

Academic Council Meeting
Friday, June 3rd, 2022; 1:00 pm PDT
Via Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

Attendees:

Sheldon Levy (Chair)

Gelareh Farhadian, Michele Vincenti, Laurence Earnhart (Chairs)

Stephanie Chu (Executive Dean)

Adrian Mitescu (University Librarian/Interim Secretary)

Eli Sopow, Salvador Trevino, Nam Le, Alex Sakharov (Faculty)

Henrique Gea (Registrar)

Anne Janousek (Support Staff Representatives)

Regrets:

Maureen Mancuso (Vice-President Academic)

Penny Farley (Faculty)

Catherine Vertesi (UCW Board of Governors Representative)

Absences:

Paul Fontaine (Faculty)

George Drazenovic (Chair)

Gabriel Anaya Issa, Aashna Arya (Student Representatives)

Guests:

Jason Walker (Chair of the Research Ethics Committee)

Harpreet Ahluwalia (Project Manager, Transfer & Institutional Partnerships)

Amy Hua (Director, Scheduling & Curriculum)

Cassie Savoie (Director, Academic Operations and Support Services)

Heidi Rolfe (UCW Compliance Officer)

Taran Gill, Rebecca Pottruff (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), **Sḵwxwú7mesh** (Squamish) and **Selílwitlh** (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 1:01 pm PDT.

1. Welcome

S. Levy

President Levy welcomed Council Members and guests to the online meeting. The Council meeting began with a land acknowledgement (as written above).

2. Approval of Agenda (document distributed)

S. Levy

Motion: To approve agenda as presented

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

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes (document distributed)

S. Levy

a) Minutes from Academic Council meeting on May 6th, 2022

S. Chu requested her name be added to the list of regrets.

Motion: To approve minutes of the Academic Council May 6th meeting as presented

Moved: A. Mitescu **Seconded:** G. Farhadian

Motion carried unanimously.

4. President's Report

S. Levy

President Levy noted the following items in his report:

- The Hub 2.0 strategy is moving forward, which has originated from a group of faculty members to create business opportunities for UCW students. A paper on this subject will be shared with the Academic Council, the Secretariat was requested to assist in the distribution of this information.
- An update regarding Pender Campus was shared, articulating the intention to create a more professional campus to support UCW faculty, students, and the Hub. Spatial planning for the Pender Campus is underway, the Board is informed, and Academic Council, as well as the UCW community will receive communication as the project progresses.
- A "Future Ready Skills Plan" has been started by the Government, employing consultation with various parties in which UCW has been asked to participate. UCW's whitepaper addressed many similar topics including the skills gap and demographic transition in BC.

- a. The President requested that in response to G. Farhadian’s inquiry, the VP Academic speak to UCW’s plan to incorporate desirable skills as determined by the Government into programs at the next Academic Council meeting.
- President Levy shared personal thoughts regarding the Honorary Degrees process centering around the importance of confidentiality around nominees to maintain relationships. To minimize the potential for the dissemination of this confidential information, the President recommends that the processes be changed to reflect that the list of nominees is a recommendation to the president rather than being presented to the entirety of Academic Council.
- A. Mitescu presented the S.R. Hosseinifar report evaluating the Writing Coaches program. 121 hours of coaching were delivered in May, writing workshops are being developed for students, and policies and procedures have been developed for the coaching services.

5. Committee Reports

a) Policies Committee

[No report]

No report or items were submitted by the Policy Committee.

b) University Curriculum Committee

[No report]

No report or items were submitted by the Policy Committee.

c) Honorary Degrees and Awards Committee

M. Vincenti

The committee first met on May 25th in accordance with policy 2500. Communication for nominations was distributed encouraging community members to submit nomination packages. The committee will work on adopting guidelines in the future for awards that include students and alumni.

6. Old Business

a) Academic Council Evolution

- Mitescu and H. Rolfe articulated the timeline of the reading and voting regarding the new bylaws, the amendments to the bylaws, and the development of the proposed committees. August 5th will be a special meeting where the bylaws will undergo their second reading and the vote. During a discussion regarding AC membership, S. Levy advised that having algorithms built into the membership bylaws to ensure as programs are added or other growth occurs, the representation of faculty is diluted.
- **Items taken under advisement:**
 - a. Chairs should be considered part of the 50% faculty membership.
 - b. Bylaws that as the institution grows in number of programs and their complexity, the membership can be updated automatically rather than as needed.

7. New Business

a) New Partnership Agreements (documents distributed)

Quest Group of Institutions, India**H. Ahluwalia**

H. Ahluwalia presented the proposed pathway from the Bachelor of Business Administration and Bachelor of Commerce degree programs at Quest Group of Institutions into the UCW's Bachelor of Commerce program.

Motion: To approve the partnership agreement with the Quest Group of Institutions, India as presented

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

Motion carried

8. In Camera Session**S. Levy**

Motion: To move the proceedings of the Academic Council IN CAMERA

Moved: *S. Chu* **Seconded:** *E. Sopow*

Motion carried unanimously

Motion: To move the proceedings of the Academic Council OUT OF CAMERA

Moved: *S. Chu* **Seconded:** *H. Gea*

Motion carried unanimously

9. Adjournment**S. Levy**

Meeting Adjourned at 1:59 pm.