

MINUTES

BCCAT's English Articulation Committee Meeting

May 3, 2024

The BCCAT English Articulation Committee met online synchronously via Zoom and in-person Fairleigh Dickinson University in Vancouver on Friday, May 3, 2024, from 8:30/9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

PRESENT: *See Appendix "Attendees"*

REGRETS: UBC-O, SFU

ABSENT: Emily Carr, JIBC, NVIT, RRU, UBC-O, Okanagan College

1. **Call to Order.** at 8:40 am, the EAC Chair, Linda Harwood (Selkirk College), welcomed everyone to the committee's first ever HYBRID meeting (online synchronous via Zoom and in-person at FDU) and gave her land acknowledgement.

2. **Approval of Agenda and Any Additional Items.** Add "Best Practices with Generative Artificial Intelligence" document creation to section 5a. **Approved unanimously.**

3. **Approval of Previous Minutes** of the online, asynchronous annual meeting of May 2023. **Approved unanimously.**

4. **Introductions and institutional report summaries (Round Robin).** Members posted, summarized, and discussed their written institutional reports. Here are the common themes:

a. **Enrollments.** Enrollments across various institutions were generally stable or experienced a slight decline. This trend was observed at VCC, TWU, COTR, Camosun, KPU, and UVic. Factors contributing to this trend included the recently imposed international student cap and the availability of on-campus delivery modes at other institutions, such as AU. However, LaSalle reported a doubling in enrollments.

b. **Delivery modes.** Online classes remain high in student demand with waitlists, as noted by Douglas, Camosun, UVic, and VIU. Many institutional administrations were noted as still preferring oncampus and hybrid models over online delivery modes, however.

c. **Student preparedness.** Concerns about high school preparedness, influenced by minimal essay requirements in ENGL 12 and a focus on graduation over post-secondary readiness were noted by at COTR and KPU. TWU observed that students in BC and Alberta lack exposure to independent novel reading. Post-pandemic, students exhibit disengagement and struggle with attendance and deadlines, as stated by Douglas, Camosun, and KPU. The IELTS exam tends to overestimate proficiency, as observed by Columbia College, with resulting increased pressures on literacy supports. Weak language proficiency among admitted students continues to contribute to higher failure rates, academic integrity violations, and faculty workload increases.

d. **Writing Supports.** Common student writing supports include increased library resources for first-year academic writing courses (COTR); providing access to Write Away and Ask Away services, workshops on citation practices and academic integrity, peer tutoring, and writing workshops at

as noted by NLC, LaSalle, Selkirk, and Columbia College; and the establishment of Writing and Reading Centers as reported by Coquitlam College.

e. **Student Mental Health.** Student mental health issues continue to increase as noted by Capilano University, Camosun, Selkirk, and KPU), resulting in a rise in emotional workloads of faculty and limited counselling availability.

f. **Indigenizing the Curriculum.** Indigenizing the curriculum by integrating holistic learning was noted by Douglas, UVic, UFV, and Selkirk College. UVic introduced its "ENSH 103: Writing, Culture, Power," which analyzes contemporary English texts from marginalized communities. UVic aims to blend these goals with faculty expertise, widening perspectives, and diversifying content. UVic's Indigenous cohort section of ATWP135, designed by Loren Gaudet, enhances skills and belonging for Indigenous students, as highlighted in *The Conversation*. Selkirk College also added some new Indigenous courses.

g. **Micro-credentials.** UCW introduced micro-credentials for their LMS, Brightspace, and UCW and Douglas developed micro-credentials on Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). COTR proposed a micro-credential for providing writing support for students. Last year, SFU's Faculty of Arts and Social Science initiated one-credit "micro-courses" to aid degree completion. SFU English proposed a Revision course, canceled, however, due to low enrollment. TRU approved four micro-credentials under the Future Skills Grant in spring 2023. Selkirk College's Teaching and Learning Institute contributed to four micro-credential projects, offering guidance in two, managing curriculum design and facilitation in another, while also spearheading a fourth project.

h. **Responding to Academic Integrity Violations and Gen-AI.** The committee expressed the need to explore ethical uses of and adding clear guidelines in academic integrity policies. Everything from establishing an Office of Academic Integrity and an Academic Integrity Review Committee (UCW) to forming advisory working groups or equivalents (UCW; Selkirk; FDU; NLC; Capilano; et al) have resulted in institutional policy responses to a common rise in academic integrity violations resulting from students' unauthorized use of gen-AI technologies. Consequently, many institutions have already published or are still working on an institutional statement on ethical and responsible use of Gen-AI (UVic, UCW, Yukon U, FDU, Selkirk, et al). UVic has posted their Gen-AI policy here: [UVic Gen-AI policy posted on the web](#).

i. **Paradigm shift in the teaching of reading and writing to think and to learn.** The committee also expressed the need to share and research pedagogical strategies to minimize opportunities to plagiarize in English courses by including more group activities, in-person writing, scaffolded assignments, and UDL options. Concerns about rising violations remain, with some administrators' hesitancy to use Turnitin due to beliefs about false positives and privacy concerns.

5. **BCCAT Report (Elle Ting, Research & Projects Officer).** The BCCAT Spring 2024 update overviewed where articulation resources can be found online; who the Council's new chair is (former Selkirk College president, Angus Graeme); the three-year plan to rebuild TCS; a new partnership with ONCAT; and a focus on enhanced pathways between health care programs, especially in Nursing. She reviewed professional and regulation transfer, direct and accessible admissions, course outlines in the BCCAT transfer system, and projects planned for 2024-25. She also mentioned that BCCAT's next JAM will be on Nov. 7-8, 2024, in

Vancouver, and that the PCCAT/ARUCC Conference's "Charting the Way Forward: Exploring New Paths to Success" will be held in Calgary on June 24-27, 2024. Lastly, she listed the calls for proposals in four areas:

- Exploring Interprovincial Student Mobility with Statistics Canada Data (
- Policies and Practices of Course Syllabi Distribution
- Delivery Mode Preferences: An Overview of Students' Surveys and Institutional Responses
 - Students' Affordability Considerations for Post-Secondary Access.

Her presentation slideshow has been uploaded to our Moodle page.

6. BUSINESS ARISING from previous minutes.

a. **Workshop the "Aims" document.** In break-out groups, committee members updated the 2023 version of the Aims document primarily to reflect any ongoing changes with generative artificial technology uses in English education and to align with the latest BC K-12 curriculum and practices. Suggested edits were discussed and **approved**. Members will have two more weeks to review the document and to suggest any other edits.

ACTION: Linda Harwood will input the approved tweaks to the Aims document, post it on the EAC Moodle page for any other suggested edits (two-week deadline to suggest something before sending the revised Aims document (2024) for publication on the BCCAT website by the end of May, 2024.

b. **MOTION:** "We move that a **sub-committee** be struck to address changing classroom needs (these may or may not be reflected in the AIMS document) based on student mental health, post-COVID-19, international students, and generative AI. The committee should also take into account the level of preparedness we now see from high school students under the new curriculum."

Approved unanimously.

7. **Election of Chair and SLP.** By acclamation, the committee elected for Steve Roe to stay on as the committee's SLP (Systems Liaison Person), and after serving as Chair for 15 years, Linda Harwood (Selkirk College) resigned as Chair but graciously agreed to continue as the committee's Co-Chair to mentor incoming Chair, James Gifford (FDU).

Approved unanimously.

8. Adjournment. 3:30 pm

Next meeting: Friday, May 2, 2025 (Location: TBD)

Our tradition, since 2009, has been to meet on the first Friday of each May.

BCCAT's English Articulation Committee (Hybrid) Meeting Sign-in Sheet

May 3, 2024

(24 members online; 11 on-site, including SLP and BCCAT rep; 1 FDU guest on-site)

INSTITUTION	REPRESENTATIVE	Sign in here, please
Selkirk College	Linda Harwood, Chair	Present, online
Athabasca University	Paul Huebener	Present, online
BCIT	Marian Gracias	Present, On-Campus (FDU)
Capilano University	Alicia Fahey	Present, online
FDU	James Gifford Orion Kidder (guest)	Present, On-Campus (FDU) Present, On-Campus (FDU)
KPU	Heather Cyr	Present, On-Campus (FDU)
SFU	Diana Solomon	REGRETS
TRU	Heather Simeney MacLeod	Present, online
UBC-O	Marie Loughlin	REGRETS
UBC-V	Rick Gooding	Present, On-Campus (FDU)
UCW	Noosha Mehdian	Present, online
UFV	Heather McAlpine	Present, online
UNBC	Kevin Hutchings	Present, online
UVic	Erin E. Kelly, (ATW Program) Joseph Grossi	Present, online Present, On-Campus (FDU)
Trinity Western University	Lydia Forssander-Song	Present, online
VIU	Paul Watkins	Present, online
Yorkville University	Lok Pokhrel	Present, online
Yukon University	Drew Lyness	Present, online
Alexander College	Steve Roe (SLP) Graeme Abernethy	Present, On-Campus (FDU) Present, online
Acsenda School of Management	Ray Rahimi	Present, online
Langara College	Kathleen Oliver	Present, On-Campus (FDU)

INSTITUTION	REPRESENTATIVE	Sign in here, please
LaSalle College Vancouver	Naghmeh Babaee	Present, online
Camosun College	Kristine Kerins	Present, On-Campus (FDU)
Coast Mountain College	Simon Thompson	Present, On-Campus (FDU)
College of New Caledonia	Graham Pearce	Present, online
Columbia College	Zeef Cabrita	Present, online
Coquitlam College	Bruce Lord	Present, On-Campus (FDU)
Corpus Christi College	Judith Scholes	Present, online
COTR	Caley Ehnes	Present, online
Douglas College	David Wright	Present, online
North Island College	Erin McConomy	Present, online
Northern Lights College	Emily Leach	Present, online
Okanagan College	Sean Johnston	ABSENT
VCC	Michael Weber	Present, online
Western Community College	Alisa Gouraud Abbas Khedmatgozari	Present, online Present, FDU
BCCAT representative	Elle Ting	Present, FDU