

MINUTES

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

Zoom meeting via Douglas College

13 May, 2022

Attendees: Sandie Dielissen, Fraser International College; Robynne Rogers Healy, Trinity Western University; Jacqueline Holler, UNBC; Kirsten McIlveen, Capilano University; Ann McKinnon, Okanagan College; Janet Mayr, Selkirk College; **Sally Mennill, Douglas College (Chair)**; Vicky Nygaard, VIU; Ilya Parkin, UBC Okanagan; Manisha Singh, Langara College. Regrets: Helen Lansdowne, Camosun

Welcome from Sally Mennill, Chair

1. The meeting was called to order at 1200 PM.
2. The Chair provided a territorial welcome and welcome to the meeting. Participants introduced themselves.
3. Agenda approved by consensus.
4. Approval of Previous Minutes of the Articulation Committee meeting of May 2021: By consensus.
5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes
 - a. **Flexible pre-major funding.** Sharon Josephson did look into the flexible pre-major issue as requested at last year's meeting. BCCAT no longer funds such projects. Instead, the committee should look at enhancing block transfers across institutions.
 - b. **Microcredentials.** The committee discussed the popularity of microcredentials related to Women's and Gender Studies. Gender-based analysis (GBA) and cross-cultural understanding were discussed as potential microcredentials for future discussion and elaboration.
6. **Presentation of Institutional Reports**
 - a. (Attached).
7. BCCAT Report
8. **Election/Re-Election of Chair and/or SLP (if required)**
 - a. Sharon Josephson completed her term as SLP.
 - b. Sally Mennill agreed to serve as Chair for the coming year.
9. Any Other Business
10. Next meeting:
Location: Capilano
Date: 12 May 2023

WGST ARTICULATION COMMITTEE

INSTITUTIONAL REPORT

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

April 28, 2022

Capilano University / North Vancouver

Ki Wight / kwight@capilanou.ca & Kirsten McIlveen / kmcilvee@capilanou.ca

1. Institutional Update

- Courses / Instructors / Enrollments

Fall 2021: WGST111-01 – Brian Ganter – 35 students (remote) – Intro to Gender Studies
 WGST 320-01- Ki Wight – 33 students (in-person) – Feminist Killjoys – Gender
 and Social Justice Work

- Spring 2022: WGST100-01 – Essya Nabbali – 35 students – Intro to Women’s Studies
 WGST 360-01 – Brian Gander – 35 students (remote) – Contemporary Topics –
 Toxic Masculinities

Summer 2022: WGST111-01 – Brian Ganter – 35 students (remote) – Intro to Gender Studies

- Our budget has remained at 6 base sections for courses due to demand for our courses. We are still following the rotation of giving preference to instructors who would otherwise lose their teaching rights at CapU if they did not get a course in WGST, and rotating courses collegially in two-year cycles.

2. Program/Course Update

Curriculum Developments:

- Kirsten McIlveen continues her work with prison post-secondary education and is teaching WGST 347 – Women and Prisons - Gender Confined is running again in spring 2023.
- New course being developed: our goal in 2022-2023 is to develop two courses that have run in the “Contemporary Topics” shell as stand-alone courses: Post-Colonial Feminisms (Hasrat Grewal Gill) and Toxic Masculinities (Brian Ganter); we would like to discuss how our upper level courses, such as these, will articulate to other institutions.
- **Majors and minors** are becoming more of a CapU reality and the department has started conversations about the major and minor institutional process; smaller credential development has had a lower priority in the past year, but a meeting is scheduled May 11th between the Dean, the department convenor and the Academic Initiatives office to see what kind of expansion might be possible for the WGST department. As a small interdisciplinary department with no faculty assigned work, it is becoming increasingly challenging to organize departmental activities and find instructors to teach our courses. (This is due to instructors having very full and demanding workloads in their primary departments.)

3. Other Items of Interest

- We hope to welcome one new faculty member during our June department meeting, but this has yet to be confirmed.
- **December 6, 2021 Memorial:** *National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women* was hosted by our Kéxwusm-áyakn Student Centre at their outdoor pavilion and organized by the department. This in-person event was also live-streamed, and featured our Elder Latash Nahanee to offer a welcome and prayer for the event. Selected readings were shared from the National Inquiry findings and report on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls, and the Red Women Rising publication by the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre. The event was sponsored by the Women's and Gender Studies Department, supported by the Capilano Faculty Association, and was organized with students from the WGST 320 – Feminist Killjoys – Gender and Social Justice Work class.
- **Kirsten McIlveen organized one event for International Women's Day:** on Tuesday March 8th, in-person and online, we hosted members of a collective and activist organizations responsible for: **We Want You To Listen: Shelter Video Project (SVP)**. Here's a summary of the project: "It is a feature length experimental documentary made by a collective who work together across intersectional differences in privileges, some of us housed and most of us of us not: the project centers those with lived expertise of the shelter system. In the video, collective members describe the institutional violence they are subject to: for a mere infraction, real or imagined, a shelter resident can be tossed out on the street as garbage with no notice and nowhere to go."
- In departmental meetings this past year, we have arrived at the following ideas/suggestions:
 - To nominate Lee Maracle (RIP) for an honorary degree posthumously
 - To develop a colloquium course as a means of rotating instructors and offering diversity and breadth to upper-level WGST theory
 - To develop new and more robust processes for joining our department and more detailed workload policy
 - To expand WGST department so that we can have faculty assigned to work in the department and focused on its development and management
 - We continue to have lots of demand for WGST courses, so expansion makes sense
 - We have discussed proposing an introductory gender studies class as a degree requirement/core competency for BA degrees on campus (perhaps as a work-integrated or studio learning initiative – something that is a priority for the institution)
 - Faculty have been participating all year in a campus-wide development of a Capilano "Indigenization Plan." The department has not settled on a path forward for WGST courses to ensure decolonization and antiracism are centred, however, this is work being done by several faculty members in their "home" departments; decolonization work was severely impacted this past fall when the university essentially forced our lone Indigenous (Cree) educational developer to leave the institution, and the WGST department wrote a letter of dismay and removed ourselves (in protest) from participation in a high-profile president's fundraising event focused on women in leadership.

WGST ARTICULATION COMMITTEE

INSTITUTIONAL REPORT

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

May 13, 2022

Douglas College

Sally Mennill mennills@douglascollege.ca

Douglas College's program in Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies (GSWS) is housed in the Faculty of Language, Literature, and the Performing Arts and operates in co-operation with the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. We offer a 60-credit Associate of Arts degree with transfer agreements to most BC institutions. We have five specific GSWS courses and a budget of ten sections per academic year. Our AA also includes courses in English, History, Geography, Sociology, Anthropology, and Philosophy. We have no faculty specifically assigned to GSWS – all of our instructors come from various departments in LLPA and HSS (and we all accrue FTE in our home departments).

Institutional Update

- Courses / Instructors / Enrollments

Fall 2021: GSWS 1100-01 and 02 – Ivana Cikes – 35 students each – Intro to Feminisms
 GSWS 1101-01 – Sally Mennill – 32 students – Contemporary Feminisms
 GSWS 1102-01 – Kira Tomsons – 35 students – Intro to Sexualities
 GSWS 2101-01 – Jill Fellows – 25 students – Gender Today

- Spring 2022: GSWS 1100-01 – Ivanna Cikes – 35 students – Intro to Feminisms
 GSWS 1101-01 – Kira Tomsons – 35 students – Contemporary Feminisms
 GSWS 3101-01 – Sally Mennill – 20 students – Reproductive Justice

Summer 2022: GSWS 1100-01 and 02 – Sarah Paynter – 35 students each – Intro to Feminisms

- Ed Plan has remained stable throughout the pandemic: 5 courses in Fall, 3 in Winter, 2 in Summer. First year courses fill consistently, second- and third- not as much (but always over 20 and therefore they don't get cancelled). Enrollments have been stable throughout the pandemic, whether courses are online, hybrid, or in-person.

Program/Course Update**Curriculum Developments:**

Our 300-level course on Reproductive Justice was offered for the first time this winter and was a resounding success. It is a component of our program and also serves as a "service course" for PSYC, CRIM, and Social Work degrees with the bulk of the students coming from these three areas as well as our handful for GSWS Associate of Arts student. Some interest from Nursing, also.

We also added a new 300-level Sociology course on masculinities to our list of affiliated courses (the college won't let us cross-list courses, so we have affiliated courses in ANTH, HIST, SOCI, PHIL, GEOG, and ENGL).

We are toying with adding another second year course to the program, ideally in Global Feminisms and/or critical race theory, but are waiting to see how the next year's registration numbers look.

Other Items of Interest

- Marni Westerman, who is the co-ordinator of all the Associate of Arts programs at the college that don't have a departmental affiliation, has prepared a program review that is hopefully going to an external reviewer over the summer (maybe one of you got a request for this). She is advocating very hard for the creation of a co-ordinator position dedicated to our program specifically, since it is growing so fast. Thus far the college admin has declined.
- I am doing most of the co-ordination off the side of my desk while chairing the History department. I step down in September, though, so it will revert back to Marni. Hopefully the college will help us keep the program going in its current splendour.
- Our undergraduate conference in 2019 was a great success but was postponed during the pandemic. Jill Fellows is hoping to get it up and running again for 2023.
- Like many of you we have found it challenging to offer special events and speakers over the past couple of years. We look forward to being able to do this in 2022-2023.
- We recently interviewed a number of people to fill out our QTT list for GSWS 1100 and 1101, including both regular and contract faculty. We are hoping this will make it easier to add "demand" sections when needed, and also to cover medical leaves and retirements more smoothly.

WOMEN'S STUDIES ARTICULATION COMMITTEE

INSTITUTIONAL REPORT

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL ON ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

Friday, May 13, 2022, 12pm, Online

Report for Gender and Women's Studies, <u>University of British Columbia, Okanagan Campus</u>
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1. Institutional

Dr. Ilya Parkins, Program Coordinator, ilya.parkins@ubc.ca
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Update

General

The Okanagan campus continues in a period of change and upheaval. Hiring across the campus was robust this year, although it is projected to slow in the coming years. The introduction of an automated scheduling system in 2020 has been extremely bumpy and has led to a fair amount of faculty discontent over teaching schedules.

Budgets/Facilities

The financial picture for our campus remains healthy. The space issue has grown to crisis level. Recent growth has meant that there is not enough office space and finding classroom space is also a challenge. The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is even moving into renting off-campus office space (about a 12-15-minute drive from campus) beginning in Autumn 2022. A new building downtown is in the works, projected to open in late 2024. It will provide office space for the Faculty of Health and Social Development, and programming for the public. It will help to ease the space crunch on campus. Another new building, on the campus, is projected to open around the same time and will continue to offset the crunch. But if growth continues at the recent pace, these new facilities will be inadequate.

Students/Enrollment

In Gender and Women's Studies, enrolment in introductory courses is extremely healthy, and they are always full. In 2021-22, there were 20% more seats in the main introductory course; we are growing a further 33% for the coming year. Courses at other levels enroll well, but most are not full. The number of majors dipped in 2021-22, and we have begun a concerted effort to recruit majors.

Staffing

One course this year was taught by Dr. Ilya Parkins's Killam Postdoctoral Fellow. Otherwise, all teaching was done by tenure-stream GWST faculty members.

Program/Course Development

Curriculum Developments

We introduced two new courses in 2021-22, which have been approved at Senate. Both will be cross-listed with Cultural Studies, as the faculty members who developed them are jointly appointed. They are:

- GWST 272 – Feminism and Environment
- GWST 340 – Writing the Self: Theory and Practice

Transfer Credit Applications or Alterations

The number of articulation requests received in 2021-22 was extremely low.

Issues

N/A

Research/Projects

Our Canada Research Chair, Astrida Neimanis, opened her feminist environmental humanities lab, the Feel-Ed Lab. It hosts a minimum of two events each month. Dr. Neimanis is piloting a feminist environmental humanities summer school this summer, with the hope that it will expand in future. This year it is being held virtually; in future, it might be held in person.

Faculty member Heather Latimer received funding for an Anti-Racist Feminisms speaker series, which she co-organized with an undergraduate student. The speaker series, held online, was organized in large part due to student demand, and was very well-attended.

Faculty member Ilya Parkins has had a Killam Postdoctoral Research Fellow under her supervision, beginning in September 2021. He brings exciting research expertise to the program and is teaching one course for us in each of the two years of his fellowship.

2. Other Items of interest

The GWST program changed its name to Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies. This was approved at the Senate level. The acronym GWST will remain the same.

The undergraduate student journal for GWST, which is run by a collective of undergraduate students, continues to be very successful. This was the fourth annual edition. The eight-student collective solicits work via a call for submissions, peer reviews and selects work, and edits the work for publication. This year's launch in early March was a notable success.

Women's and Gender Studies Articulation Committee**INSTITUTIONAL REPORT****BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFER (BCCAT)**

May 13, 2022 / Report for 2021

Langara College, Vancouver

Nancy Pollak npollak@langara.ca Manisha Singh msingh@langara.ca

- **Department Updates**

2021 Women's Studies at Langara offered 14 transfer credit sections:

- 4 sections of **WMST 1116: Investigation Women's Realities** (2 spring 2021 online; 2 fall 2021 in-person)
- 4 sections of **WMST 1216: Exploring Women's Realities** (2 spring 2021 online; 2 fall 2021 online)
- 1 section **WMST 1220: Women and Health** (fall 2021 in-person)
- 1 section **WMST 1230: Women and Popular Culture** (fall 2021 in-person)
- 2 sections **WMST 1195: Women of the South** (spring 2021 online)
- 1 section **WMST 2274: Women and Sexuality**: 2nd year course (spring 2021 online)
- 1 section **WMST 2270: Gender Currents: Femininity, masculinity and beyond**: 2nd year course (fall 2021 online)
- Non-credit, non-fee Lecture Series: **WMST 1105** (spring 2021 online)
- **Faculty** in Women's Studies were one full-time faculty (Nancy Pollak) and two part-time regularized faculty (Manisha Singh and Itrath Syed). Nancy is retiring in summer 2022.
- **Program/Course Update**: The ongoing pandemic meant that all spring 2021 classes were offered online (a hybrid asynchronous model). By fall 2021, we returned to wholly in-class instruction for the majority of classes (4 out of 7). Students and faculty alike were challenged by the disconnections, dangers, and pressures of the pandemic – yet online and in-person classes were usually dynamic, meaningful, and warm-hearted. Like many programs, we face the challenges of “what now?” in regards to the normalizing of online courses, in an institution with a heavy reliance on International Students and a commitment to decolonizing and indigenizing the curriculum.

Women's Studies Articulation Report

Camosun College

Submitted by Helen Lansdowne

This year has been a challenging one with all teaching at Camosun College moving back into the classroom with very few online or hybrid classes offered. There was a significant drop in enrollment for Social Science courses, including Gender, Sexuality Women's Studies (GSWS). The first-year course (GSWS 110) was well subscribed in the Fall with approximately 75% of the usual enrollment but the second-year course (GSWS 204), offered in the Winter semester was extremely undersubscribed. The shortfall of students was reflected across the College but for GSWS it has led to a decision by the Dean to not offer the course next year.

There had been hope that new courses would be developed in GSWS but for the immediate future it is highly unlikely.

I am retiring in a year's time and am nervous as to whether the courses will continue after I leave. I am the only person who teaches in this discipline at Camosun so continuity is an issue moving forward, particularly in a climate of extreme uncertainty regarding enrollments.

BCCAT WOMEN'S STUDIES ARTICULATION COMMITTEE

INSTITUTIONAL REPORT

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

Meeting Date(s): 13/05/2022

Institution/Campus Location: Fraser International College,
Burnaby, BC

Name: Sandie Dielissen email: sdielissen@learning.fraseric.ca

1. Institutional Update

Fraser International College (FIC) provides international students with a direct pathway to Simon Fraser University. The College is located on the Burnaby campus of SFU. FIC offers a bridging program between high school and University, as well as a University Transfer Program that offers students the ability to complete a first-year university program equivalent to SFU programs.

Over the past ten years, FIC has been fortunate to have a steady enrolment of international students. Since COVID and the move to on-line courses, enrolment has decreased but there is still significant interest in studying in Canada. Students who left Canada continued with their studies despite increased challenges with internet access in parts of the world and time differences for synchronous classes. Students are eager to return to campus and many are now returning to Canada to continue in-person instruction.

FIC has a robust administrative and academic support team. Instructors have access to an Instructor's Committee that meets regularly with the College Director and Principal, an Advising Team that provides support on student matters, and an Academic Success Team that supports instructors in matters ranging from training and technical instructions, to arranging instructor contracts, and class scheduling.

The College offers professional development training throughout the year. The past year has focused on continuing to teach effectively on-line, incorporating on-line resources, and using alternate assessments whenever possible. Additionally, more focused professional development opportunities were provided for cross-cultural understanding, teaching in multi-cultural contexts, and strategies for engagement.

The Instructors at FIC report to a course coordinator in their home department at SFU. Course coordinators approve final grades and review course content to ensure they meet SFU requirements.

I joined this Committee in 2020, on behalf of FIC.

2. Program/Course Update

Currently, only one Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies course is offered at FIC. The Chair of GSWS at SFU approves the syllabus and final grades.

Enrollment:	Spring 2019	36 students
	Summer 2019	38 students
	Fall 2019	40 students (max.)
	Spring 2020	69 students (2 sections) – synchronous remote
	Summer 2020	67 students (2 sections) – synchronous remote
	Fall 2020	66 students (2 sections) – synchronous remote
	Spring 2021	38 students – synchronous remote
	Summer 2021	36 students – synchronous remote
	Fall 2021	36 students – synchronous remote
	Spring 2022	36 students – in-person
	Summer 2022	60 students (2 sections) – in-person & synchronous remote

This is a popular course and registration fills fast. Students in this course are mostly keen participants. For many, this is the first time they can openly discuss issues of gender and race, and associated topics. Students continue to request additional gender studies courses as electives, but there is also a small stream of students interested in pursuing GSWS as part of their degree at SFU. The department of Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies at SFU and FIC continue to discuss options and hopefully, now that folks are settling back into in-person teaching and the number of international students increases, we will be able to offer another course.

Submitted by
Sandie Dielissen
May 9, 2022

BCCAT WOMEN'S STUDIES ARTICULATION COMMITTEE

INSTITUTIONAL REPORT

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

13 May 2022

Douglas College, VIA ZOOM: <https://douglascollege-ca.zoom.us/j/68517122182?pwd=aWhyMUZwWmR4WkJCMGJOYWxMdkQrUT09>

Robynne Rogers Healey

robynne.healey@twu.ca

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- **Institutional Update**
 - General – TWU does not have a Women's and Gender Studies major; the program is a minor of 24 semester hours. The minor is comprised entirely of courses that are housed in other disciplines. Of the eight courses that make up the minor, there are a number of required courses and a number of elective courses. All Gender Studies minor students must take SOCI-GNDR 105, Introduction to Gender Studies. Students may choose three of five other required courses. The remaining four courses are selected from a list of electives.
 - Budgets/Facilities
 - Students/Enrollment – our program is small but it has had a steady enrollment of roughly ten students. We graduated a large group of students in 2020 and have noticed a significant decline in enrollment in the past two years. Not being on campus has made it difficult to recruit new students to the minor.
 - Staffing – Allyson Jule, Dean of the School of Education who developed EDUC 345: Gender and Education has moved from TWU to UFV. We do not know who will teach that course. Katie Steeves (Sociology) will be co-teaching our introduction to gender studies course in the next academic year with the plan that that course will move into her regular teaching rotation in the 2023–24 academic year.
 - Instruction/Open Education Resources
 - **Program/Course Update**
 - Curriculum Developments – No curriculum changes to report for this academic year. The gender studies minor will be undergoing an external review next year, beginning in the fall of 2022. Changes to the curriculum may result.
 - Transfer Credit Applications or Alterations

- Issues – Last year TWU underwent an Institutional Prioritization Process (IPP). While the gender studies minor was placed into the bottom quintile or “bin” labelled “further review,” I have not heard that it is being closed. We do anticipate that there will be some changes to the program as a result of the next external review.
- Research/Projects –
- **Other Items of Interest**

BCCAT WOMEN'S STUDIES ARTICULATION COMMITTEE

UNBC INSTITUTIONAL REPORT

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

13 May 2022

Douglas College (Zoom)

Name: Jacqueline Holler

email: holler@unbc.ca

- **Institutional Update**
- UNBC offers a major, a minor, and joint majors with English, First Nations Studies, History, and Political Science. We currently have 18 majors/joint majors.
- We also offer the MA in Gender Studies. In 2022–2023, we had 9 MA students in stream, with 3 graduating in May 2022.
- UNBC's two colleges were restructured into five faculties as of 1 April 2021, with Women's and Gender Studies falling under the new Faculty of Indigenous Studies, Social Sciences, and Humanities. Women's and Gender Studies has received additional support from our new dean, for which we are grateful.
- Our planned curriculum and major review are still pending.
- *Students/Enrollment.*

<i>Semester</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Instructor</i>	<i>Enrolment</i>	<i>Mode</i>
Sept 2021	WMST 100 Intro to Women's Studies	Dr. William Gottschall	55	F2F
	WMST 220 Gender and Literary Theory	Dr. Maryna Romanets	10*	F2F
	WMST 409/609 Feminist Methods	Dr. Theresa Healy	4	F2F
	WMST 498/GNDR 610 Feminist Political Philosophy	Dr. Douglas Jarvis	4	F2F
Jan 2022	WMST 103 Intro to Gender Studies	Dr. William Gottschall	68	online
	WMST 306 Indigenous Women*	Ms. Tannis Reynolds	13*	F2F
	WMST 498/GNDR 698 Gender & Politics	Dr. Fiona MacDonald	8*	F2F
	GNDR 703 Gender & Post-Colonialism	Dr. Maryna Romanets	1*	F2F
May 2022	WMST 100 Intro to Women's Studies	Dr. William Gottschall	46	online
	WMST 209 Gender and Cultural Studies	Dr. Troy Bordun	59	online
	WMST 298 Sexual Consent	Ms. Anita Shaw	6	F2F

	WMST 312 Intro to the History of Gender	Dr. Dana Wessell Lightfoot	19*	

** indicates crosslisted course with larger total enrolment; only WMST seats reported*

- **Graduate Students.** Three MAs graduated in May 2020. We currently have 6 students in stream, with one of these graduating in May and two set to defend their theses this spring. Because of COVID disruptions, only three students admitted for 2020—2021 actually entered the program. One of these was conditionally admitted and was unable to attain the GPA required for continuance.
- We have admitted 8 students for fall 2021.
- **Staffing.** Our program has only two .5 FTE appointments, Dr. Jacqueline Holler (cross-appointed with History) and Dr. Maryna Romanets (cross-appointed with English). Because of this, we are heavily reliant upon sessional instructors to deliver our courses. However, with the addition of new tenure-track faculty interested in teaching crosslisted courses, our offerings are growing! We now are able to offer crosslisted courses taught by Dr. Fiona MacDonald, a new tenure-track hire in the Political Science department and a specialist in gender and politics, and Dr. Sara Farhan, also a new tenure-track hire in the History department, who specializes in gender, medicine, and the state in the modern Middle East.
- **Other Items of Interest**
 - Our courses were a mix of F2F and online offerings in the past year. We will likely continue to run our summer offerings primarily online, since this has been popular with students.
 - Dr. Farhan will be teaching a crosslisted course at the upper/graduate levels on crime and deviance in the Middle East.
 - The Northern Feminist Institute for Research and Evaluation, which has been quiet since its last conference in November 2019 (and cancelled its March 2020 symposium as a result of the pandemic), plans a return to F2F programming in September, with regular lab meetings and a spring symposium planned for the 2022–23 academic year.
 - Northern FIRE researchers Dawn Hemingway, Jacqueline Holler, and Indrani Margolin are collaborators on a \$2.5M CCPA-SFU grant studying precarious employment; the Northern FIRE contribution will focus on gender and precarity in Northern BC.

Women's and Gender Studies Articulation Committee

INSTITUTIONAL REPORT

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

May 13th, 2022 (Zoom)***Okanagan College***

Submitted by Dr. Ann McKinnon

amckinnon@okanagan.bc.ca

1. General

Gender, Sexualities and Women's Studies (GSWS) at Okanagan College is housed in Interdisciplinary Studies which includes Criminal and Social Justice, Indigenous Studies, Social Work, and some interdisciplinary courses.

We list seventeen courses in our calendar, eight of which are cross listed with other departments.

2. Budgets/Facilities

- a. AFP at Okanagan College has launched a new Applied Degree (*Applied Degree in Community Research and Evaluation*), in which Interdisciplinary Studies has a key programming role. Thanks to an innovative partnership with the University of British Columbia Okanagan's School of Social Work, up to 15 qualifying graduates will be eligible each year to receive guaranteed entry into one of UBCO's Master of Social Work (MSW) graduate studies programs – and of those 15 seats, five will be held specifically for students who are members of an aboriginal group and identify as a First Nation, Metis, Inuit, or Indigenous person.
- b. Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies has a key programming role in this initiative, so has been budgeted to develop new courses.
- c. The "H" building (built in 1963) has been demolished, so this means that there is still a classroom crunch for all students on the Kelowna campus.

3. Students Enrollments

- a. Our GSWS courses continue to be popular with International Students. Our numbers have decreased 18% from Fall 2020 to 21 and 14% from Winter 2021 to 22 since we went back to face to face instruction. It is possible that our numbers went down because students from outside the Okanagan Valley were able to take our online courses, and students living in the valley were not restricted to face to face instruction on one of our four campuses (Salmon Arm, Vernon, Kelowna, Penticton).

4. Staffing

- a. We have a new, part time continuing member.

5. Program/Course/Delivery

- a. We have proposed a new course, *GSWS 270: Feminist Philosophy*. Please see the attached course outline.
- b. We have two courses **under development** for our new Applied Degree: *GSWS 300: Feminist Research Methodologies or Feminist Research Methods*.
This course introduces feminist research methods scholarship from a variety of disciplines, including feminist methodologies applicable to applied research projects.
GSWS 350: Trans and Non-Binary Gender Theory
This course introduces the construction, politicization, and lived experience of non-binary genders intersecting with race, dis/ability, citizenship, age, sexuality, and body.
- c. While cross-listing has advantages in terms of increasing the range of courses we offer, getting adequate transfer is still proving to be a bit of a challenge. The cross listed courses that do not transfer well include: *GSWS 210: Women in Literature* and *GSWS 211: Women and the Economy*. And, some of the other offerings earn credit in one discipline (ie: ANTH) but not in GSWS.
- d. *GSWS 222: Ecofeminism* transfers to UBC and UBC-O as the second of the six first year prerequisite credits. In consultation with UBC Vancouver and Okanagan, we propose a cluster of courses that we teach every year that would fulfill this requirement:
GSWS 201: Gender, Justice, Resistance
GSWS 205: Fat Feminisms
GSWS 215: Popular Culture
GSWS 222: Ecofeminism
- e. We continue to offer one section of *GSWS 100: An Introduction to Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies* online each term. Okanagan College EdTech, the Library and our Associate Deans (Arts) and staff continue to be especially helpful with online instruction.

6. Other Items of Interest

- a. Unfortunately, the pivot to online teaching because of the pandemic has made it difficult to hold our usual community events (December 6th, MMIW, IWD) but now that restrictions have lifted, we will be reengaging with students and events in the upcoming year.

Vancouver Island University Institutional Report

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

1. General Information / Institutional Update

General: Studies in Women and Gender (SWAG) at Vancouver Island University is a part of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. Besides SWAG, English, and Creative Writing, A&H is also home to Media Studies, Indigenous – Xwulmuxw Studies, History, Interior Design, Visual Arts and others.

SWAG offers a four-year Baccalaureate program with both a major and a minor. Although we list 25 courses in the VIU Calendar, we typically only offer eight courses, annually. Of these eight, four are Indigenous-focused. VIU SWAG is unique in that we have offered indigenous-focused courses for at least two decades. The program itself has been running for approximately 26 years. To support our major and minor, we cross list a number of courses with other departments (Sociology, History, English, etc.) and offer a number of Directed Studies for the upper-level students. Sometimes other courses are taught when expertise and budget allow. As an example, the Dean of A&H taught a third year Queer Theory course this Spring and in Spring of 2020, a local lawyer offered a Women and Law course.

Budgets / Facilities: There is no budgetary increases in SWAG. Like all other post-secondary institutions, VIU is currently running a deficit due to COVID so no money has been, or will be, spent on anything except direct and necessary costs. This situation will likely last another few years. The buildings on campus that house the SWAG offices and classrooms got a new ramp to allow people to access the second floor. There is no elevator in B340/345 (two buildings that are joined and that are among the oldest on campus). Besides the ramp construction, there was also a much-needed renovation of the existing male/female washrooms and an addition of two large fully- accessible, non-gendered washrooms.

Students / Enrolments: For the 2021-2022 academic year, enrolments were up in all of our courses. I believe this has to do with the accessibility of the courses online in part, and also because there has been some staffing continuity for the past couple of years, despite all SWAG faculty teaching on sessional contracts. Course completions were mostly better too, although the Fall term saw some substantial attrition from November. This Summer (2022) we are offering SWAG 100 – Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies – for the very first time. It is an online offering beginning early May for seven weeks. There are currently 34 registered (this is our normal maximum), with 14 waitlisted.

Studies in Women and Gender Articulation Committee <https://douglascollege-ca.zoom.us/j/68517122182?pwd=aWhyMUZwWmR4WkJCMGJOYWxMdkQrUT09> Meeting ID: 685 1712 2182
Passcode: 129274

May 13, 2022, Noon – 3 PM

Vicki L. Nygaard, Chair, VIU SWAG, vicki.nygaard@viu.ca

Page 2

STUDIES IN WOMEN AND GENDER VIU 2022

Staffing: There was a major staff change in SWAG four years ago. Two permanent faculty members used to have parts of their workload in SWAG with a sessional filling in when/where needed. One of these faculty members has left the University permanently and the other moved into a fulltime administrative position within the Arts and Humanities Faculty. Currently, and since Fall 2018, the program employs four sessionals on a (mainly) part-time basis. One of the sessionals became ABD in Gender Studies at SFU in January 2022. Another defended her PhD in early January 2022. The A&H Faculty received permission to hire two 0.5 positions in SWAG this academic year. One of these will be Indigenous focused. The two half-time positions won't cover all the courses we offer annually, including the Chair position, but it is a good start to some stability for the department.

2. Program/Course Update

Curriculum Developments: Women's Studies (WOST) at VIU officially became Studies in Women and Gender (SWAG) in 2019. Finally, all system changes that could be made institutionally are now reflective of the name change. The core introductory course name "Women and Leadership" was officially changed in early 2021 to "Introduction to Women and Gender Studies".

Queer Theory (SWAG 302), despite being on the SWAG course offering list for several years, was finally taught for the first time by the Dean (and previous SWAG Chair) in Spring 2022.

The Chair of SWAG is offering a sociology course this summer called Food-Feminism-Future which SWAG students can take for SWAG credits.

Issues: Interestingly, after shifting to the fully online format that COVID made necessary in 2020-2021, students seem to prefer to do their courses online. While enrolments were very strong going into the Fall of 2021, there was quite a bit of attrition in the F2F SWAG courses after October. This seemed to be in other departments and disciplines across campus as well, especially among students who had done their first year fully online. There was a great sense of fatigue and burnout among students as they were grappling with multiple course formats in one semester across their course loads.

Research / Projects: SWAG students in the "Introduction to Gender" class participated in the student research conference (CREATE) at VIU in April with 10 research infographic posters. The project was called "Gender and Sexuality Across Time and Space" and was very well received by the VIU community. One poster won a cash prize and certificate while all the posters as a group won the first ever award given out by the Positive Space Alliance at VIU for showcasing diversity.

Our ABD faculty member is working on research on trans youth.

The Chair of the department is under contract with a publisher to write an introductory level Canadian women's and gender studies text. It is supposed to be published in 2023.

Page 3

STUDIES IN WOMEN AND GENDER VIU 2022

3. Other Items of Interest

New Anti-Racism / Decolonizing Committee:

Last Spring, we started a new committee in Arts and Humanities called A&H Decolonization and Anti-Racism Committee (DAARC) to explore pedagogical and curricular initiatives relating to decolonization and anti-racism. This initiative started in SWAG and is a faculty-wide committee with nearly all A&H departments represented on the committee. The impetus to start the committee was to ensure that the momentum of BIPOC movements is sustained and strengthened, rather than fading into the background. The committee hired a work op student last May and she continued her work through last fall and this spring. She will again be hired as the summer work op student in May. She has created a number of valuable resources on anti-racist and decolonial pedagogy and curriculum for every A&H department and will play a role in the development of the website and PD event slated for next fall or spring.

SWAG Work Op Students / SWAG Pride and Power:

SWAG was fortunate to get work op funding to hire two students. In January a SWAG Outreach & Liaison Team was hired. They created a good social media presence, attended all relevant campus events (Women's Memorial March, IWD, TDoV) and did button making and a photobooth at two events. They also created a student club called "SWAG Pride & Power" and are currently recruiting members (last I heard they had approximately 20) and planning feminist social events for next academic year. SWAG was fortunate enough to get work op funding again for this summer so the work the Team started will be continued through the summer, gearing up for high visibility in the fall. It has been a long time since SWAG has had any real presence among students, so this has been really exciting. You can see some of their work and photos on Facebook at VIU Studies in Women and Gender and on Instagram at @swagviu. They have an email address too which is swag1990viu@gmail.com

The Student Club's New Logo:

