation in the 2013-14 academic year.

After general discussion and identification of questions, Dr. Ron Bond, Chair of the comprehensive evaluation team, joined the meeting via teleconference to answer questions of clarification on the evaluation team report and Mount Royal’s response to it. At the end of the teleconference, Council’s Interim Co-Chairs thanked Dr. Bond for the team’s report.

Subsequently, Dr. Kathryn Shailer, Provost and Vice-President, Academic and Dr. Randy Genereux, Associate Vice-President, Academic, joined the meeting via teleconference to discuss Mount Royal’s response to the report.

After further discussion, it was MOVED and SECONDED that Council confirm the continuation of approval of the existing baccalaureate programs at Mount Royal University:

- 4-year Bachelor of Arts (Anthropology, English, History, Policy Studies, Psychology, Sociology, Spanish)
- 4-year Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice
- 4-year Bachelor of Business Administration (Accounting, General Business, Human Resources, Marketing)
- 4-year Bachelor of Communication (Information Design, Journalism, Public Relations)
- 4-year Bachelor of Computer Information Systems
- 4-year Bachelor of Education (Elementary)
- 4-year Bachelor of Midwifery
- 4-year Bachelor of Nursing
- 4-year Bachelor of Science (Cellular and Molecular Biology, General Science, Geology, Health Sciences, Environmental Science)

CARRIED

Members AGREED to the expectations to be included in the letter to Mount Royal conveying the outcome of the comprehensive evaluation. Council's Interim Co-Chairs will inform the Minister of the outcome.

3. Approval of minutes – 9-10 December 2013

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the 9-10 December 2013 minutes be adopted.

CARRIED

4. CAQC Chair and Secretariat report

The Interim Co-Chairs and Secretariat Manager briefly reviewed their report and responded to members' questions of clarification.

5. Committees and task forces

(a) Proposal Review Standing Committee

The Proposal Review Standing Committee reported it had considered the following degree proposals (or taken the following actions) on behalf of Council since the previous meeting:

- agreed to a request from the University of Alberta for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Conservation Sciences (Sustainable Agriculture) and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program. The Minister subsequently approved the program.
- agreed to a request from Athabasca University for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Science (Architecture) and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program. The Minister subsequently approved the program.
- after receiving the desk review of a revised proposal from the Alberta College of Art and Design for a Master of Fine Arts in Craft Media, along with the institution's response, began consideration of the documents.

- after being asked to comment on requirements for approval of transitioning course-based Master of Arts degrees into one-year research degrees, provided a response to the institution.

An update was also provided on the work being done to revise Part B of the proposal template.

(b) Monitoring Standing Committee

The Monitoring Standing Committee (MSC) reported it had taken the following action on behalf of Council since the previous meeting:

- after reviewing the information provided by sixteen institutions in their 2012-13 annual reporting, and after considering the comments of members at the December 2013 meeting, wrote to each institution indicating Council's commendations and requests for further information, as applicable.
- after concluding its consideration of the results of the cyclical review of Grant MacEwan University's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, conveyed its observations in an outcomes letter.
- after concluding its consideration of the results of the cyclical review of Concordia University College of Alberta's 3-year BA (Psychology) and 4-year BA (Psychology – Applied Emphasis) programs, had begun drafting its response to Concordia.

An update was also provided on discussions the MSC is having with the VPAs of MacEwan, Mount Royal, NAIT and SAIT on scholarly activity and reporting to CAQC.

(c) Audit Pilot Project Task Force

It was reported that the Task Force had submitted its final report to the Comprehensive and Academic Research Institutions (CARIs) and to Council. After discussion of the final report, it was MOVED and SECONDED that the final report of the Audit Pilot Project Task Force be accepted, and that all five recommendations be adopted.

CARRIED

Members also determined Council's next steps.

(d) Chair and member recruitment

Members reviewed and suggested revisions to Council's member position description in preparation for the pending recruitment, and delegated final approval of the document to Council's Interim Co-Chairs. It was noted that the final version would be posted on Council's website.

6. Discussion with Executive Director, Operations, Programming and Accountability

At Council's invitation, Gilbert Perras, Executive Director of the newly formed Operations, Programming and Accountability sector within Innovation and Advanced Education, met with members to discuss a variety of ministry initiatives relevant to Council's mandate.

7. CAQC Action Plan

Members began discussion of Council's draft Action Plan 2014-2017 by identifying accomplishments with respect to the strategic activities in the past year and new initiatives for subsequent years.

The next scheduled meeting of Council is set for 19 June 2014.