

GEOGRAPHY ARTICULATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFERS (BCCAT)

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Meeting Date: 04/05/2018 **RM: DTB B215**

Present:

Committee Member Name	Institution Name	email
Clifford Raphael	College of New Caledonia	raphael@cnc.bc.ca
Colin Mills	Langara College	cmills@langara.ca
Teresa Dawson	UVic	tdawson@uvic.ca
Jeanne Mikita	Capilano College	jmikita@capilanou.ca
Trisha Jarrett	Camosun	Jarrett@camosun.ca
Chris Jackson	UNBC	cjackson@unbc.ca
Kathy Runnalls	Douglas Collage	runnallsk@douglascollege.ca
Claire Hay	UFV	Claire.hay@ufv.ca
Ken Shaw	UNCC	kshaw@nwcc.bc.ca
Tom Waldichuk	TRU	twaldichuk@tru.ca
Mark Cernigoj	Coquitlam College	mcernigoj@coquitlamcollege.ca
Bernard Momer	UBC Okanagan	bernard.momer@ubc.ca
Dave Cake	VIU	dave.cake@viu.ca
Eugene McCann	SFU	emccann@sfuc.ca
Allison Lutz	Selkirk Collage	alutz@selkirk.ca
Maxwell Ofosuhene	TWU	maxwell.ofosuhene@twu.ca
Jan Thompson	KPU	Jan.thomson@kpu.ca
Katie Burles	COTR	kburles@cotr.bc.ca
Ruth Erskine	BCCAT	rerskine@bccat.ca
Terence Day	Okanagan College	tday@okanagan.bc.ca
Nick Poeschek	Ministry of Education	<Nick.Poeschek@gov.bc.ca>

Recorder: Trisha Jarrett

- 1. Meeting Call to Order** at 8:50 am
- 2. Welcome** from Songhees Elder, Dr. Skip Dick
- 3. Introductions**
- 4. Approval of Agenda and Any Additional Items**
- 5. Approval of Previous Minutes of the Articulation Committee meeting of May 5, 2017**
 - Amendments:
 - Correct Cliff's last name to Raphael

- Item 6 in minutes: Election of SLP (Bernard) -> remove moved and seconded NA -> should just say carried.

Motion: to adopt the Agenda with additions

- Moved: *Claire (UFV)* Seconded: *Jeanne (Cap U)* MOTION: *Carried*

6. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- a. Letter to Ministry
- b. Glen – link to Teach BC

7. Reports:

- a. **BCCAT Report** – Ruth Erskine presented BCCAT Spring Update Report (<http://www.bccat.ca/articulation/announcements/bccat-2018-spring-update>). Over 150 people attended Joint Annual Meeting of 2017, which included panel discussion on indigenization. Video clips are available (<http://www.bccat.ca/articulation/jam>). Data available on student mobility (Fast Facts: http://www.bccat.ca/pubs/stp-fast-facts_2013-03-27.pdf).
- b. **Ministry of Education Representative** - Nick Poeschek provided update and answered questions. Process for curriculum development: Process began in 2011 internally in Ministry. Aimed to update curriculum in an open and transparent way. Teams are set up to work with BCTF. Teachers are nominated onto teacher development teams (private, public, all backgrounds, etc.). Struggled a little with subject matter expertise. Put curriculum documents up as draft to solicit feedback. Hannah Wilson and Michelle Patterson (both VIU), added geography content. Reviewed feedback from teachers in the field. New drafts coming up in the next couple of weeks. Teacher driven process: feedback from subject matter experts gets filtered through classroom teacher lens
 - Discussion:
 - Issue declining enrollments in geography. Concern is that high school students aren't connecting the content they are learning to the word 'geography'. Perception that schools are primarily hiring historians to teach social studies.
 - Students are coming in to university-level class with a lack of understanding that the content is called 'geography'. Disservice to students as they later enroll in topics that aren't related (i.e. political science, sociology, psychology) as they try to connect with the discipline.
 - Q: Theresa (UVIC): for the upcoming drafts, is there still time to provide feedback?
 - A (Nick): Don't want curriculum to sit. Trying to move to system of ongoing revisions. Cycle of revision every 2-3 years. If you have feedback and suggestions, there is opportunity to integrate suggestions.
 - Q: Collin (Langara): Very concerned that geography is losing its foothold in K-12. Are there ways in those courses that they are being pointed to post-secondary system in BC?
 - A (Nick): In Grade 11/12. Being able to make connections. Interested in supporting materials. Is there an association website?
 - A: (Glen): What is assessed will influence how geography is played out. Biggest impact that our group could make is in the resources area. Prepare curriculum modules that teachers can use, even better if projects. Also textbooks. Teachers are resource hungry.
 - Q: Teresa (UVic): Could I make an assignment to develop a module as part of a class assignment?
 - Q: (Tom TRU): Teacher training – is way to ensure teachers coming out from K-12 have more background in geography?

- A: Not to my knowledge. Driving force about literacy and numeracy. Resources, examples would be helpful.
 - Q: Maxwell: Why don't we want to use 'geography'?
 - A (Nick): Curriculum trying to be inclusive of all disciplines within social sciences.
 - A (Glen): Two things to consider: 1) Soc 11 Explorations used a lot around the province already. Most schools are programming into this course, get credit and many take electives after. 2) What is being put in Soc 11 Explorations: teachers are trying to coordinate a bit, try to develop more in-depth inquiry. To bring back geography (relative to history-focus), come up with case studies and examples that use same terms significance, evident, cause/consequence and definitions that define it in geographic terms. Now, primarily history-based. Case studies, activities, assignments
 - Q (Chris UNBC): is there structure for rolling out professional development across province
 - A (Glen): Is district level professional development. Best way to get support materials/resources is to go through TeachBC (BCTF) that has web resources.
 - Q: Tom: Are curriculum competencies (current 6, developed by history) able to modified?
 - A: No. They have been adopted for K-12. Have been written in history context, can be adapted to other areas.
- Cliff identified themes:
 - Resource collective: development of modules. If we do something collectively, can we bring those resources together in one place?
 - Local connections: not going to be from ministry down. How we infiltrate in local area?
 - Focus groups to identify disconnect between high school and university courses.

ACTION: Committee (Teresa/Claire/Chris/Glen) to bring mini plan (template, recommendations, how to guide) back to group

ACTION: Theresa pilot assignments where her upper level students would develop module for use in high school. Will share back to group.

ACTION: Jeanne to liaise with Hannah Wilson/Sabha Ghani about participating in Grade 11/12 curriculum process. Will share back to group.

ACTION: All to circulate call for participation (see email on listserv) in reply to Hannah Wilson amongst colleagues in institution. Contact Hannah Wilson directly.

- c. **High school Liaison** - Glen Thielmann asks that each post-secondary geography department prepare a statement on what they are going to do to build connections to secondary programs related to the promotion of geography education and careers in Geography. Reviewed current curriculum for Social Studies 10 (<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum/social-studies/10/core>). Geography is there in main themes, but challenge is for teachers to take roll of implementing specific geography-based projects to meet these themes. Aim is to teach about geographical thinking.
- Q (Maxwell): Is there anything in curriculum is lacking?
 - A (Glen): Making geography more explicit. Getting resources to back it up.
 - Jeanne: New teachers are entering system and that is who we can provide assistance to. Look hard for providing materials to middle school ages as key audience.

- Q: Teresa (Uvic): Is it better to take internment module that is already there and add to it, or create fresh ideas?
- A: Glen: Revive activities that exist and reminding what is useful. This is powerful. Fresh content for geography is useful.

Lunch Break 12:00

8. Discussion Items

- a. Video Taping Lectures
 - Policy of institution will hold here. Each faculty association deals with it in own way.
- b. Applied Human Geography – Colin Mills Langara
 - Has successful run an applied human geography course. Happy to share if interested.
- c. Indigenous studies at different institutions; the state of Regional geography; geographical methods courses. [Kathy Runnalls]
 - Douglas is trying to create 1st year interdisciplinary program in realm of indigenous studies. Roundtable discussion of what other institutions are doing.
 - Eugene (SFU) revamped Geog degree and want to incorporate at least one indigenous studies course into all programs
 - Camosun: Interdisciplinary program in Indigenous Studies Department. Focus on indigenizing curriculum throughout institution.
 - Colin (Langara): Two recent hires to begin indigenous studies. Early stages.
 - Teresa (UVic): Beginning Indigenous Studies program. Very exciting. Hiring underway. Indigenous studies have own courses. Geography offers Indigenous Geography course.
 - Claire (UFV). BA in Indigenous Studies just launched. Indigenous Maps, Films, Rights, and Land Claims certificate co-taught with History and Geography.
 - Maxwell (TWU): Is indigenization only link to Canadian indigenous curriculum?
 - Bernard (UBCO): Separate indigenous program. Currently indigenizing Geography curriculum.
 - Allison (Selkirk): Indigenization happening. Indigenization staff wanting to funnel communications through their office. Impacts personal relationships with community.
 - Chris (UNBC) First Nation's studies program. Most courses will have element that have that indigenous content tied to it. Aboriginal scholar in residence appointed for the first time.
- d. first year Geography courses and requirements for transfer – Katie Burles and Terence Day
 - Katie Burles – would like to make one robust 1st year geography course; double pass requirements for lab and exams.
 - Terry Day (Okanagan) – physical geography has changed. Moving away from systems approach to focusing on interactions. Two courses based on UBC model (climate and bio/water and land). Don't want to make changes in isolation
 - Claire (UFV) went to single course model two years ago based on program review. Have problems with transferability.
 - Q (Claire UFV): How do we move beyond specifically thinking about content vs outcomes?
 - Bernard (UBCO): emphasizes having good course outlines. Have specific learning outcomes.
 - Jeanne: Useful to have summary of what everyone is doing. How many hours, how many credits, do you have double pass?
 - Bernard (UBCO): Reviewing geography this year.
 - Chris (UNBC): First year courses being more spatially oriented. Physical geography moving to more spatial data and problem solving. Human Geography doing similar. 2nd year courses, more focused. Two courses: 'planet earth' and 'earth from above'
 - KPU: Spatial awareness class as first year course.

- Terry (Okanagan): want to inspire students in our 1st year courses. This is our recruiting ground.

ACTION: revisit 1st year geography courses and requirements for transfer at next year's meeting.

e. Teaching geography to international students

- Looking for success stories and strategies
- Teresa: pilot course for social sciences. Forced students to buddy up. Did assignments together. If you let them, they can provide examples together. Connectedness to place was highlighted. Fieldtrips at beginning. YouTube videos creating place together with buddied students. Assessed global citizenship.

ACTION: Allison will post to listserv for further discussion

f. Cluster articulation meeting May 2019

- Robert McCrae is curious if there is an appetite for group meeting with earth science, forestry, agriculture/horticulture, environmental. Proposes May 6-8, 2019, or May 8-10, 2019 at an institution in lower mainland.
- Committee feels that a cluster meeting is not a direction would like to go at this time. We would be open to joint meetings in the future.

ACTION: Cliff will communicate with Robert McCrae about cluster meetings

g. Google Groups update – Alison

- There are problems with posting to google groups.
- Kathy is still a group manager

h. Request from Michelle Rhodes re- survey

Action: Cliff to post survey to Google groups.

9. Institutional Reports [highlights]

- Updates provided by in-attendance institutions
- Please review reports on Google Groups

10. Next meeting

- UBC to host (assumed)
- May 2nd/3rd

Action: Cliff to follow up with UBC (Loch Brown) about articulation next year

11. New Chair:

- Teresa Dawson

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm

Moved: Tom (TRU) Seconded: Maxwell (TWU) MOTION Carried