
Minutes of the Seventy-Eighth Council Meeting – 15, 16, 19 June 2020
Via videoconference

Council

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

Secretariat Guy Germain (Director), Laurel Sakaluk (Manager), Alex Makar (Research Officer)

Guests Gregory Bloomquist (for agenda item 6 only – via videoconference)
Ryan Topping, Jason West (for agenda item 6 only – via videoconference)

Members were welcomed to the seventy-eighth meeting of the Campus Alberta Quality Council. It was Judith Eifert's last meeting on Council after serving as a member for 10 years and members held a special farewell for her.

1. Approval of minutes – 9-10 March 2020

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the 9-10 March 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.

3. 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:

- after reviewing further information it had requested from the institution, agreed to a request from the University of Calgary for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a Master of Engineering (Environmental Engineering) program and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program. The program was subsequently approved.
- after reviewing further information it had requested from the institution, agreed to a request from Concordia University of Edmonton for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a Master of Science in Information Technology program and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program. The program was subsequently approved.

- after reviewing further information it had received from the institution, agreed to a request from Grant MacEwan University for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Science (Chemistry) program and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program. The program was subsequently approved.
- after reviewing further information it had received from the institution, agreed to a request from the University of Calgary for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a Master of Information Security and Privacy program and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program. The program was subsequently approved.
- after reviewing further information it had received from the institution, agreed to a request from St. Mary's University for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 2-year Bachelor of Education (After Degree) Secondary program and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program. The program was subsequently approved.
- 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 4-year Bachelor of Commerce (Marketing, Human Resources Management) programs and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the programs.
- requested further information from Athabasca University regarding its request for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a 4-year Bachelor of Commerce (Indigenous Business) program.
- after reviewing further information it had received from the institution, agreed to a request from the University of Calgary for a fully expedited review of its proposal for a Master of Data Science and Analytics program and, after conducting a desk review, agreed to recommend to the Minister that he approve the program.
- began 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)'.

(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:

- continued its consideration of the results of St. Mary's University's cyclical review of its 3-year and 4-year Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) programs.
- continued its consideration of the results of Burman University's cyclical review of its Music Department.
- continued its consideration of the results of Concordia University of Edmonton's cyclical review of its 4-year Bachelor of Management program.
- began its consideration of the results of Grant MacEwan University's cyclical review of its 4-year Bachelor of Child and Youth Care program.
- began its consideration of the results of Grant MacEwan University's cyclical review of its 4-year Bachelor of Arts (8 majors) program.
- began consideration of a Comprehensive Evaluation Interim Progress report from SAIT.

4. Follow-up

Members discussed a Comprehensive Evaluation Interim Progress report from SAIT, reviewed an update from City University on plans for online learning, and reviewed an update on Red Deer College degree programs.

5. Discussion with Minister Demetrios Nicolaides

Although Minister Demetrios Nicolaides was scheduled to meet with members to discuss proposed changes to the degree program approval process, the Minister was unfortunately unable to meet with Council as scheduled. It was agreed that a special meeting would be scheduled with the Minister to discuss this topic (subsequently held on 24 August 2020). At the June meeting, members took the opportunity to begin a discussion and to review the background material included in the agenda.

6. Monitoring: Consideration of annual reporting

The MSC reported it had completed its review of all of the annual reporting from 19 institutions on 79 approved degree programs, and was now tasked with providing feedback to the institutions. It was also reported that collectively, institutions no longer report on 48 programs, which have completed their annual reporting requirement based on Council's review of the results of program cyclical reviews or as an outcome of a comprehensive evaluation.

In addition, MSC reported that after considering possible options for changing the annual reporting requirement, it decided that institutions will now be expected to submit monitoring reports on an annual, biennial or triennial cycle depending on their maturity in offering degree programming and/or the issues that need follow-up by Council.

7. Newman Theological College – consideration of a proposal for a 3-yr Bachelor of Arts in Catholic Studies

Newman Theological College is seeking approval to offer a new 3-yr Bachelor of Arts in Catholic Studies program. Dr. Gregory Blomquist, 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. Bloomquist for the team's report.

Subsequently, Dr. Jason West (President) and Dr. Ryan Topping (Vice President and Academic Dean) from Newman Theological College joined the meeting via videoconference to discuss the College's response to the report.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that Council recommend that the Minister of Advanced Education approve Newman Theological College's three-year Bachelor of Arts in Catholic Studies program.

CARRIED

Members **AGREED** to the issues to be addressed in the outcomes letter to the institution, including its expectations with respect to monitoring.

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for 1-2 October 2020.