



ACAT Council Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2016

2-31 South Academic Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB

- Present:**
- Council Members:**
Robin Fisher (Chair), Christine Johns, Susan Radke, Madeline McVey, Brenda Leskiw, Emily Macphail, Jim Gibbons, Roy Weasel Fat, Craig Monk
- Via Teleconference:**
Marc Scholes
- Government Resource Members:**
Gilbert Perras, Executive Director, Advanced Learning and Community Partnerships, Operations (Alberta Advanced Education)

Merla Bolender, Executive Director, Operations and Implementation Support Sector (Alberta Education)
- Observer:** Raja Panwar, Director, Special Projects Student Learning Standards Division (Alberta Education)
- Secretariat:**
Ann Marie Lyseng, Senior Manager, Learner Pathways/ACAT
Eric Dohei, Manager/ACAT
Clare Ard, Articulation Manager/ACAT
- Recorder:** Wendy Pruden, ACAT Secretariat
- Regrets:** Susan Bangrove, Jonathan Strand, Tessa Cocchio, Bob Boudreau (Vice-Chair), Helen Salzl
- Guests:** Rob Schlender, Ranuka Jinadasa, Ahmed Elhamahmy (LPMI Initiative, ITM Team)

1. Welcome

a. Chair

- Welcomed attendees
- Round table introductions were made
- University of Alberta welcome was presented by Dr. Sarah Forgie, Vice Provost, Learning Initiatives, on behalf of Dr. Steven Dew, Provost and Vice President (Academic)
 - UofA believes that ACAT, as an independent body, acts as a real advocate regarding transfer to students benefit
 - Dr. Forgie stated she is an example that transfer works as experienced in her journey through the post-secondary experience

b. Reflections from Day 1 Strategic Planning Session, May 2, 2016

- ACAT Chair will work with the Secretariat to finalize the draft Action Plan developed by Council
- Council will be kept apprised of developments re the ABC Review

2. Approval of March 4, 2016 Meeting Minutes

- a. Content approved as distributed and can be posted to the ACAT website

3. Chair Report - Dr. Fisher

- a. Council Membership
 - There are a number of vacancies and approvals are still on hold as well as a number of terms will expire between now and April 2017
 - Addressing vacancies and the appointment/re-appointment of members is a priority – Gilbert Perras will follow-up with the Ministry
- b. Inter-provincial Consortium
 - Collaboration with British Columbia and Manitoba is ongoing
 - Challenges and successes were shared
 - The legal requirements are in progress
 - Process next steps will be covered later in the agenda
- c. Ministry Meeting
 - In process of securing a date
 - Discussion items will include Dual Credit funding discussion as directed by Council at the March 4, 2016 Council meeting
 - Ministry changes over the past few years have been challenging but improvement is expected as both the Ministry and ACAT are very student centric with the goal of contributing to student success
- d. Site Visits
 - Visits are being scheduled over the summer and fall months
- e. Meetings Attended
 - BCCAT Forum on Dual Credit (April 17 – 19, 2016)
 - BC is experiencing a 20% increase in dual credit over the past year
 - 75% of the programs are technical and trades
 - Alberta's ACAT Dual Credit Articulation Committee Co-Chair, Rozlynn Wick (SAIT), provided a presentation at the forum about Dual Credit in Alberta
 - ONCAT Conference
 - Their funding model and legal entity governance is different than Alberta's and is reflected in the type and quantity of programming they can do
 - Their Minister attended the event and talked enthusiastically about ONCAT's accomplishments and ongoing work
 - Alberta Post-secondary Learning Outcomes Workshop: Sharing Principles, Barriers, and Effective Practices (May 18, 2016)
 - This is a joint initiative between ACAT, Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC), and the Ministry
 - Invitations have been sent to institutions to send 3 persons each, as well as to Council
 - Alberta Education requested an invitation to participate and are welcome to attend
 - LPMI Working Group Meetings – Advisory, Admissions and Transfer, Transfer Alberta Website/Search Tool
 - A number of meetings have occurred and are ongoing with extensive participation/input from stakeholders regarding new transfer system modernization and tools
 - Residency Discussion
 - A research consultant for an Alberta institution met with the ACAT Chair and Ann Marie Lyseng regarding residency and the impact on transfer
 - Changes have occurred across Canada and discussion will continue at the Pan-Canadian Consortium on Admission and Transfer (PCCAT) Conference in June.
 - BCCAT (Rob Adamoski) has been leading an alignment of a provincial common application system in conjunction with BCCAT's Education Planner for the transfer system. BCCAT has also connected with other jurisdictions/agencies, including ApplyAlberta, to gather information about their system for reference/research. BCCAT will share what it is able/appropriate from their application system information gathering and about their project when it is available.

4. ACAT Council Business and Committee Updates/Discussion

a. Articulation Committees (Marc Scholes – Chair):

- Eric Dohei reported in the absence of Marc Scholes
- Clare Ard, Articulation Manager (seconded from MacEwan University on a 2 year term) will allow for additional capacity in the area of articulation committees/work
- Religious Studies committee has been struck and is meeting monthly while in the development stage
- A number of articulation committee meetings have/are happening at this busy time of year
- Mathematics is working with BCCAT re a joint meeting
- Studio Based is exploring three program-area sub-committees
- Biological Science is working on block transfer revisions to their transfer chart
- Dual Credit Co-Chairs have been meeting weekly, with quarterly full committee meetings, and have provided the key questions for the Provincial Dual Credit Strategy partnership data collection by the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS).

b. ACAT Sub-committees

- i. Articulation
 - See above
- ii. Admissions
 - Emily Macphail volunteered to sit on this committee
 - Discussion about the work of the committee included current practices in the system and under-represented groups; and if a student is not accepted, where do they go
 - Robin Fisher and Jim Gibbons having time on the next Registrars' meeting agenda will be requested
- iii. Research
 - The funding is in place for the first phase of transfer credit research regarding transfer credit student success and the project invitation is going out soon

5. Chair and Council Evaluation

- A review was not done in previous years as Council membership has been in flux
- Council feels it is part of good governance and should be conducted this year
- It was agreed by consensus that the evaluation of the Chair and Council Members will proceed, and that the Secretariat will forward the updated evaluation forms to Council Members
- Council reviewed previous evaluation templates and discussed updates, which will be done by the Secretariat and then sent to Council for their completion

6. ACAT Council CARI Membership Nomination Review/Approval

- **Moved by** Christine Johns, **seconded by** Madeline McVey that the CARI nomination submitted be approved and forwarded to the Minister for his appointment consideration/approval
- Currently there are a number of pending appointment and re-appointment recommendations and 3 new appointment position recommendations pending

7. Annual Report 2015-2016

- A draft Chair letter and report were circulated for consideration
- By consensus, the Council approved the Annual Report 2015-2016 and thanked the Secretariat for their work on this document
- The report will be sent to the Minister in time for discussion at the next ACAT Chair/Minister meeting

8. Learner Pathways Modernization Initiative (LPMI) Update

- a. Communication Plan
 - Extensive discussion/demo of process, current status, and next steps were discussed
 - An update will be presented at the next ACAT Council Meeting in October
- b. Communication Implementation Plan
 - Extensive discussion and next steps were discussed and an update will be provided at the October Council meeting

LUNCH – Provided

9. Alberta Advanced Education Update: Gilbert Perras, Executive Director, Operations

- a. ABC ACAT Review
 - Once the reviewer contract has been awarded, the process will be determined
 - Council conference call and/or face-to-face meeting may be require as a part of the review
 - ACAT Secretariat and ACAT Chair will be kept apprised of next steps
- b. Ministry Updates provided re:
 - the budget
 - tuition fee two year freeze
 - Adult Learning Review, including system consultation and mobility and transfer
 - The Advanced Education Business Plan was released and posted on the website
 - The Public Sector Transparency Act is moving forward
 - Key work is happening around Indigenous reconciliation/TRC response and resources.

10. Alberta Education Update: Merla Bolender, Executive Director, Programs of Study and Resources

- Raja Panwar provided a presentation updating Council on current/ongoing initiatives
- A confidential draft framework was shared and feedback requested from Council
- Timelines were shared and Council will compile and send any additional feedback that Council Members may wish add via the Secretariat

11. ACAT Secretariat Updates/Discussion

- a. Summer Staffing (4 month student placement)
 - Interviews are complete and the selection is to be confirmed shortly
- b. Interprovincial work – ONCAT discussion/collaboration re the LPMI Learner Pathways Catalog continues
- c. LPMI 3rd Phase – roll out of new Learner Pathways System and Catalog (transfer technology and support) and redesigned Transfer Alberta website and Search Tool/App. The next phase, Phase 3, is set to start in October/November
- d. ACAT website, dual credit and PLAR modules/tools/website content, ACAT SharePoint site are occurring in Phase 3, as well as further updates to the Transfer Alberta website to accompany these changes
- e. The next issue of *Spotlight* will be finalized and out shortly
- f. Welcome Clare Ard, Articulation Manager, to the ACAT Secretariat
- g. Other
 - Perhaps a future agenda item regarding truth and reconciliation/TRC initiatives can be scheduled

12. Next Meeting Date/Location

- October 14, 2016 at University of Lethbridge (TBC)
- February date to be determined (possibly University of Calgary – TBD)

Adjourned: 3:00 p.m. Safe Journey