



ACAT Council Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2016

SAIT, Rm MA317 (SMED), 3rd Floor, Heritage Hall, Calgary, AB

Present:

Council Members:

Robin Fisher (Chair), Marc Scholes, Roy Weasel Fat, Susan Radke, Madeline McVey, Brenda Leskiw, Susan Bangrove, Emily Macphail, Craig Monk

Via Teleconference:

Bob Boudreau (Vice-Chair), Christine Johns, Helen Salzl, Jim Gibbons

Government Resource Members:

Gilbert Perras, Executive Director, Operation, Alberta Advanced Education
Merla Bolender, Executive Director, Programs of Study and Resources for Implementation, Alberta Education

Secretariat: Ann Marie Lyseng, Eric Dohei

Regrets:

Tessa Cocchio, Jonathan Strand

Guests:

David Williams, Campus Alberta, Advanced Education
Rob Schlender, Ranuka Jinadasa, Ahmed Elhamahmy (LPMI Initiative, ITM Team)

Presenters:

Ron Woodward, Co-Chair, Dual Credit Steering Committee
Rozlynn Wick, Co-Chair, Dual Credit Steering Committee
Jerry Farwell, Director of Dual Credit, Bow Valley College
Joanne Duklas, ARUCC/PCCAT Transcript and Transfer Guide

Recorder:

Wendy Pruden, ACAT Secretariat

1. Introductions and Greetings

a. ACAT Chair

- Attendees welcomed and thanked for their time in attending the meeting
- Round table introductions for attendees and remote participants
- Dr. Fisher thanked SAIT for their hospitality in hosting Council on their campus

b. Host Welcome and Greetings to Council

- Brad Donaldson, Vice President Academic, welcomed Council to SAIT
 - SAIT believes ACAT has an important function in student success and transferability, and appreciates the ongoing work/initiatives by Council

2. Approval of October 8, 2015 Meeting Minutes

- Approved as circulated and approved for posting to the ACAT website

3. Chair's Update

- Ongoing work includes:
 - Annual Report 2015
 - Action Plan 2016-2018
 - Strategic Planning Session (May 2016)
 - Chair and Council Evaluations (May 2016)
 - Current interprovincial collaborations regarding LPMI common platforms that can adapt to unique regional requirements is going very well
 - Site Visits 2016 schedule will commence shortly
 - Research Plan – Council thanks the Ministry for their support in providing funding; the RFP is in development; possible research partnerships are being considered
 - Learner Outcomes Forum, in partnership with CAQC, is scheduled for May 18, 2016 at Mount Royal University; participant invitations will be going out shortly

- Completed Activities since last Council meeting:
 - Met with Deputy Minister Rod Skura
 - Discussed the pending Adult Learning and ACAT reviews
 - Board appointments - delayed pending review completion
 - Council was advised to not delay the nomination approval review/approval process and continue to submit recommendations to the Minister for his appointment consideration
 - Appointments in progress are for CCI, CARI, IAI and Public memberships
 - Site visits occurred at Grande Prairie Regional College and SAIT
 - Met with the Senior Academic Officers (SAO) and reported on the work/initiatives of ACAT
 - Met with the Deans of Education to update re ACAT work/initiatives
 - Attended the BCCAT Joint Articulation Chairs Meeting (JAM) in Vancouver
 - Attended the PCCAT Executive Strategic Planning Session in Toronto (with Wendy Pruden, PCCAT Director) to determine policies, strategic priorities, and sustainability going forward

4. ACAT Council Business and Committee Updates/Discussion

- **Articulation Committees (Marc Scholes – Chair):** Currently 17, 2 in development, and 1 system inquiry
 - **Articulation Committee Chairs/Vice-Chair Annual Meeting Update**
 - Met yesterday and thank you to SAIT for hosting the meeting
 - Articulation committees have a lot of momentum
 - A number of issues were identified and will be brought to Council for consideration re moving forward
 - The ACAT Secretariat is working very hard to support these committees and deserve recognition
 - Committee member's institutions cover the cost of attending meetings as they feel this collaboration supports their work
 - **MOTION:** Moved by Marc Scholes, seconded by Susan Banskrove to approve the Religious Studies Articulation Committee development. **CARRIED**

 - **Dual Credit Articulation Committee Discussion:**
 - Marc Scholes introduced the guest presenters (Ron Woodward, Rozlynn Wick and Jerry Farwell) who are here to share points raised at the recent articulation committee meeting
 - Dual Credit's key component is life-long learning and building a knowledge economy, and both of have been addressed very successfully by this initiative
 - Ron Woodward, former ACAT Chair and current Dual Credit Steering Committee Co-Chair, provide a brief history of ACAT's involvement since the inception of the initiative
 - The evaluation and reporting stages are underway, with a deadline of Spring 2017, to share successes, challenges and recommendations
 - The committee has recommended the development of a transition plan for 2016-17 with the adoption of the dual credit strategy becoming an enhancement mainstream programming in 2017-18.
 - **MOTION:** Moved by Marc Scholes, seconded by Susan Banskrove, that the Dual Credit Articulation Committee undertake research on the existing framework to collect a wide variety of

- data including funding sustainability. **CARRIED**
- **MOTION:** Moved by Marc Scholes, seconded by Susan Bangrove, to empower the ACAT Chair to raise and discuss concerns with the Minister. **CARRIED**
- **ACAT Sub-committees**
 - Articulation
 - Learner Pathways
 - Admissions – Jim Gibbons, Chair
 - The focus of the committee is to try and get a sense of the secondary to post-secondary less represented groups statistics
 - The committee membership is depleted; Emily Macphail will connect with Jim about the committee after this meeting
 - Research
 - Update was previously provided in ACAT Chair Update
- **Council Membership:** Review and decision re approval of proposed nominees (in-camera)
 - **MOTION:** Moved by Madeline McVey, seconded by Craig Monk that the CCI and IAI nominees be approved for recommendation to the Minister for appointment to the ACAT Council. **CARRIED**

5. CAQC Update – Peter Mahaffy, Co-Chair

- Mr. Mahaffy outlined CAQCs:
 - mandate, roles and primary responsibilities
 - membership and standing committees structure
 - core principles
 - current and recent initiatives
- Discussed areas of potential collaboration with ACAT Council and Articulation Committees:
 - Student learning outcomes
 - PLAR
 - Instructor qualifications
- Council members are invited to view the CAQC Annual Report and Action Plan on their website

LUNCH – Provided

6. Learning Outcomes Forum Update

- ACAT and CAQC are collaborating to deliver this forum in May 2016; a report will be provided at the Council meeting following the event
- Three speakers will be presenting about why, how, and assessment of learning outcomes
- It will be an overall active engagement learning session
- CAQC goal is to determine how learning outcomes impact assessment quality of new programs
- ACAT goal is to determine how learning outcomes will impact transfer
- ACAT Council will receive invitations to participate

8. Learner Pathways Modernization Initiative (LPMI) Business Assessment Update and Interprovincial Presentation – (PowerPoint presentation provided)

- Update since last meeting
 - Presented at the Annual Articulation Chair Meeting yesterday and they are very pleased with how things are progressing as it is hugely helpful to articulation
- Transfer Alberta Presence on ACAT Website
 - Website:
 - The website business requirements and initial wireframes are complete
 - Still building the Transfer Alberta website and will be doing analytics so we know how the user is using the system
 - Are reviewing content and topic areas of current site to determine residency of the website in preparation

- for the launch
 - Governance will need to be determined re control of web content while remembering it must be flexible allowing for many pathway opportunities (ie – Dual Credit, PLAR) and user options
 - Need to determine where to house the new site (existing site, own site, or couple with another)
 - **COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENSUS:** Website will stand alone to begin with and will be put on the ACAT website when it is built.
- Catalogue
 - Have worked with stakeholders and working groups to develop learner pathways catalogue
 - Working with pan-Canadian platform data dictionary so everyone has the same understanding of terminology
 - **COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENSUS:** Option C – Attach course outline.
 - **COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENSUS:** Course outlines will be visible to the institutions only; this was chosen as it is the institution who determines transfer credit and is primary user of this info; students use the course catalogue for their needs
- Data Conversion
 - Ready to begin data uploads: initially migrating data from current TAARS system into the catalogue. Next steps include engaging institutions to request additional data uploads (including other transfer arrangements and course/program information)
 - **COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENSUS:** the proposed data conversion process will move forward
- Inter-provincial Collaboration Update
 - The inter-provincial consortium (Ontario, , Manitoba, British Columbia and Alberta) collaboration in developing a common platform (called the Foundational Layer) is working collaboratively with each jurisdiction's unique requirements (called the Extension Layer) in mind. The Extension Layer provides additional functionality that can be “plugged” into the Foundational Layer. Extension Layers developed by other jurisdictions are available to all inter-Provincial consortium partners to adopt and use. Alberta's “extension layer” includes business intelligence reporting that gathers data like transfer credit awarded not available at a system level today.
- Communication Plan/Launch Plan
 - The timeline going forward was discussed
 - Council agreed that the communication plan needs to start now and must include all stakeholders
 - **COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENSUS:** Phase 2 Implementation Schedule will move forward with the discussed established project timelines and appropriate communications

9. Alberta Advanced Education Update: Gilbert Perras and David Williams

- **Adult Learning Review Update – Gilbert Perras**
 - Nothing new to report at this time
- **ACAT Review Update – Gilbert Perras**
 - ACAT will be reviewed in Phase 2.
 - A start date has not been determined
- **Ministry Update – Gilbert Perras**
 - The Ministry is now Advance Education and we have a new Minister – Marlin Schmidt
 - The Public Transparency Act guide released last week and no changes re Council honoraria disclosures
- **Campus Alberta Update – David Williams**
 - The new government has a new lens on post-secondary education and how best to best serve the students
 - Access, affordability, and quality are priorities
 - Campus Alberta entails legislation, regulation, policy and finances of the system
 - Looking forward to participating for a few hours at the May Council meeting
 - For information, the ACAT Chair shared the what is the role of an ACAT Council member – they are

representatives of the system and not their individual institutions when they are on Council business

10. ARUCC/PCCAT Update – Joanne Duklas

• **ARUCC PCCAT Transcript and Transfer Guide**

- Council was walked through the project via the report on the website (<http://guide.pccat.arucc.ca/en/>)
- The Guide is a national, online resource for Canadian registrarial and pathway practitioners and policy developers. It contains standards, definitions, and additional resources for close to 500 transcript and transfer credit terms in an online, searchable format. This resource is intended to encourage best practice and enhance student mobility and data portability.
-

11. ACAT Secretariat Updates/Discussion

• **Interchange Staff Position Update**

- This position is in negotiation discussion phase and is a 2 year Secondment specifically an Articulation Manager who will work with the articulation committees and the research group

• **Mobile APP Analytics**

- Analytics data was reviewed and discussed
- Even without an awareness campaign the use has increased double fold
- The data demonstrates that transfer is our pathway with the greatest activity
- High school upgrading is also a huge hit
- This is a great tool and we know we still have work to do about students knowing what we do and where we are going
- LPMI launch will create more awareness of the Transfer Alberta App and website

9. Next Meetings

• **Dates and Locations**

- **May 2, 2016 Strategic Planning Meeting in Edmonton – University of Alberta TBC**
- **May 3, 2016 Council Meeting in Edmonton – University of Alberta TBC (dinner May 2, location TBD)**
- **October 14, 2016 Council Meeting in Lethbridge – Lethbridge University TBC (dinner October 13 location TBD)**

Adjourned: 3:00 p.m. Safe Journey