

Minutes of the Sixty-third Council Meeting – 13-14 June 2017
Athabasca University, Athabasca
Commerce Place, Edmonton

Council

Present: Peter Mahaffy (Co-Chair), Art Quinney (Co-Chair), Gurston Dacks, Judy Eifert, Paul Gooch (for agenda items 4 and 6 only), Gord Nixon, Janet Paterson-Weir, Robert Woodrow

Secretariat Marilyn Patton (Director), Guy Germain (Manager), Alex Makar (Research Officer)

Guests Neil Fassina, Cindy Ives, Donna Romyn, Alain May (for agenda item 1 only – in person)
Peter Leclaire (for agenda item 7 only – in person)

Members were welcomed to the sixty-third meeting of the Campus Alberta Quality Council.

1. Athabasca University presentation and discussion

President Dr. Neil Fassina; Interim Vice-President, Academic Dr. Cindy Ives; Associate Vice-President, Research Dr. Donna Romyn; and Associate Vice-President, Student and Academic Services Dr. Alain May gave a presentation focusing on the institution's mission and history, enrolment, quality assurance initiatives, learning outcomes, and future plans.

A question and answer period followed.

2. Approval of minutes – 19 April 2017

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the 19 April 2017 minutes be adopted, as amended.

CARRIED

3. CAQC Chair and Secretariat report

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

4. Follow-up

Members discussed a revised draft of the Alberta Credentials Framework, which it had initially reviewed in 2014. Members agreed to send a letter to the Ministry reinforcing their longstanding commitment to assess all applied degrees according to the 'Baccalaureate Degree' category in the Framework.

Members also discussed a revised draft document outlining approval processes for new programs and program changes prepared by the Ministry's Post-secondary Programs (PSP) branch and the CAQC Secretariat. Further revisions to the document were suggested, and these will be shared with the PSP branch.

Continuing their discussion of the issue of academic freedom, members proposed further changes to s. 3.7– Academic Freedom and Scholarship Policy, and agreed to solicit feedback from post-secondary institutions before formally adopting the changes.

Members reviewed proposed changes to Council's definitions relating to learning outcomes, and agreed to solicit the advice of external experts before formally adopting the changes.

A summary of the results of the second part of CAQC's *Member Self-assessment and Council Assessment* instrument was provided to members for discussion.

5. DRAFT CAQC 2016/2017 Annual Report

It was MOVED and SECONDED that CAQC's 2016/2017 Annual Report be adopted, as amended.

CARRIED

6. CAQC review – ABC report

With a view to determining Council's initial response to the Minister, members reviewed the consultant's report that was prepared as part of the government's ABC review of CAQC.

7. Discussion with Assistant Deputy Minister Peter Leclaire

At Council's invitation, Peter Leclaire, the Ministry's Advanced Learning and Community Partnerships Division ADM, met with members to discuss a variety of issues relevant to Council's mandate.

8. Discussion of DRAFT CAQC Action Plan 2017-2020

Members began discussion of Council's draft Action Plan 2017-2020 by identifying accomplishments with respect to the strategic activities in the past year and new initiatives for subsequent years. A revised draft will be considered at the September meeting.

9. Committees and task forces

(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:

- began reviewing information from Grant MacEwan University with respect to notification of changes to its 4-year Bachelor of Arts, 4-year Bachelor of Science, 4-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and 4-year Bachelor of Commerce programs.

- began consideration of a request from Grant MacEwan University for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Science (Applied Statistics).
- began reviewing information from St. Mary's University with respect to notification of changes to its 2-year After Degree Bachelor of Education (Elementary) program.
- after reviewing a draft agreement between SAIT and Grande Prairie Regional College (GPRC) for delivery of SAIT courses in its BBA (Accounting) to be offered on the GPRC campus, conveyed its observations in a feedback letter.
- began reviewing information from SAIT with respect to notification of changes to its 4-year Bachelor of Science in Construction Project Management program.
- began consideration of a request from The King's University for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Arts (Sociology).
- after reviewing information from Mount Royal University with respect to notification of changes to its 4-year Bachelor of Science (General Science) and 4-year Bachelor of Child Studies programs, conveyed its observations in a feedback letter.

Members also reviewed a revised draft of Council's criteria for partially expedited reviews and fully expedited reviews, and agreed to solicit feedback from post-secondary institutions before formally adopting the changes.

(b) Monitoring Standing Committee

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

- after considering the results of St. Mary's University's cyclical review of its 2-year After Degree Bachelor of Education (Elementary) program, conveyed its observations in a feedback letter.
- began considering follow-up information from La Sierra University with respect to its syllabi revision process.
- after considering the results of Grant MacEwan University's cyclical review of its 4-year Bachelor of Science (all majors), conveyed its observations in a feedback letter.
- after considering a progress report from Grant MacEwan University on its first comprehensive evaluation, and after discussing the report with the full Council, agreed that the Co-chairs and the Secretariat director would discuss the report with MacEwan officials to determine next steps.
- after considering the results of The King's University's cyclical review of its 4-year Bachelor of Arts (Politics, History, Economics) and its 2-year Bachelor of Education After Degree (Elementary and Secondary) programs, conveyed its observations in a feedback letter.
- after considering the results of City University's cyclical review of its Master of Counselling program, conveyed its observations in a feedback letter.
- after considering Grant MacEwan University's 2015-16 scholarly activity reporting in a revised format, and after presenting its observations to the full Council, conveyed its observations in a feedback letter.
- after concluding its consideration of the results of The King's University's cyclical review of its 3-year Bachelor of Arts (Social Science Group) program, conveyed its observations in a feedback letter.

(c) *Audit Criteria Committee*

The Co-chairs provided a verbal report on the second meeting of this committee, held on 20 April 2017, and members reviewed a revised draft of the criteria document. Members agreed to solicit feedback from post-secondary institutions on the document and to continue discussion at the September meeting.

Council accepted the reports from its subcommittees.

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for 8-9 September 2017.