

# Alberta Council on Admissions and Transfer

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Meeting Name	Location	Date
Sociology Articulation Committee	Grant MacEwan University 10700 - 104 Avenue (Edmonton) Room: 6-396B (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Building 6)	November 1, 2012 (12:00 - 3:00 p.m.)
Chair: Tami Bereska, Grant MacEwan University		Recorder: Wendy Richer, ACAT Secretariat

Committee Members	Attended
1. Tony Simmons – Athabasca University	✓
2. Efa Etoroma – Concordia University College	✓
3. Tami Bereska, Grant MacEwan University	✓
4. Krista Robson – Red Deer College	X
5. Herbert Northcott – Univeristy of Alberta	X
6. Gillian Ranson – University of Calgary	✓
7. Muriel Mellow – University of Lethbridge	✓

ACAT Secretariat	Attended
1. Kevin Shufflebotham, ACAT Senior Manager	✓

AGENDA	
1.	Welcome
2.	Introductions
3.	Articulation Committee Background
4.	Terms of Reference Review
5.	Election of Chair and Vice-Chair
6.	Institution Updates
7.	Next Steps
8.	Next Meeting Location
9.	Adjournment

Meeting Notes	
1. Welcome	Tami welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Introductions	Committee members introduced themselves.
3. Articulation Committee Background (Kevin Shufflebotham)	Kevin thanked Grant MacEwan University (GMU) for hosting the meeting and provided an overview of ACAT, Council membership, and the Alberta Transfer System. Kevin also discussed priority areas for Council, including learner outcomes, articulations committees, and communication.

	<p>Kevin distributed the draft Articulation Committee Orientation document and discussed the role of Articulation committees. An overview of the draft Terms of Reference document, included in the Orientation package, was also provided.</p> <p>Discussion ensued on how Articulation committees support Campus Alberta and topics typically discussed at Articulation committees. Committee members also noted that it is important to understand why students are mobile.</p>
<p>4. Terms of Reference Review</p>	<p>Committee members reviewed the draft Terms of Reference. It was agreed that Wendy would capture all the suggested changes and forward the revised document to members for their review.</p> <p>It was also agreed that future meetings would be scheduled sometime between Thanksgiving and Halloween.</p> <p>Wendy agreed to provide the committee with a list of ACAT's Contact Persons as it is important that these individuals be aware of upcoming meetings and any relevant outcomes as they play an important communication role among the different program areas within their institution.</p>
<p>5. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair</p>	<p>The committee unanimously agreed that Tami continue as Chair. The position of Vice-Chair was discussed, and Efa agreed to be Vice-Chair.</p>
<p>6. Institution Updates</p>	<p><u>Concordia University College of Alberta</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- working on a four-year program</li> <li>- other than the professional programs, Sociology is in the top three</li> <li>- have a three-year program with a concentration (no major)</li> <li>- three full-time faculty and a few sessional members</li> </ul> <p><u>Grant MacEwan University</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- second largest group of majors (after Psychology) in the Faculty of Arts</li> <li>- 400-500 students in Sociology major/minor</li> <li>- Sociology courses are popular as electives</li> <li>- some Sociology courses are integrated as part of a two-year diploma (i.e., Police and Investigation integrated three Sociology courses in its program, and their two-year Social work program has a number of Sociology courses), but university-level courses taught to students not in a baccalaureate program may not have the academic requirements</li> <li>- has a Sociology honours program, which is relatively small (five students)</li> <li>- had their first five-year CAQC review and it went well</li> <li>- working on funding issues to meet student demand</li> </ul>

### University of Calgary

- fairly large department as it merged with three other faculties
- Faculty of Arts is second or third largest department with 450 majors in the four-year program
- being encouraged to retain a Criminology concentration and to offer a Criminology type concentration in other programs
- revising its Stats courses
- has an honours program
- liaises with Red Deer College as they offer a program, as well as with Mount Royal University as they are looking at bringing their honour students together

### University of Lethbridge

- currently have 9 faculty members
- in last 10 years, have developed stronger cultural studies components
- looking at expanding Graduate programs, reviewing curriculum
- looking at streamlining curriculum, standardizing the number of junior and senior level courses, with a shift upwards so that students take more senior level courses. Goal is to assist students in order to increase student success.
- Interdisciplinary program has been in place last 5-6 years and is going well, and also facilitates a number of interdisciplinary discussions
- Sociology changes have involved a cultural shift

### Athabasca University

- has been through a major structural reorganization, which resulted in the development of larger groups
- regarding enrolment, statistics are generated differently (FTE), with approximately 350-400 students per year
- 22-25 Sociology courses offered, four of which Tony teaches but he is responsible for 10 courses. In addition, he is a course coordinator for the courses.
- many courses are taught by tutors and sessional instructors
- Psychology has larger enrolments than Sociology, but Sociology has larger enrollments than others
- have 5-6 faculty members
- courses must be produced as a digital product. Before (when textbooks were used), there was less leeway with regard to change. Now electronic textbooks seem to be a business. Often other academics are contracted to develop the courses as they do not always have the resources to develop the courses.
- is looking at putting forward a new major "Peace and Conflict Studies"
- also looking at getting back at offering courses in prisons, but there is currently no funding available from the Federal Government

7. Next Steps	<p>ACAT to finalize Meeting Notes and Terms of Reference and forward to committee members for their review and feedback.</p> <p>ACAT to forward list of Contact Persons to committee members.</p> <p>ACAT to double check on the posting of Meeting Notes on its website.</p> <p>Chair to check on the inclusion of King's University College and Mount Royal University on the committee.</p> <p>Chair and Vice-Chair to continue to communicate with committee members on a needs basis.</p> <p>Additions to Agenda for next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- outcome-based system, specifically the evaluation of transfer credits</li> <li>- approaches to textbooks and the challenges regarding web learning tools</li> <li>- instructor qualifications as it applies to an outcome-based system</li> </ul>
8. Next Meeting Location	<p>Host does not need to be decided today, but could be determined a couple month's prior to the next meeting. The U of L indicated they could perhaps host. The institutions not able to attend today's meeting may also be interested in hosting.</p>
9. Adjournment	<p>Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.</p>

<b>Delegated Tasks</b>		<b>Person Responsible</b>
1.	Finalize Meeting Notes and Terms of Reference documents and forward to committee for their review and feedback.	Wendy Richer
2.	Forward list of Contact Persons to committee.	Wendy Richer
3.	Post finalized Meeting Notes on ACAT website.	Wendy Richer
4.	Contact King's University College and Mount Royal University regarding their attendance at the next meeting.	Chair/Vice-Chair
5.	Determine next meeting date and prepare Agenda.	Chair/Vice-Chair