

Alberta Council on Admission and Transfer

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Meeting Name	Location	Date
Engineering Articulation Committee	University of Calgary	December 9, 2011 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Chair: Wendy Richer	Recorder: Wendy Richer	

In Attendance	
1.	Dr. Robert (Bert) Hunt – Grande Prairie Regional College
2.	Dr. Shelley Lorimer – Grant MacEwan University (via teleconference)
3.	Clare Ard – Grant MacEwan University (via teleconference)
4.	Louis Dingley – Keyano College
5.	Dr. Hamed Bahri – Medicine Hat College
6.	Dr. Sean Maw – Mount Royal University
7.	Dr. Janice Miller-Young – Mount Royal University
8.	Dr. Wei Zhao – Red Deer College
9.	Dr. Bryan Rowsell – Red Deer College
10.	Dr. Ken Porteous – University of Alberta
11.	Doug Clark – University of Alberta
12.	Dr. Steve Norman – University of Calgary
13.	Lorraine Ewert – University of Calgary
14.	Dr. David Siminovitch – University of Lethbridge
15.	Shawn Johnsrude – University of Lethbridge
16.	Kevin Shufflebotham – Alberta Council on Admissions and Transfer
17.	Wendy Richer – Alberta Council on Admissions and Transfer

AGENDA	
1.	Welcome and opening remarks
2.	Report on 2011-2012 program and student admissions
3.	Engineering course updates/articulation issues
4.	Proposed course and admission requirement changes for 2012-2013
5.	New ACAT Articulation Committee model
6.	Other business/next meeting

Meeting Notes	
1. Welcome and opening remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wendy Richer welcomed everyone and thanked the University of Calgary for hosting the meeting. Kevin Shufflebotham provided opening remarks, which was followed by roundtable introductions. - There was a call for additional Agenda items, and the University of Alberta requested the addition of "Block Transfer Chart".

<p>2. Report on 2011-2012 program and student admissions</p>	<p><u>University of Alberta (U of A)</u> (Dr. Ken Porteous/Doug Clark)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A handout was distributed outlining Fall 2011 Applications/Admissions to Second Year from Engineering Transfer Programs. A second handout was distributed listing the 2011-2012 undergraduate enrollment numbers by program. - U of A has been over-enrolled in previous years and anticipates 2012-2013 enrolments to be 3,600. - Based on second-year success rates from the previous year and enrolment demand, U of A is raising their GPA for transfer students from 2.0 to 2.5, but would admit students with a lower GPA based on space availability. - Last year approximately half of students came from U of A's Faculty of Science, and no students admitted with a GPA under 3.5. - U of A's high school admission average will be changed to 81. Grades are higher than in previous years and that the trend continues to be even higher. - Admission to co-op programs was discussed, and U of A advised that 380-390 students were scheduled for co-op placements. - U of A will be accredited in 2012 (CEAB), which will include a review of their course syllabus, assignment samples, papers and exams completed by students. CEAB is looking at changing their system based on outcomes. <p><u>University of Calgary (U of C)</u> (Dr. Steve Norman)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experienced similar trends as those at U of A, with record number high school admissions. Guaranteed admission is 80. - Transfer students (from various institutions) take spaces not filled by high school students (2.7 GPA). - For second-year, they place 97% of students with their own successful students and the remainder to transfer students (which are mostly from other U of C programs and Mount Royal University). There is stiff competition from Mount Royal University students. The cut-off GPA was 3.0. Many students requesting Mechanical were not able to be placed, so were placed in Civil. Expect enrollments to be similar next year. - U of A indicated that APEGGA has been reviewing the addition of 2,000 spaces to fulfill shortfalls. - No plans to change their curriculum for next year. - Had an accreditation visit (CEAB) and it went very well, and their numbers and materials were viewed very favorably. <p><u>Mount Royal University (MRU)</u> (Dr. Janice Miller-Young/Dr. Sean Maw)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Took in 130 students in Fall, with students being admitted up to mid-August. They can admit up to 25 students in the Winter session. - Total number of applications is increasing. - For second-year students, they increased their 50% prerequisite. - There was discussion about the new Physics curriculum, which may have impacted enrolment.
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Keyano College (Keyano) (Louis Dingley)

- A small number of students were enrolled with 10 accepted this Fall (expected 10-15). Last year there were 18-19.
- Admission requirements were increased to 80%.
- Students were screened on pre-algebra tests to identify knowledge gaps.
- There has been increased interest in their program.

Red Deer College (RDC) (Dr. Wei Zhao/Dr. Bryan Rowsell)

- Enrollment last year was 57 (anticipated 60).
- Admission is 65% for high school courses and 50% for individual courses.

University of Lethbridge (U of L) (Dr. David Siminovitch/Shawn Johnsrude)

- Students' mathematics background/preparation is a concern.
- This Fall there were 12 students enrolled and 9 enrolled for Spring. These numbers are down and they are unsure of the contributing factors.
- It was noted that adjustments were made by U of A to U of L students' GPA. U of A indicated that all institutions' students are subject to the same GPA (2.5) and adjustments, and that they advise students that their averages may be adjusted.
- Concerns were raised about the increased GPA requirements. U of A indicated the decision was made based on a number of factors, including space and demand.
- Grande Prairie Regional College indicated that their 4-day boot camp (offered prior to registration) helps students to understand what is required for the program.
- RDC advised that many students are not accepted into U of A, and that institutions are looking at accommodating these students by providing them an opportunity to take first year.

Grant MacEwan University (GMU) (Dr. Shelley Lorimer/Clare Ard)

- Enrolled 195 students (were aiming for 216), similar to last year.
- GMU indicated the 2.5 GPA requirement for second year is an issue for their students. U of A anticipates competition will continue, but they will review their admission numbers and assess these for future forecasting.
- GMU has 2 full-time faculty (previously 1), and receive support from their Science program.

Grande Prairie Regional College (GPRC) (Dr. Robert (Bert) Hunt)

- Offers 4-day boot camp, which is very helpful to students.
- Expressed concern with student math skills.
- It is important that students be aware of the program requirements so they can be successful.
- GMU indicated their students not admitted into the Engineering programs move to other programs and most are successful.
- GPRC expressed thanks to U of A for the assistance given to their students.

	<p><u>Medicine Hat College (MHC)</u> (Dr. Hamed Bahri)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15 students enrolled this year, and 20-22 last year. - Have no GPA cut-off, with a few students having greater than 75%.
	<p>U of A asked institutions whether their Engineering Math courses are different than those taken by their Science students. The following feedback was relayed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GPRC/MHC – Math courses for Engineering and Science are different. - U of L – Engineering has one set of Math courses, with a different set for Science students. Recommended “Quick Calculus” as a good handbook to assist students entering first-year Science. - RDC – offer the necessary Engineering Math courses. - MRU – Math courses are different than those taken by Science students. They offer a BSc, but have had a number of Science students transfer in past. - U of C – has first-year Math courses. Calculus is more complicated in terms of requirements, and students have the option of Pure Math, Calculus and Applied Math. There is overlap for Engineering and Science students. - GMU - their Math courses are the same as those offered at the U of A. There are different courses offered for Engineering than those for Science.
3. Engineering course updates/ articulation issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - U of C first- and second-year courses will remain stable. - U of A is not planning any course changes, and plan to continue to offer MatLab.
4. Proposed course and admission requirement changes for 2012-2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There was an inquiry about the status of MRU’s transfer program, and they indicated no changes will be made to their current transfer arrangement. - MRU is looking at expanding their second year in certain areas. In addition, they will be hiring to fill a retiring faculty member. - GMU requested clarification from U of A about students with prior post-secondary studies receiving a .3 adjustment. U of A advised that students with any post-secondary studies are faced with a .3 adjustment as they are advantaged over students coming directly from high school. This creates a level playing field for all students. If students do not enter directly from high school or do not enter first-year through U of A, all students that apply are given a .3 adjustment. - GMU inquired if a student took extra credits in Spring, would the transfer credit would be accepted by U of A, but U of A responded it would not be.
5. New ACAT Articulation Committee Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACAT provided background on articulation committees, and an update on Council’s plan for expansion. An articulation committee for Business was struck in 2011, and work on the Child and Youth committee has commenced. In addition, committees for Sociology and Psychology will be looked at in 2012. - It is important to expand on the good that current committees are accomplishing. - At the last meeting, a draft Terms of Reference was presented. Prior to this meeting, ACAT and U of A revised the draft Terms of Reference. Following discussion on roles and responsibilities, the revised Terms of Reference was approved by the committee.

6. Other business and Next Meeting	<p>Additional Agenda item – Engineering Block Transfer Chart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - U of A suggested the Engineering Block Transfer Chart title be changed to “Engineering Transfer Programs”. The group discussed and agreed to the change, which will be made by ACAT. - GPRC indicated their institution is not located in an ideal location to host but would be willing to assist in other ways. It was suggested that Edmonton/Calgary would be the best locations to hold meetings and that the location rotate. - It was recommended that GMU host next year’s meeting and GMU agreed. Next year’s meeting will be December 7, 2012 (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) at GMU.
	The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.