

## **Psychology Articulation Committee MTG**

April 29, 2014  
MacEwan University

### **Minutes**

Mtg called to order 1:10pm.

**Attendance noted on Agenda, Attached.**

**Institutional updates**, Available on share point site.

#### **Update on BCCAT Psychology Articulation Committee activities provided by Rajiv Jhangiani.** (Extra documents provided to ACAT for upload to share point site).

BCCAT Psychology Articulation has been active for a long time. Most work is done via listserv, but annual meetings (requiring physical attendance) last 1 to 1.5 days, in order to create lasting relationships that facilitate working together on sometimes thorny issues. Rajiv explained two major areas of work that the committee has undertaken. First, the committee helped to create a flexible pre-major plan in Psychology. In essence, the plan identifies a set of courses across all institutions which, when taken, provide the background to major in Psychology at any BC institution. These courses are Intro(2), Research Methods, Statistics. These are then supplemented by any 2 of the following 6: Biological, Cognitive, Developmental, Abnormal, Social, History (conceptual foundations). This agreement is informal but widespread among BC institutions. Second, the committee was involved in the study of transfer in BC and showed (very similar to Alberta studies by ACAT) that transfer is no longer a consistent pattern of “sending” and “receiving” institutions; instead, students are transferring among many institutions — all are both sending and receiving. Smaller issues the committee has discussed: Instructor qualifications both specifically in the context of AP courses, but also more generally, solutions for courses on a particular topic but taught at different levels by different institutions, residency requirements. In addition, Rajiv discussed an attempt by the BC College of Psychologists to get the term “Psychologist” legally restricted to College members. This attempt was defeated by concerted action by academic psychologists across BC institutions.

At the upcoming BCCAT Psychology mtg, topics of discussion will include open textbooks, reports from APA on revised learning goals for psychology majors, and for intro psych, as well as skills assessment for psychology students including both academic and employment skills.

**Alberta Education Update provided by Janis Irvin:** Brief statement on Social Sciences curricula (very outdated) and ongoing curriculum redesign overview.  
(Document provided for upload to share point site).

**ACAT update provided by Eric Dohei:** General updates on council activities and on the new share point system for articulation committee support. ACAT will be contacting all committee members in order to provide sign-on information for share point.  
(Documentation available on ACAT website and share point site).

**ACAT questions for articulation committee:** To be answered on the institutional update forms, which will all be put onto the share point site. This is one avenue for “grassroots” feedback to get to ACAT and from there to rise into the ministry.

**Questions to ACAT from committee:** Several suggestions were made for improvements to the transfer system, in particular ways to encourage the bigger institutions to create transfer agreements, including automatic bi-directional and “triangular” agreements. The bigger institutions have little incentive to make their systems more transparent (and, to be fair, it requires quite a lot of resourcing to do so), but this makes the system harder for students and other institutions to navigate. Eric Dohei indicated that some of the suggestions might be met by the new tools for transfer that are being developed as part of the web presence re-development.

New Chair Selection:

**Nancy Digdon, MacEwan University, selected as Chair**, beginning 2014-2015.

**Alisa McArthur, St. Mary’s University College, selected as Vice-Chair**, beginning 2014-2015.

Next meeting set for **May 4, 2015 at St Mary’s University College in Calgary** (tentative). Plan for sharing all documentation from this meeting on the share point site were explained.

MTG adjourned at 3:55pm.