

## Academic Council Meeting

Friday, April 1st, 2022; 1:00 pm PDT  
Via Microsoft Teams

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### Attendees:

Sheldon Levy (UCW President and AC Chair)

Gelareh Farhadian, Michele Vincenti, Larry Earnhart, George Drazenovic, Kristine McLellan (Chairs)

Nam Le, Salvador Trevino (Faculty Member)

Sitora Azimova (Vice President Administration)

Adrian Mitescu (University Librarian and Interim Secretary)

Henrique Gea (Registrar)

Anne Janousek, Sumit Agarwal (Support Staff Representatives)

Catherine Vertesi (UCW Board of Governors Representative)

### Regrets:

Maureen Mancuso (Vice-President Academic)

### Absences:

Paul Fontaine, Penny Farley, Eli Sopow (Faculty Representatives)

Gabriel Anaya Issa, Aashna Arya (Student Representatives)

### Guests:

Harpreet Ahluwalia (Project Manager, Transfer & Institutional Partnerships)

Amy Hua (Director, Scheduling & Curriculum)

Rahul Agarwal (Curriculum Advisor)

Drea Brake (Manager of Scheduling Services)

Cassie Savoie (Director, Academic Operations and Support Services)

Heidi Rolfe (UCW Compliance Officer)

Carla Shore, Mike Benke, Wahiba Chair (Faculty)

Rebecca Pottruff, Taran Gill (Administrative Support)

### Acknowledgement

*We acknowledge that the territories on which UCW and its campuses are situated are the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations. We thank them for having cared for this land since time immemorial, honour their graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here, and iterate our dedication to valuing the ongoing contributions of Indigenous peoples and communities.*

**The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm PDT.**

#### 1. Welcome

**S. Levy**

Sheldon welcomed attendees and thanked everyone for joining online.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda (document distributed)

**S. Levy**

**Motion:** To approve agenda as presented

**Moved:** M. Vincenti     **Seconded:** A. Mitescu

**Motion carried unanimously**

#### 3. Approval of Minutes (documents distributed)

**S. Levy**

a) Minutes from Academic Council meeting on March 4th, 2022

**Motion:** To approve meeting minutes of the Academic Council from March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, as presented.

**Moved:** A. Janousek     **Seconded:** K. McLellan

**Motion carried unanimously**

#### 4. President's Report

**S. Levy**

Sheldon noted the following items in his report:

- The President began by introducing two guests to Council, Catherine Vertesi, Vice-President of the UCW Board of Governors and Heidi Rolfe, Compliance Officer with GUS Canada and GUS Global who is focused on UCW.
- The President remarked on a relatively smooth operation of the campus following the lifting of the mask mandate in BC. Several institutions across Canada are reflecting again upon the optional mask policy with consideration to a potential sixth wave of the COVID 19 virus. UCW has always followed the guidance of the health authorities and will continue to monitor any changes recommendations being given to post-secondary institutions. The UCW community will be kept informed should any changes occur.
- UCW must consider administering two honorary doctorates at upcoming convocations. With the permission of Council, a committee will be swiftly assembled to ensure that this objective is achieved. Should any members of council know of any individuals who would be appropriate candidates for consideration, they are encouraged to submit them to A. Mitescu. One candidate has already been selected.

- A. Mitescu is looking for AC members to join the ad hoc committee (staff, student, and a faculty or Chair).
- The President informed Council that following the review by DQAB, the proposals for the Master of Global Governance and Advocacy, and the Master of Entrepreneurship were deemed not ready to be approved. The President appreciates the hard work of all those involved in the program proposals.
- The President received word from the director of the review that there is a growing confidence in UCW, who also encouraged community members to view the response to the programs as a path forward to achieving an approval. The President received praise on behalf of the institution for the response to the annual DQAB report, and UCW's work with Indigenous communities.

## 5. Committee Reports (documents distributed)

### a) Policy Committee

A. Mitescu

The policy committee did not meet during March as no policies or procedures were presented for review or discussion.

### b) University Curriculum Council

A. Hua

Seven new courses and course revisions were passed by the UCC at their most recent meeting, and were presented for AC approval by individuals associated with the proposal at this meeting.

The President requested that all seven proposals be moved on to the agenda.

**Motion:** To bring the seven courses as presented by UCC onto the agenda

**Moved:** *L. Earnhart*      **Seconded:** *M. Vincenti*

**Motion carried**

### Revisions to Existing Courses (documents distributed):

#### c) MRKT 621-Marketing Management

M. Akhgari

Revisions were presented by Chair Farhadian in M. Akhgari's absence. BUSI 601-Ethics, CSR, and Business Analysis, was added as the pre-requisite to MRKT 621-Marketing Management.

**Motion:** To approve existing course revision MRKT 621 – Marketing Management as presented

**Moved:** *S. Levy*      **Seconded:** *M. Vincenti*

**Motion carried unanimously**

#### d) COMM 405- Advanced Media and Communications Writing

C. Shore

C. Shore presented revisions for COMM 405. COMM 405 is a third-tier course revised to build upon COMM 205-Writing for Media, which was updated the AC last year. The updated focuses on more practical and collaborative communication skills and exercises.

**Motion:** To approve existing course revision COMM 405 – Advanced Media and Communications Writing as presented

**Moved:** *S. Levy*    **Seconded:** *K. McLellan*

**Motion carried unanimously**

**e) OPMT 301 – Operations Management**

**G. Drazenovic**

Chair Drazenovic presented revisions to OPMT 301 on behalf of J. Ha who was absent. The revisions included a general update, the use of a zero-cost textbook, and a less intense focus on mathematics to be more of a generalist course.

**Motion:** To approve existing course revision OPMT 301 – Operations Management as presented

**Moved:** *S. Levy*    **Seconded:** *L. Earnhart*

**Motion carried unanimously**

**f) MGMT 401 – Project Management**

**G. Drazenovic**

Chair Drazenovic presented revisions to MGMT 401 on behalf of C. Nwoye who was absent. Revisions included updating the course text, redistributing assessments, and consolidating course learning outcomes. Harvard Business Cases included in the course do not necessitate any additional costs to be paid by students.

**Motion:** To approve existing course revision MGMT 401- Project Management as presented

**Moved:** *S. Levy*    **Seconded:** *G. Drazenovic*

**Motion carried unanimously**

**New course Proposals (documents distributed):**

**g) BUSI 496 – Sustainable Business Practices**

**M. Benke**

M. Benke presented a new course, BUSI 496-Sustainable Business Practices. The course covers topics such as sustainability, risk management, and process management in relation to sustainability.

**Motion:** To approve new course BUSI 496 – Sustainable Business Practices as presented

**Moved:** *S. Levy*    **Seconded:** *M. Vincenti*

**Motion carried unanimously**

**h) PUBR 304 – Risk Communication**

**W. Chair & C. Savoie**

C. Savoie and W. Chair presented PUBR 304- Risk Communication, a tier 3 course in the BABC program which can be used as a part of the PR specialization. PUBR 304 would be a core course for the BABC program and a potential elective for BCOM students. The presenters would like to call the course “Risk and Crisis Communication”. The course will make use of case studies, be taught using various delivery

modes, and centralize around communications planning. The course has been developed using a local, 2021, Open Educational Resource.

**Motion:** To approve new course PUBR 304 – Risk Communication (with the change in title to Risk and Crisis Communication).

**Moved:** *S. Levy*    **Seconded:** *G. Drazenovic*

**Motion carried unanimously**

**i) COMM 360 – Digital Storytelling**

**C. Savoie**

C. Savoie presented COMM 360 on behalf of K. Tankard who was absent. COMM 360 would be part of the new core for BABC program, and was developed based on feedback from the Program Advisory Committee and Karen’s professional experience. COMM 360 builds upon COMM 105-Conversational Writing Tools and COMM 260-Content Creation. The course focuses on interviewing skills, podcast production and audio editing. Editing software will be provided to students.

**Motion:** To approve new course COMM 360 – Digital Storytelling as presented

**Moved:** *S. Levy*    **Seconded:** *M. Vincenti*

**Motion carried unanimously**

**6. Old Business**

**a) Academic Council Retreat**

**A. Mitescu**

The retreat will be held April 8th at the Fairmont Hotel Vancouver. The meeting time is 8:30am, sessions will begin promptly at 9 am. The agenda for the retreat has been circulated, and input will be collected from those attending. A. Mitescu will be following up with those who have not yet responded to the invitation.

**7. New Business**

**a) List of Graduands for Approval (documents distributed)**

**H. Gea**

i) H. Gea, the Registrar, presented the list of graduands to the council for their approval.

**Motion:** To approve list of graduands as presented

**Moved:** *H. Gea*    **Seconded:** *A. Mitescu*

**Motion carried unanimously**

ii) H. Gea proposed that an additional council meeting be held to approve graduands who have not yet been added to the list due to the delays caused by grade processing. The President alternatively proposed that council either approves graduands not currently on the list by electronic vote, or by giving authority to the Registrar on behalf of Council to approve names added to the list. This authorization would be given on the basis that the Registrar’s Office will do the necessary due diligence to confirm that the graduands added to the list have met the requirements for graduation.

**Motion:** To give authorisation to the Registrar to amend the graduating list as necessary until the end of May to complete graduation for students as quickly as possible.

**Moved:** *S. Levy*    **Seconded:** *K. McLellan*

**Motion carried unanimously**

**b) Proposal to accept transfer credits from Pearl Academy**

**H. Ahluwalia**

An AC policy states that AC does not deal with institutions that do not have accreditation in the country they are located in. An exception was requested, the exceptions for these cases must be made by AC must as it is an AC policy and is not one held by Administration. The President summarized that Pearl Academy is not accredited in its country of origin, India to limit government interference but is highly regarded as a prestigious institution both domestically and internationally. Members held a discussion around the merits of making an exception to the AC policy regarding non-accredited institutions.

**Motion:** To accept transfer credits from Pearl Academy as presented

**Moved:** *S. Levy*    **Seconded:** *G. Farhadian*

**Motion carried** (Motion passed with 1 vote against, 1 abstention and 12 votes in favour)

**New Partnership Agreements (documents distributed)**

**c) International Gateway Kelowna (IGK)**

**H. Ahluwalia**

IGK is a current partner of UCW, H. Ahluwalia proposed a partnership agreement which will create a pathway for IGK students into the BCOM degree.

**Motion:** To approve partnership agreement with International Gateway Kelowna as presented

**Moved:** *A. Mitescu*    **Seconded:** *M. Vincenti*

**Motion carried unanimously**

**d) Insignia College**

**H. Ahluwalia**

H. Ahluwalia proposed a partnership agreement which will create a pathway from business programs at Insignia to the BCOM degree.

**Motion:** To approve agreement with Insignia College as presented

**Moved:** *S. Levy*    **Seconded:** *M. Vincenti*

**Motion carried unanimously**

**e) Keystone College**

**H. Ahluwalia**

An agreement was previously signed with this institution in 2020, prior to the update of the degree programs. The proposal brought before council was a rework of the original 2020 agreement, which now includes pathways to the BCOM program and the MBA degree. A comparative discussion took place regarding granting IGK students transfer credit for UCW as general electives or specific MBA courses.



**Motion:** To approve agreement with Keystone College as presented

**Moved:** *L. Earnhart*     **Seconded:** *A. Janousek*

**Motion carried** (Motion passed with 1 vote against, 1 abstention and 12 votes in favour)

#### **7. Other Business**

No further business.

#### **8. Adjournment**

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting

**Moved:** *A. Mitescu*     **Seconded:** *A. Janousek*

**Motion carried unanimously**

**S. Levy**

*Meeting adjourned at 2:04 pm.*

