

Minutes

2007 Computer Studies Articulation Meeting

Location: TRU - Open Learning
4355 Mathissi Place, Burnaby, BC

Date: March 8th – 9th, 2007

Meeting Participants:

- Martin Buck – Camosun College (Acting Chair)
- Fred Cunningham – Thompson Rivers University
- Catherine Mooney – Northern Lights College
- Jan Oosterhof-Contant – University College of the Fraser Valley
- Don Bentley – Capilano College
- Dan Chetner – Okanagan College
- Bob Gadsby – College of the Rockies
- Frank Fornelli – Vancouver Community College
- Archana Acharya – Malaspina University College

Regrets:

- Bryan Richards – Thompson Rivers University (Committee Chair)
- Dave McKeever – Northwest Community College
- Glenda Hunter – Malaspina University College
- Lyle Olsen - Selkirk College
- Brent Langlois – Nicola Valley Institute of Technology

No Representative Sent:

- BCIT (asked to be removed as not teaching these levels)
- *College of New Caledonia*
- *Douglas College*
- *Institute of Indigenous Government – All Nations Institute*
- *Kwantlen University College*
- *Langara College*
- *North Island College*
- *Thompson Rivers University – Open Learning*
- *University of British Columbia*
- *Yukon College*

1. Introductions

- Welcomed new members Fred Cunningham from Thompson Rivers University, Jan Oosterhof-Contant from University College of the Fraser Valley, Dan Chetner from Okanagan College, Bob Gadsby from College of the Rockies and Archna Acharya from Malaspina University College.

2. The **Meeting Agenda** was adopted as proposed.

3. **Institutional Reports and Discussion:** While some are still reporting low enrollments, those who have been targeting specific client groups like seniors and First Nations are experiencing full courses and even waitlists. A summary of reports is provided below followed by links to available detailed reports on our website (note: a login is required):

- Camosun: Fundamental through Intermediate courses are offered on campus through the [Access to Academic and Career Foundations Department](#) and Fundamental through Advanced with the [Community Learning Partnerships Department](#). CLP in partners with community learning centres in the south Island region to offer programs in a blended (online and face-to-face) mode with the assistance of onsite community facilitators and/or college instructional assistants. The college is also a partner in the [South Island Learning Community \(SILC\)](#) with [Project Literacy Victoria](#) and the [Songhees Nation](#). See <http://lwebs.ca/comp/?q=node/34/> for more details.
- Thompson Rivers University: Numbers are up this year. They are offering Intermediate, Advanced and two Provincial courses. Near the end of this term they will be doing a pilot integrating online and face-to-face at the Advanced level. They have potential for working with First Nations Bands. Off campus Williams Lake has limited offerings in Advanced. There is also a presence in Lillooet and 100 Mile House. By June 2007 Open Learning will have moved from Burnaby to a new building in Kamloops.
- Northern Lights College: They have eight campuses and learning centres. They offer Fundamental through Advanced with most students taking Fundamental. Numbers down because of activity in oil and gas. They have experienced a reduction in staffing with an expectation of doing more with less. There have been cuts to computer classes at Dawson. They are offering a self-directed course. Students are expect to work independently. This program is not online. Fort St. John numbers are also down as are those in Tumbler Ridge and Chetwynd. The lack of Internet connectivity and isolation of drilling camps makes it difficult to offer programs there.
- University College of the Fraser Valley: UCFV offers Computers 061 and Computers 071 at Mission, Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Hope campuses. The success of these classes is due to excellent partnerships between instructional assistants and instructors. Seniors are also among students taking courses. Some instructors use a text while others have developed their own materials. Seniors can have trouble with text. There is a waiting list for courses. See <http://lwebs.ca/comp/?q=node/8> for more details.
- Okanagan College: Numbers are down at Okanagan College. Programs tuition free. ABE is seen as a service program providing students the skills they need to

access other college programs. They distribute stats to other programs demonstrating the importance of ABE to their programs. Okanagan offers Intermediate, Advanced and Provincial. More of the demand is for the first two. They are looking at offering courses that are a combination of two or more courses, but that is not the best solution. This is being done to maintain programs. See <http://lwebs.ca/comp/?q=node/36> for more information.

- Malaspina: Campuses are located in Powell River, Nanaimo and Duncan. In Nanaimo they run three sessions per year from September to July. Sections are full. They also run combined sections. Computing courses are in demand. They are using the O'Learey series textbook -- Chapters 1-3 in Intermediate and 4-6 in Advanced. They are also working with local First Nations groups with the Bridging Program. Enrollments have been steady. The Parksville Campus has an Elder College. There is a small fee to join and then a small fee per course. Course are free for those over 65. They offered a free introductory course. There are 16 in the class with 11 on the wait list. Fundamental Computer Studies for the Seniors is rewarding and fun to teach. More information about the elder college is available at <http://www.mala.ca/ccs/eldercollege.asp>
- College of the Rockies: CotR offers programs in Cranbrook, Invermere and Golden. Computer courses taught are mostly Intermediate with some Fundamental. Cranbrook experienced a drop off in provincial level numbers, which it has offered that for some time. Invermere is most active in Computer Studies. Instructors at the smaller centres teach math, English and Computing. In the last year there have not been as many students interested in Advanced, perhaps because of more familiarity with computers in general population. Golden is now offering computer courses for seniors. There is a potential for First Nations partnerships with the [Ktunaxa](#) (pronounced 'k-too-nah-ha') people.

4. **BCCAT Update:** Martin Buck provided an update on Annual Meeting of Articulation Committee Chairs and took the group through the new [BCCAT](#) website changes with a particular focus on
- [How to Articulate Handbook](#)
 - [Bctransferguide.ca](#)
 - [Educationplanner.bc.ca](#)
 - [Campus 2020](#)

The group discussed creating our own [Computer Studies website](#) and viewed a demo of the site. This could be linked from the BCCAT website.

Martin provided some background information on the Premier's Summit on Literacy he attended. The province appears to be committed to meeting literacy needs, including those of First Nations peoples. The premier announced \$27 million in literacy funding most of which appears to be administered by the K-12 sector.

5. **Web 2.0 Applications Demo:** Martin Buck of Camosun gave the committee an overview of Web 2.0 applications. We currently teach Web 1.0 skills to our Advanced learners (e.g., Hypertext Markup Language or HTML). Recent Web 2.0 server applications have greatly reduced the technical skills needed to create web content. Anyone who can word process or email can now create content for the web using Web 2.0 tools like [Drupal](#), [Moodle](#), [YouTube](#) and [Google Docs](#). Think of Web 1.0 as a few hundred people with this expertise creating content for millions of Web users. Now thanks to Web 2.0 millions are creating content for millions.

Our [new website](#) makes use of the Drupal content management system. Members can easily add content to it. The group discussed using the website as a place to share curriculum.

6. **BCcampus Update:** WebCT is being phased out by the end of June 2008 in favour of Desire2Learn and Moodle. Colleges are being asked to identify which platforms they want to make available at their institution. BCcampus will arrange hosting of the service, but each college will be responsible for branding the site and administering students and courses. The committee BCcampus to set up a Moodle meta-course for each level of Computer Studies that would contain common curriculum for use by all. Instructors would also setup individual courses with curriculum specific to their students.
7. **Social Networking Software:** BCcampus is also making other server side applications available to college. A pilot of Elgg, the eportfolio and social networking software will begin in March. Details are available at the comiittee's website at <http://lwebs.ca/comp>.
8. **Guest Speaker:** Alegha Van Hanuse of the [South Island Learning Community](#) (SILC) spoke about partnerships with First Nations and Literacy Communities. SILC, a partnership of Camosun College, Project Literacy Victoria and the Songhees Nation funded by the federal Office of Learning Technology's Community Network Initiative, works with member community learning centers to support the use of learning technologies to improve the quality of life for literacy and First Nations communities. They're making use of open source tools like Moodle, Elgg and Drupal to meet formal and non-formal learning needs. It is a model that could be replicated with other colleges and partners throughout the province. The high speed Internet connections to all the bands in the province that Sue Hanley (<http://www.fntc.info/>) told us about last year would provide the conduit for delivery of instruction while a partnership with a community learning centre at the far end could provide the 'high-touch' support for upgrading programs. Alegha's presentation is available at <http://lwebs.ca/comp/?q=node/28>.
9. **Approval of Courses** for the Articulation Transfer Grid.
 - No new or existing courses were presented for approval
10. **Changes to ABE Articulation Handbook Generic Outlines:**
 - No changes were made to the Articulation Handbook Generic Outlines.
11. **Meeting Close**
 - The CS Committee extended its thanks and best wishes to Frank Fornelli of Vancouver Community College who is scheduled for retirement by the end of this school year. Frank's contributions to the committee and indeed the whole ABE Computer Studies field were acknowledged.
 - Next year's meeting will be held at Malaspina College in March 2008.
 - Bryan Richards and Martin Buck were selected as committee co-chairs.

12. Meeting Motions

The following motions were passed with the approval of all:

- **Election of Co-chairs**
Moved by Archna Seconded by Catherine
Bryan Richards and Martin Buck were selected as co-chairs.

- **Resubmit last year's BCcampus Online Development Fund Application**
Moved by Frank and Seconded by Don
That the ABE Computer Studies Articulation Committee resubmit last year's proposal for funding.

- **BCcampus ABE Online Steering Committee Representation**
Moved by Archna Seconded by Don
That the BCCampus ABE Online Steering Committee accept representation from the ABE Computer Studies Articulation Committee.

- **Closer Ties with BCcampus**
Moved by Don and Seconded by Archna
The ABE Computer Studies Working Committee wishes to:
 - have closer ties with BCcampus;
 - enable greater sharing of course materials between the CSWC members;
 - utilize the CMS/LMS supported by the majority of institutions.

To enable the above the ABE CSWC kindly requests that BCcampus set up Moodle meta-courses for ABE Computer Studies at the Fundamental, Intermediate, Advanced and Provincial levels, and provide user ids for ABE Computer Studies faculty who are not yet part of BCcampus.