

The Biology Articulation Committee of British Columbia

Minutes of 2007 Meeting

Location: UBC, Vancouver

Dates: May 14th and 15th, 2007

Chair: David Blundon, Camosun College

Secretary:

1. Welcome from UBC
 - a. Dr. Paul Harrison, Associate Dean, Faculty of Science, UBC, welcomed representatives to the University.
2. Introductions.
 - a. Representatives introduced themselves and the institutions they represented.
3. Housekeeping
 - a. Carol Pollock asked committee members to meet at the Graduate Student Centre after the meeting.
 - b. Tomorrow's talk at 2:15 PM will be about the Biology Diversity Centre.
 - c. There will be a tour of the Life Sciences Building.
4. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Small changes.
 - b. Approved.
5. Approval of the Minutes of 2006 Meeting (Selkirk College, Castlegar)
 - a. Send any corrections to David Blundon.
 - b. Changes from College of the Rockies (will include).
 - c. Minutes were approved.
6. Institutional Presentations (Universities first)
 - a. UBC, Carol Pollock
 - i. Quite a few new things are happening UBC.
 - ii. Transfer students can apply after two years if all prerequisites are in place.
 - iii. The department is reviewing first year courses. Biology 112/121 may be a thing of the past, replaced with Biology 101 and 102.
 - iv. Biology's curriculum is also under revision. Students will not have to take Biology 12 but can take BIOL 200 with 7 first-year credits. Transferring second year students should take Microbiology 201 not

BIOL 112 to satisfy the microbiology prerequisites. This will make the transition easier and is effective September 2007.

- v. The new Biology 101 course will require grade 12 Chemistry, the new Biology 102 will not. This will take effect September 2008.
- vi. High schools will need to know that students can take either Bi 11 or Bi 12.
- vii. Biology is hoping to change Biology 111 into non-majors course and is presently working on this.
- viii. The Department will hold onto Biology 140 and 240. If transferring to 2nd year students should think about taking Biology 240, especially if they considering going into microbiology. If the student is from a College with 2nd year cell biology (lab included) they will be exempt.
- ii. Biology 200 will be offered as an online course starting January 2008. The first 150 seats will be offered to UBC students. After these are filled the course will be opened to others. The course has a number of modules with no labs. Content will be based on case studies which will replace tutorials.
- iii. Biology will provide web access to images for course work.

b. SFU, Emelia Kirkwood

- i. There are changes in credit value for some courses. At least seven contact hours per week will be required for Fall 2008.
- ii. Third and 4th year courses are writing intensive.
- iii. A curriculum review is starting with 4th year courses.
- iv. Increased credit numbers are transferable from Langara College with a maximum number of credits.
- v. Is Langara College responsible for re-articulating courses? (Gerda) Colleges should re-articulate.
- vi. Biology 101 is Cell Biology and Biology 102 is Ecology, Evolution and Genetics.

c. UNBC, Dezene Huber

- i. Will be continuing Biology 101 and 102 web courses over the summer semester. There are one or two weeks of intensive onsite lab sessions.
- ii. Developing an optional laboratory course.
- iii. Have 33 Biology courses online with information on instructors.
- iv. Biology 110 is also offered online and we are working on intensive lab course to be offered onsite.
- v. Investigating how students who are offsite are getting to the labs.

d. UVic – regrets

e. Thompson Rivers University, Eric Littley

- i. No major changes to structure of course.

- ii. Masters of Science and Environmental Science approved for this September 2007.
 - iii. Government will not fund seats outside of Georgia Straight.
 - iv. Biggest problem is that 1st year enrollment is flat but retention is good. There are 330 – 350 first year students.
 - v. TRU offers Open Learning.
 - vi. Who has jurisdiction of online courses in Biology? (David)
 - vii. Depends on Unions, work is assigned differently between TRU and OL faculty. This arrangement has been done in the past.
- f. UCFV, Ernst Kroeker
- i. Enrolment for next year is up slightly from last year.
 - ii. Residences will be ready to occupy in September 2007.
 - iii. Survey shows that 1/3 of 3rd and 4th year students are coming from others institutions besides UCFV.
 - iv. Five of UCFV biology students are going to medical school.
- g. Quest University (Squamish) – Annie Prud'homme-Genereux
- i. Opening doors in 114 days and will offer Liberal Arts and Science courses with class sizes capped at 20
 - ii. Expect to have approximately 80 students for September.
 - iii. Most students Canadian and out of province.
 - iv. Tuition is \$24,000 per year.
 - v. Two teaching labs are being built.
 - vi. In four years expect to have up to 600 students enrolled.
 - vii. Not offering majors in the traditional sense.
 - viii. Block plan – students will take one course at a time for 18 days three hours a day.
 - ix. Academic program is designed to encourage early specialization early.
 - x. For the first two years students must take a variety of 16 courses.
 - xi. Students will be required to take one to four courses experientially.
 - xii. At the moment have seven full-time faculty members and in the next four years expect to have 64.
 - xiii. Columbia University Frontiers Program is similar to New York.
 - xiv. Royal Rhodes University is modular as well (David)
 - xv. Format is unique for Canada. A lot more common in US.
 - xvi. Anticipate all students will do all four years – eventually if students want to transfer in they may.
 - xvii. At start up will have to teach four times in a row.
 - xviii. Part of transfer program – Microbiology will be hard to articulate (Keng).
- h. Trinity Western, Dennis Venema
- i. No changes this year.
 - ii. Liberal Arts in Langley and the only Christian University in BC.

- iii. Is a member of ACC.
- iv. Three thousand undergraduate students with a total of 3600 including graduate students.
- v. No changes to 1st and 2nd year Biology. Total enrolment in 100-level Biology courses remains stable at ~250 students per year.
- vi. Our Department Chair, Dr. Richard Paulton is retiring this year. The Biology Department is hiring a Biotechnology Program Director as well as one other full-time faculty member this summer. Dennis Venema will take up the Biology Chair position effective August 15th, 2007.
- vii. Dr. Eve Stringham was awarded a Tier II Canada Research Chair in Developmental Genetics and Disease this year. The CFI funds for this award are being used to install an advanced fluorescence / deconvolution microscope facility at TWU.
- viii. Tuition \$16,500
- ix. Retention rate is good.
- x. Enrollments in 2nd and 3rd year courses are low. Anticipate good intake in Fall 2007.
- xi. The University has a new President; the last President was at Trinity for 33 years.
- xii. Recruiting more American students and increasing research focus.

i. Malaspina College, Allan Gibson

- i. Not a lot of changes.
- ii. Goal is to keep upper level courses filled.
- iii. Recruitment mode – interested in facilitating students into 3rd year program and Malaspina degree.
- iv. Compared with UBC and Toronto Malaspina is near the top in getting students into graduate schools.
- v. Twenty-six graduates this year.
- vi. Cornerstone of the program is a 4th year research project that every student must do.
- vii. Maintain high standards with a rigorous program.
- viii. New president, Ralph Neilsen, was Vice President of Acadia.
- ix. Trying to encourage government to make into a full fledged university.
- x. Wants to become a receiving institution.
- xi. Have no problem getting 1st and 2nd year students, working to increase 3rd years.

j. Kwantlen University College, Pam McDonald

- i. No huge changes in Biology this year.
- ii. First year intake for VSC Pest Management – very interesting degree.
- iii. Trades and Technology campus to open this year.
- iv. New letter of agreement with SFU.

- v. Agreement between Science Department and SFU – either institution can send students to other if there's no space in home institute or if not offering course in particular semester and has space.
- vi. Student will pay SFU fees but no associated student fees (i.e., bus pass).
- vii. Focusing on Surrey campus – especially labs.
- viii. Advantage to Kwantlen students; will be able to transfer with 2.0 or higher GPA.
- ix. New Surrey library will open this Fall.
- x. President most instrumental in pushing University Colleges being free standing institutes. He is retiring.

k. UBC-O, Blythe Nilson

- i. It has been two years since the takeover by UBC. Changes and hiring are still occurring. Having difficulty attracting faculty – salary is not enough to move to Okanogan; however, there will be research space for new faculty.
- ii. First and 2nd year pre-Pharmacy courses are new but no Pharmacy Degree at UBC-O.
- iii. Revised majors program: Microbiology, Molecular Cell Biology and Biology Chemistry
- iv. Have Biology-Chemistry Department now.
- v. Can get a degree in Biology with a medical option.
- vi. Option in general Biology-Chemistry and Plant Biology-Chemistry.
- vii. Agroecology degree will not be offered and is still under review. More degrees to come.
- viii. Graduate Degrees - now have PhD students.
- ix. Entry requirements are flexible to attract more students although there is no space.
- x. Three buildings are going up and there are plans for more.
- xi. Under pressure to meet targets for new students. Faculty has been asked to call students at home.
- xii. Entry requirements are 70% for English 12, 67% for Math 12 plus two more examinable subjects.
- xiii. Same as UBC for Biology 11 or 12 but not both.
- xiv. Change texts frequently.

l. Alexander College, Hugh Johnston

- i. Vancouver Central College is now Alexander College.
- ii. Alexander College is a private two year institution and to date has not offered any courses. The college will be ready to offer courses when agreements have been reached with SFU, UBC, UVic, etc.
- iii. Here to make the Articulation Committee members aware that Alexander College exists.

- iv. Alexander is for people who want to attend a smaller school that specializes in international students. Students will be mainly from China.
 - v. Alexander College will start with 45 students and offer them ten subjects including biology.
 - vi. Allan Gibson of Malaspina College would be very interested in working with Alexander College in transfers.
 - vii. Barbara Moon was unable to attend.
- a. Camosun College, David Blundon
- i. Biology enrolment has flat lined.
 - ii. UVic is putting up towers (one is a Science tower) and increased competition for students is expected.
 - iii. Recruitment is an issue and the college is attempting to deal with this.
 - iv. A marketing strategy is in place with a renewed interest in attracting adult learners and recruiting in high schools still takes place.
 - v. Victoria is an expensive place for students to move to. Elementary schools are closing and high school numbers are expected to decline.
 - vi. Hundreds of students graduate with associate degrees but not in Biology. It is extremely difficult to recruit into the department.
 - vii. Ecology (BIOL 228) has only 35 students and used to have 80 to 90.
 - viii. A new Pre-Medicine Program has been developed in hopes this will attract more students to take biology.
 - ix. A new Pacific Sports Institute building is being erected at the Interurban campus of Camosun College – the Biology Department will offer Anatomy and Physiology (A&P) courses to their sports program students.
 - x. The Nursing Program and Biology Department have a good working relationship. A collaborative process was in place for awhile which resulted in nursing content being inserted into A&P biology courses. This has been rectified by removing this content from the affected courses. Pharmacology is not offered to the Nursing Program.
 - xi. Nurses are awarded a Bachelor of Nursing degree from UVic but their first 2 ½ years are spent at Camosun College
 - xii. Chris Bowes retiring.
- n. Capilano College, Marja de Jong Westman
- i. The college is struggling with its identity. Now advertise as Capilano; the word College has been dropped.
 - ii. Two faculty members are retiring. Looking for replacements for this fall 2007.
 - iii. Projected enrollments are lower than other years.
 - iv. Overall enrollment in 1st and 2nd year biology courses dropped this year.
 - v. First year Anatomy and Physiology are strongest.

- vi. Second year biology courses will be offered in 2007–2008; however, Invertebrate Zoology will not be offered until 2008–2009.
 - vii. Response to decline in numbers in 2nd year – work loads reassigned to faculty.
 - viii. Working on phone campaigns, beginning tonight.
 - ix. Associate Degrees are general strong and stronger in Biology.
 - x. Biology courses are included in new Associate Degrees and BC studies.
 - xi. Went to four credits for laboratory science courses with lectures and labs; same as UBC.
 - xii. Post graduate diploma in Environmental Science cancelled; now an Associate Degree.
 - xiii. Associate Degree in Environmental Science to feed into SFU.
 - xiv. Environment courses are successful in luring many students to the college and helps boost enrollment. There is a lot of hands experience and field work. Students come away with a very good grounding in environmental issues.
 - xv. Environmental Science students have to take 1st year majors biology. Second years have to take Ecology 204 and 205.
 - xvi. A new course, Environmental Science was also added from the Environmental Science Department.
 - xvii. The Environmental Science Department is skeletal and is working hard developing its program. They are picking up existing courses that the college offers.
 - xviii. Biology 106 and 107 is 5.5 credits for two courses combined. Students take these if they have no Biology or Chemistry. Additional lecture per week. Those students tend to do better over the long term. (Carol)
 - xix. Biology 104 and 105 are for non-majors. A lot of students who may not have taken biology in high school become captivated by the field of Biology and come into main stream courses.
 - xx. Students that take Biology 104 do not have to take Biology 106 or 107 but take Biology 110.
 - xxi. This Fall Biology 106, 107 and 110 will be offered. Biology 106 and 107 to be taken concurrently. Transfers well to all universities.
 - xxii. Have developed block transfers that are modulated.
 - xxiii. Camosun College has national accreditation in Environmental Technology. (David)
- o. College of New Caledonia, John Newmann
 - i. No changes to courses but developed a new courses for genetics.
 - ii. Need an instructor to teach Microbiology for one semester
 - iii. New program in Medical Laboratory Technical Science starting January 2008, applicants will be accepted in June and is expected to be well subscribed.

- iv. Relevant to Biology because the Anatomy and Physiology courses taught through Biology Department.
- v. This program requires an extensive interview process. Students must provide a paper on why they want to study medical technology. This is coupled with individual interviews.
- vi. Dual admission with TRU where students would enroll both a CNC and after 2nd year would move into 3rd year at TRU. Lab technicians are exposed to people from the technical field.
- vii. Prospective of jobs for these people is good. There are several empty positions in hospitals because they can't be filled. There is a high demand for these individuals up north.
- viii. How is it different from Associate Degree? (David)
- ix. Never was an Associate Degree and has been arranged to block transfer with seats waiting at university.
- x. Should do that with Malaspina. (David)
- xi. Students finishing degree often through college correspondence.
- xii. The college has appointed a new president (four days ago).
- xiii. Student union building is being constructed and will also be a multicultural building.

p. College of Rockies – regrets

q. Columbia College, Keng Graal

- i. No changes at the College.
- ii. Columbia College was established in 1936 and is in its 71st year. The only post secondary institute older is UBC.
- iii. Mostly international students will transfer to university. UBC is there first choice. Will go to Langara, Kwantlen etc.
- iv. Do not take international students for nursing.
- v. Waitlists for nursing program.
- vi. Doing phone campaigns. The University's have lowered GPA to 2.0 with lower English language requirements.
- vii. Associate Degrees in arts mostly.
- viii. Camosun international students do take Anatomy and Physiology courses but are not admitted directly into Nursing Program. (David)

r. Coquitlam College, Bruce Millen

- i. International students are also unable to take the Nursing Program.
- ii. Numbers are going down for international students.
- iii. Still difficult for people to come here. Biggest hurdle is the six month waiting period to get a Visa. To go to Australia or the UK is much faster.
- iv. In general the quality of students is going down. Although students from China are high quality in the last few years they are going down.
- v. No changes on courses.

- vi. Course lectures are two hours long with three hour laboratories (different from handout).
- s. Douglas College, Rob McGregor
- i. Adrian Peacock retired but still on list.
 - ii. Advertising for probationary faculty position may upgrade to full time.
 - iii. Looking for one faculty member for next winter as well.
 - iv. Health Sciences and Sports Sciences courses are equivalent but have different numbers.
 - v. New degree: Bachelor of Physical Education and Coaching.
 - vi. General microbiology course offered winter 2008.
 - vii. New lab acquired in order to deliver five 3rd year courses.
 - viii. Three new courses: Plants and Society, Comparative Zoology, Evolution – haven't delivered all these yet.
 - ix. Students will take three 1st year Biology courses.
 - x. Enrollments are not expected to be high for the fall semester.
 - xi. Changes were made in the Ecology course, adding more evolutionary topics and teaching at a higher level.
 - xii. Ecology course text book (Economy of Nature) has not changed. There are data analysis modules with the text.
 - xiii. Douglas College offers a wide variety of Applied Degrees.
 - xiv. Applied Degree vision 20/20 is now gone.
 - xv. A lot of 3rd year course development is happening. All 3rd year courses have 1st year prerequisites.
 - xvi. Two nursing degrees: Bachelor of Science in Nursing & Bachelor of Psychiatry in Nursing.
 - xvii. Animal Health Technologist Program, first in province, starting in September 2007.
- t. Langara College, Gerda Krause
- i. All 1st year courses have four hours of lectures and two hour laboratories. Second year courses have four hours of lectures and three hour labs.
 - ii. For non-majors biology students 15 sections planned. For Nursing 15 – 18 sections are planned for.
 - iii. Second year courses usually have one to three sections.
 - iv. Two years ago biology courses retained more and better students. If they can be guaranteed seats they are more likely to stay. The College has advertised.
 - v. Thinking of adding one more section of Biology-Chemistry and Cell Biology.
 - vi. First year enrolment is not as strong but hasn't resulted in cancelled sections. However, wait lists are shorter.
 - vii. Have taken initiatives to make the campus greener.

- viii. Bachelor of Science Nursing Program is 15 to 18 sections per year. There are 10 Pathology sections.
 - ix. Waitlist in the Nursing Program has approximately 1000 names. Many students put their names on several wait lists. This is a first come first serve policy which is not ideal. Biology sees nursing students repeating biology courses two to three times. We are checking numbers on students taking courses multiple times. Trying to encourage the Nursing Program to toughen up standards. Counselors with expertise in stress management are available for nursing students.
 - x. The Nursing Program and Biology Department have a good working relationship.
 - xi. Waitlisted students can take Anatomy and Physiology but not Pathology anymore.
- u. North Island College, Christine Hodgson
- i. No significant changes to report.
 - ii. There is declining enrolment in 1st year courses.
 - iii. No text changes or instructors.
 - iv. There are 16 students in 1st year Biology in the Campbell River campus. Total students in Campbell River are less than 100.
 - v. Biology 102 and 103, 110 and 111 are offered over two semesters, and there is no requirement to take both together.
 - vi. Biology 170 and 171 (Ethnobiology, Ethnobotany) are offered. Are any others offering these classes? (Christine)
 - vii. Capilano College has Ethnobiology for First Nations students, but is open to others. (Marja)
- v. Northern Lights College, Cindy Broberg
- i. Students come from Dawson Creek and Fort St. John.
 - ii. Have 1st year biology course only and is transferable.
 - iii. Don Cameron has retired and we are looking for faculty member to teach Biology and Chemistry.
 - iv. Having recruitment issues and therefore starting marketing and advertising.
 - v. Students can do two years of Arts but not Science.
 - vi. Possible new Nursing Program in Dawson Creek for 2008.
- w. Northwest Community College, John Krisinger
- i. Economy is up so people are coming to the area and staying.
 - i. Nursing program is a four year degree program. The first two years are in the sciences and then UNBC for 3rd and 4th year.
 - ii. Have all the sciences including a Human Nutrition course.
 - iii. Also offering a Pathophysiology course with a health assessment course running parallel.
 - iv. Barb Shaw resigned and we have new faculty member.

- v. Having problems recruiting nursing faculty. Need more for next year.
 - vi. Waitlist for Nursing Program is no more than 30. There is room for only 12 students in third year.
- x. Okanagan College, Ellen Pedersen
- i. Second year since separation from the University with enrolment in Kelowna going very well.
 - ii. Vernon camps enrolment has suffered.
 - iii. Penticton campus enrollment is up. Active recruitment efforts are taking place. Students have been hired for a phone recruitment campaign.
 - iv. Arts doing very well with most arts students taking Biology courses.
 - v. Anatomy and Physiology is also doing well and is taken by nursing students.
 - vi. We have condensed, intensive programs.
 - vii. In Kelowna most students don't take a full load.
 - viii. New Biology-Chemistry course for the first time in Vernon has 6 students which is standard.
 - ix. UBC changing their majors so keeping options open.
 - x. A Genetics course is approved and being sent out for articulation. UBC is considering it. It has a three hour lecture, 1½ hour tutorial and a one hour laboratory.
 - xi. Human kinetics courses will be taught in Penticton with two more added in the winter semester.
 - xii. Have two new faculty members.
 - xiii. Just finished Gene School; however, there is not a lot of interest from high schools.
 - xiv. Dean was to retire in July but will not because Associate Dean is now going to Camosun.
 - xv. Received funding for a Medical Laboratory Tech Program. CNC programs are now up in the air. Okanagan College will have its own labs next year.
 - xvi. There is a Conservation Technology Program training First Nations to do environmental assessment of their own land.
- y. Selkirk College, Will Hunter
- i. A few years back course numbers were changed from 50 & 51 to 80 & 90. Not different from everywhere else now.
 - ii. First year courses are stable but distance courses are suffering. Distance courses remain a priority for the College.
 - iii. Anatomy and Physiology is strong.
 - iv. Second year has had an unusual rotation with 4 core courses offered every year with microbiology and vascular plants offered only in the winter semester. Microbiology is now a core course.
 - v. A lot of retention initiatives.

- vi. Part of recruitment program is visiting high schools as well as bringing students to the College.
- z. Vancouver Community College, Gordon McIntyre
- i. Numbers are small for the lower mainland.
 - ii. First year Biology has a smaller enrollment than Anatomy and Physiology.
 - iii. Introducing an RN program as of next year September 2008 and may become first come first serve.
 - iv. Another Anatomy and Physiology course is part of LPN Program.
 - v. Anatomy and Physiology are primarily for the Dental Hygiene Program. Dental hygiene is competitive entry. It is easier to get into UBC Dental Hygiene than VCC Dental Hygiene Program. Will switch to full degree program soon.
- aa. Yukon College, Dave Mossop
- i. Yukon Territory economy is up with lots of jobs. Students have been leaving college to go to work. Enrolment is slightly down which is unusual.
 - ii. Staff is relatively stable.
 - iii. Old president has been offered extension and the college will therefore not get a new president.
 - iv. Yukon hosted the Canada Winter games and campus was used. Lost use of library for over a month.
 - v. Conflict over non-academic Biology course. One group thinks it should be offered with a 100 number which makes it seem like its first year but isn't.
 - vi. Biology Articulation Committee is coming to Yukon next year.
 - vii. University of the Arctic does not have Biology.
- bb. BCIT, Monika De Boer
- i. Use Campbell's Biology text and laboratory manual.
 - ii. Students come to take biology courses and are steered into other programs (i.e., science, radiography).
 - iii. BCIT does have first year sciences.
 - iv. Offer Microbiology and Genetics courses. Students can get Bachelor of Science degree.
7. Proposed changes to second year Molecular Biology and Biochemistry courses, MBB 221 and MBB 222 at SFU. (Ingrid Northwood)
- a. Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry was formed about 7 years ago. Within that time the undergraduate program has grown immensely. There are no 100 level courses at this time and two 200 level courses which need changes.
 - b. MMB 221 – problematic. A lot of instructors find that students have an insufficient background and this makes it impossible to cover certain topics.

- Another problem is that students do not have an adequate background in Organic or Biochemistry. This creates problem courses such as MBB 221 where 27% of students have C- or less; however, MBB 222 is fine
- c. Want to create a new course MBB 231 to come after MBB 221. This will ensure that all students have a protein and organic chemistry background – this addition will ensure certain topics will be covered. Another problem is that many instructors are involved in teaching these courses. The result is a good deal of variability in course content – not everyone follows the same detailed syllabus.
 - d. There will be a MBB 231 revised version for the fall 2008 term. A quick fix is proposed where all college courses equivalent to MBB 221 will roll over to MBB 231. Would like to review all courses again and make sure that we are giving best possible transfer.
 - e. Students will not take Chemistry 281 (Organic Chemistry I) in second semester because the prerequisite is only a first year chemistry course. Even though chemistry is a 200 level course it is very basic. Can take Chemistry 281 first organic first semester.
 - f. Second year courses are prerequisites for upper 2nd year.
 - g. Students take Math, Chemistry, Physics and Biology in first year. Students don't have to take Organic Chemistry in second semester but are given the opportunity.
 - h. Can take Chemistry 221 without Biology.
 - i. Break up physical Chemistry into two years at UBC. SFU can do same thing. Still working with Chemistry department. UBC feels it works better than before.
 - j. Will transfer well.
 - k. If student tries to drop, they can't.
 - l. Will have tutorial for Chemistry students.
 - m. Problem is not just the failure rate but that topics need to be re-taught.
 - n. They can delay their first year Organic Chemistry I into second year.
8. Institutional and individual responses to plagiarism. (Will Hunter)
- a. Had two cases of plagiarism this past year. They were minor but clearly plagiarism and the students appealed.
 - b. SFU is very clear about what plagiarism is.
 - c. UBC, Carol
 - i. UBC uses Turnitin.com. Students are required to submit their paper to the website and the Website tells students if they plagiarize. There are different levels of punishment. If all or a substantial amount of the paper is plagiarized the student receives a zero mark and gets called in. If they admit to the offence then they are often let off with a zero and it is no taken further. If students are adamant that they didn't offend they are then sent to Associate Dean and then possibly the President. Students usually admit to at least a portion. If appear contrite will give them zero for the plagiarized part only. If the student is going on in Biology faculty are notified about the student's plagiarism.
 - ii. Pleased with Turnitin.com. Students are now accountable and therefore have no excuse.

- iv. Turnitin.com is a company that collects electronic materials. On-line journals, websites, papers submitted for courses. The site then highlights plagiarized work including references and reports where the text comes from. Student receives a Turnitin.com number which must be supplied to the instructor.
 - v. Paper becomes property of Turnitin.com. One student objected and did it old way.
 - vi. When signing up the student is required to provide a lot of information (e.g., email address, personal information). The student can go in under an alias. It can set up a databank for every student.
 - vii. Cost for Turnitin.com is substantial.
- d. Langara, Gerda
- i. Langara College has a page on the website that students need to check off that says that they have read it.
 - ii. Every incidence of plagiarism and cheating goes to the Dean of Students. Administration then puts a freeze on the offender's ability to drop and add courses.
 - iii. Instructors are able to check whether student has been accused of past incidents.
 - iv. Policy has been re-written. If instructors do not agree on a course of action (e.g., one instructor assigning a zero and another instructor recommends a penalty) the faculty Head decides then and the case may go to the President.
 - v. Instructors feel much more supportive than they used to now.
- e. Thompson Rivers, Eric
- a. Student agrees that misconduct has occurred by signing a form. If a second offence occurs the students name is added to a database. Third offences go to the office of the President for either suspension or expulsion.
 - b. This allows for students to not dupe different departments.
- f. Northwest, John
- i. What do you do when you know someone else has written the paper?
- g. UBC, Carol
- vii. Call student in and ask questions about the paper. If they can't answer based on their own work they will usually admit to it.
 - viii. Usually bring both the suspected student and author of the paper in if possible. We recommend that they go to the President's office.
 - ix. Publish academic dishonesty in UBC newspaper as well as post in the hallway; names are not given.
 - x. Can't do anything to the supplier (author) if the paper is from outside the school.
 - xi. Records of plagiarism are kept on file for 5 years.
- h. North Island, Christine
- i. Students need to write in own words what plagiarism is after reading information on website.

- i. SFU, Emelia
 - i. Students are called in and asked definitions of certain words.
 - j. Columbia, Keng
 - i. Questioned whether notice of penalty or expulsion due to plagiarism should be written on transcripts.
 - k. Malaspina, Allan
 - i. Students need to be constantly reminded not to plagiarize and that we do check for it.
 - l. UCFV, Ernst
 - i. A verbal component works well in conjunction with a submitted paper. A 15 minute oral presentation usually shows whether the student wrote the paper or not.
9. Two year flexible pre-major. (Will Hunter)
- a. Basically means all people involved in a discipline get together to decide what the core courses and content are for the first two years. This arrangement allows the student to continue on into 3rd year at any participating school.
 - b. Thompson Rivers, Eric
 - i. Thompson Rivers has been doing this for years – this is one step up from an Associate Degree in Science. Now don't have to worry about prerequisites. Courses don't have to be equal but equivalent.
 - ii. Advisor will declare an exemption that allows the student to move forward if the course is not available
 - iii. For an obscure course in second year a prerequisite could be waved.
 - c. UCFV, Ernst
 - i. Tried to make it work as best as possible. Have to address historic problem.
 - ii. Registrars office will put in course unless student identifies himself.
 - d. North Island, Christine
 - i. Good opportunity for colleges to explore flexible pre-majors.
 - ii. No lobby at UBC to change it.
 - e. Thompson Rivers, Eric
 - i. Can take any course no matter what year if student has prerequisite.
 - ii. May alter order of 3rd and 4th year but don't have to take extra courses.
 - f. UBC, Carol
 - i. Students can apply to Biology in 1st year if they have sufficient credits including Organic Chemistry. Physics can be picked up later. Students are encouraged to apply at the end of second year. They must have at least one organism course, Ecology and Genetics are not required. Student missing a course but are registered can apply for admission to Biology. Students can apply again in August for next year if they want to. Organic Chemistry and organism courses seem to be missing the most.
 - ii. Students are responsible for prerequisites.
 - g. SFU, Emelia
 - i. Students that do not have 60 credits in 4 semesters are not allowed in.

10. What are departments doing about the changed Provincial exam requirements?
(Barbara Moon)
- a. Email from Barbara – Barbara absent.
 - b. Huge problem at Malaspina because SFU, UBC and UVic still requires them. If some institutes don't require exams then a two tier system will exist. The big three are more rigorous and Malaspina will lose top students to SFU, UBC and UVic. The Faculty of Science continues to insist on Provincial Exams.
 - c. Malaspina, Allan
 - i. Establishing a clause making Provincial Exams optional is not a good idea. Should either wipe them out or keep them. SFU will drop when UBC or UVic drops them.
 - ii. Will have impact on university colleges. Perception will be that they are less rigorous but might work in Malaspina's favour.
 - iii. If exams not in place students may perceive that school is not high quality.
 - d. UBC, Carol
 - i. Not dropping them. Four Provincials will be required. The decision is made by the students if they take them or not.
 - ii. Looks like VCC won't be requiring them.
 - e. Thompson Rivers, Eric
 - i. Has chosen to ignore them.
 - ii. Science courses have prerequisites with C+ out of high school. C+ students typically aren't going to make it through but students with an A or B will.
 - iii. Huge perception that its not a real university and therefore send students for first two years and then send off to larger university. But once students are in they stay.
 - f. UBC, Carol
 - i. Problem for UBC is that can't take everyone that has C+ so not sure what to base admissions on and can't interview every student. Therefore Provincials are used to level playing field.
 - g. Thompson Rivers, Eric
 - i. Majority of C+ usually don't go to second year.
 - h. Universities that require Provincials:
 - UBC - yes
 - TRU - no
 - Langara - yes
 - Malaspina - unsure
 - Rest - undecidedEmail to be sent out asking whether school requires Provincials or not.
 - i. Columbia, Keng
 - i. Some schools give highly inflated marks to students to get them into university. Provincials are lesser of two evils.
 - j. UBC, Carol

- i. Registration is the beginning of June and Provincials are written at the end of June. Can find out if schools have big discrepancy.
 - iii. Student's acceptance can be taken away if Provincials grade is not high enough. If Provincials bring average up then they are reconsidered for acceptance.
 - k. Thompson Rivers, Eric
 - i. Alberta schools are given admission in grade 11. Then students can prepare.
- 11. What program or course initiatives are departments engaging in with respect to sustainability? (Barbara Moon)
 - a. Thompson Rivers, Eric
 - i. Can no longer expose students or employees to formaldehyde but do. Liability has changed over last 18 months. How do we teach without it?
 - b. UCFV, Ernst
 - i. Sustainability component in 60% of courses. Component needs to be added to the curriculum but what part of curriculum deals with sustainability?
 - ii. Trying to increase emphasis on sustainability in as many courses as possible.
 - c. UBC, Carol
 - i. Ecological footprint.
 - ii. Did this at the beginning of term and end of term and received a bonus if footprint was reduced.
 - d. Langara, Gerda
 - i. Have 200 people on sustainability movement. Have been doing so for about six months. Three days of professional development for sustainability.
 - ii. Trying to incorporate sustainability movement into math and english courses.
 - iii. Talking about changing administrative structure to support sustainability.
 - e. VCC, Peter
 - i. Has not done anything with sustainability.
 - f. Douglas, Rob
 - i. Broader than sustainability. Have signature elements into each course.
 - ii. Building environment systems program – encourages Leeds Standards.
 - g. UBC, Carol:
 - i. There are a lot of programs in place at UBC. Biology makes compost for gardens in area. Thursday is compost day. There is a worm supply for students. There is lots of support with a little money.
 - h. Camosun, David
 - i. Students organized a student environmental committee.
 - i. Yukon, Dave
 - i. Listening to the students is the best approach.

12. Exactly which topics are covered in 1st year majors at each institution? (Christine Hodgson)
- a. We all have articulation for 1st year and most institutes use Campbell. Christine covers most chapters of text over the year. Do most institutions do this? Has handout to see what topics each school covers.
 - b. UBC, Carol
 - i. Do not cover organ systems. It is covered in grade 12.
 - ii. Redoing first year courses based on student outcomes. That is, by the end of the course students will be able to do certain things. Doesn't really matter how they get there.
 - iii. UBC does not use Campbell; uses Freeman.
 - iv. When students were asked what they thought of the text 95% used it and found it useful. They liked that the book was laid out the same way as the lectures.
 - c. Capilano, Marja
 - i. Do not focus on same topics as in grade 12. Choose two to three systems in animals and two to three in plants which will take up most of one term. The 2nd term follows and evolutionary thread.
 - d. Langara, Gerda
 - i. Very similar at Langara and choose four systems.
 - e. Capilano, Marja
 - i. Concentrating more on Plant Biology.
 - f. UCFV, Ernst
 - i. Basics in Biochemistry, Biology and Genetics have to be there. Topics like Plant Anatomy, etc. historically haven't been completely covered.
 - ii. Instructors choose.
 - g. Malaspina, Allan
 - i. Goal is to get students excited about Biology. The outcome is the most important.
 - h. Okanogan, Ellen
 - i. A colleague teaching 1st year Biology is concerned that topics are not being covered. Is there a framework or grid of what most people cover? Such a framework exists for Chemistry.
 - ii. Some kind of agreement on core topics would be beneficial.
 - i. North Island, Christine
 - i. Can get feedback from everyone on mail list as to what they are covering.
 - ii. Over two terms 16 to 17 labs would be completed. Students are encouraged to take both courses. The assumption is they will have working knowledge to move on.
 - j. Thompson Rivers, Eric
 - i. Reorganizing the ecology-evolution half of introductory biology to be more inquiry and scientific method based. We will be changing to the Freeman text in two years to facilitate this approach.
 - k. Douglas, Rob

- i. Sticking with Campbell, most people in the room use custom lab manuals and the Campbell text.
- 12. Report from Chair: Meeting of Articulation Committee Chairs. (February 3, 2007)
 - a. Annual articulation meeting. New document produced. The articulation committee companion can be found online. Suggestions were to develop a website and a standard template for handing out at the annual meeting.
 - b. Meeting amongst chairs is to become familiar with each other.
 - c. UBC, Carol
 - i. Any changes for website please get to her before mid-June so they can be submitted.
 - ii. Might be good idea to put something together for host institution. Hand off to next person. Easier if in point form. Carol will work on and forward to David.
 - iii. Paul Harrison introduced flexible programming.
- 13. Systems Liaison Retirement and Replacement. (David Blundon)
 - a. Liaison is consultant at the administrative level (e.g., How an institute might view sending members outside the province for an articulation meeting).
 - b. List of activities they can be consulted on in committee companion.
- 14. 2008 Meeting Yukon College and Venue planning for 2009 meeting. (Dave Mossop)
 - a. Out of province is not an issue.
 - b. Possible issue: Institutes willingness to pay for members.
 - c. UBC, Carol
 - i. UBC has an agreement with Canada West Airline \$350 return and will be attending.
 - d. Yukon, Dave Mossop
 - i. Air North and Air Canada fly direct from Vancouver to Whitehorse, fares are competitive.
 - ii. Drive to Whitehorse is a not too difficult 2 ½ days from Vancouver.
 - e. Dates chosen: May 13th and 14th, 2008.
 - f. Trinity Western University will host the 2009 articulation meeting.
 - g. UBC-O will host 2010 meeting.
- 15. Election of Chair for BCCAT Biology-articulation.
 - a. David Blundon elected to Chair.
 - b. David will investigate a biology articulation website, work on an institutional information template, and get information out earlier.
- 16. Adjournment.
 - a. Thank you to Carol and UBC for hosting.
 - b. Meeting adjourned.