

# BC Post-Secondary Music Forum 2013 | MINUTES

Meeting date | time 5/6/2013 9:30 AM | Meeting location Victoria Conservatory of Music

Meeting called by	Dr. Mary C. J. Byrne (VCM-Camosun) On behalf of BCCAT and
Type of meeting	Annual Music Articulation
Facilitator	Mary Byrne
Note taker	Leslie Opatril (VCM-Camosun)
Timekeeper	Mary Byrne

## Attendees

- Allan Dodson (UBC) 'allan.dodson@ubc.ca'
- Alan Thorpe (TWU) 'thorpe@twu.ca'
- Don Hlus (KPU) 'Don.Hlus@kwantlen.ca'
- Geordie Roberts (CapU) 'groberts@capilanou.ca'
- Janet Danielson (SFU) 'jrd@sfu.ca'
- Jared Burrows (CapU – Jazz)  
'jaredburrows@gmail.com'
- John Glofcheskie (DC)  
'glofcheskie@douglascollege.ca'
- Joy Ollen (Douglas) 'ollenj@douglascollege.ca'
- Ken Morrison (VCC) 'kmorrison@vcc.ca';
- Mary Byrne (Camosun) 'marybyrne@shaw.ca'
- Patrick Carpenter (VIU) 'Patrick.Carpenter@viu.ca'
- Susan Lewis Hammond (UVIC) 'sglewis@uvic.ca'

## Non-voting Special Guests:

- Eugene Dowling (UVIC) – late afternoon
- Graham Webber (VCC as SLP) 'gwebber@vcc.ca'
- John FitzGibbon (BCCAT) 'jfitzgibbon@bccat.ca'
- Kurt Kellan (UVIC) – late afternoon

## Faculty Observer

- Monik Nordine (Camosun-VCM) – afternoon

## Regrets:

- Wendy Grant (CapU) 'wgrant@capilanou.ca'
- Elizabeth Lamberton (KPU)

## AGENDA FOR THE DAY

- ✘ 9:00 – coffee/tea/chat
- ✘ 9:30 – welcome
  - ✘ Correspondence
  - ✘ approval of minutes 2012
  - ✘ Introduction of new SLP Graham Webber
- ✘ 9:45 – BCCAT presentation, John Fitzgibbon
- ✘ 10:10 – Institution Reports (about 10 minutes per institution, plus questions)

BREAK as needed around 11:00

12:00 – Lunch

- ✘ 1:00 – Articulation of Jazz Courses BC-wide
- ✘ 1:30 – Articulation of Music Media BC-wide
- ✘ 1:45 – Expectations regarding letters of reference for students

BREAK as needed around 2:30

- ✘ 2:40 – Transfer Focus: UVIC
- ✘ 3:15 – BCPSMF 2014 meeting date/location
- ✘ 3:30 – adjourn

At break, please feel free to peruse two texts on music fundamentals: Janet Danielson, *Basic Organization of Music* and Crystal Wiksyk and Brenda Braaten, *Sound Advice* series.

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Time allotted | 9:00 for 30 minutes | Agenda topic: coffee/tea/chat | Presenter VCM

Discussion: While not part of the formal agenda, some of the most important discussions of the day began as early as 9:00 with the early arrivals. Since off the record, it will remain forever a matter of conjecture what was discussed, decided, and by whom – only that whatever it was, it was important, the people who needed to participate did so, and those who didn't remain blissfully ignorant. Mary noted the exceptional patience of those waiting for coffee as the VCM's coffee maker is "terribly 20<sup>th</sup>-century."

Conclusion: All are now assembled and suitably fortified, ready for the day's formal work.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
Clean-up	VCM facilities staff	5/6/2013 4:00 PM
Disbursement of left-overs	Mary Byrne	5/6/2013 4:00 PM
Replenishment of hot water for later tea	Mary Byrne	immediate

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Time allotted | 9:30 for 15 minutes | Agenda topic Welcome and opening business | Presenter Mary Byrne

Welcome: All representatives were welcomed to the proceedings by Mary Byrne. It was noted that there were many new faces at the table. The notable "regrets" by long-time member Elizabeth Lamberton were regrettably acknowledged.

Discussion: A brief discussion considered best practice for approving the 2012 minutes considering the fact that so few present in 2013 had also been present in 2012. It was decided that only those present at 2012 would vote on behalf of the minutes.

Presentation of the 2012 minutes: Presentation John Glofcheskie of the minutes prepared by Elizabeth Lamberton was made. Moved by Alan Thorpe and seconded by Janet Danielson: the minutes be accepted as submitted. Passed.

Introduction of Graham Weber, Interim Dean of Music, Dance and Design, Vancouver Community College as new Music System Liaison Person: Graham was warmly received by the table.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
None at this time		

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Time allotted | 9:45 for 25 mins. | Agenda topic BCCAT Report | Presenter John Fitzgibbon

Discussion John circulated print copies of “BCCAT-Report to Articulation Committees” and then spoke on individual items. Some of the highlights follow here. BCCAT tracks student movement on a 6-9 month rotation, noting that about 18% do not move traditionally. This fact prompts BCCAT to remove traditional designations of sending schools and receiving school, thus allowing students to move as they need within the Province. BCCAT’s interactive website was reviewed live-time. A review of Associate Degrees is currently being undertaken; outcomes should be ready summer 2013. The “Transfer Innovation Project” was introduced: this project seeks to monitor transfer success within the Province using a set “mobility model.” Marketing materials and education planners are produced as a result of findings.

Q&A: How will students be tracked and will they consent to release of information? Students will have to sign a waiver and a Provincial committee will oversee the information. Released Provincial information will be anonymous, but it is possible that institutions might have greater access than general public.

Continuing discussion Some institutions are looking at dual registration (NIC and UVIC for example). Dual registration credits are awarded from one institution but transcribed by both institutions. Technically this is a transfer situation but the student doesn’t actually move. Institution partnerships are listed on BCCAT website. Institutions are reminded that learning outcomes are crucial to the transfer process and are asked to review these on a regular basis. Regarding degree accreditation by independent accreditors, BC leads the way in Canada with four schools bearing independent accreditation and others seeking it. Presently Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) is a possible facilitator for broader transfer to the USA. It is noted that this is on the table at the federal level, and acknowledged that governing bodies in US are generally weak but still achieve excellent transfer within individual states. In Canada the Canadian University Music Society (CUMS) may be more flexible.

Conclusion: This energetic exchange easily could have gone on for longer, however it was decided that further discussion could be undertaken at lunch and live off-the-record!

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
More conversation at lunch time	John Fitzgibbons, informally	5/6/2013 1:00 PM

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Time allotted | 10:10-12:00 | Agenda topic Institution Reports | Presenter All representatives in turn

New for 2013: All institutions, save VIU, sent reports ahead of time. The details of these were collected on a single PowerPoint presentation for easy comparison and consideration of all. The PowerPoint is included with these minutes; the institution reports themselves will be circulated to the individual school representatives along with a copy of the minutes when prepared.

Student Numbers: CC: static overall enrolment but significant shift in distribution across programmes; jazz numbers are notably improving. CapU: similar number of applications to previous year but will not know final numbers until after May auditions. DC: a surge in applications is resulting in overloaded programmes; notes a smaller first year enrolment but overall looking good. KPU: increase in incoming students is being experienced owing to the closure of Mt. Royal programmes; seen as a pleasant problem; expects further bump when UVIC/UBC sends its letters. SFU: Slight increase, particularly in composition. TWU: Level with 2012. UBC: no numbers at this early juncture. UVIC: [no direct information]. VCC: applicant numbers slightly higher as was September enrolment. VIU: budget cuts have cost enrolment significantly; upper levels are holding steady; applicants are slightly under target.

Transfer Statistics: See PowerPoint PDF for details

New Courses and Programmes: CC: Certificate in Music Technologies [fully online delivery] has been approved for 2014. CapU: nothing new; trying to ensure existing programmes are available for those who need it without giving in to alternating years; redesign of course numbers but not courses starting in 2014; getting rid of community college models; looking at degree development of an umbrella degree. DC: tweaking only. KPU: University desires expansion but lacks money to develop; 1 or 2 of the new concentrations are set to be offered first in 2014. SFU: composition system is working well. TWU: a BMUS is proposed but will not be implemented until 2014 at the earliest. UBC: 2 new courses, details pending UVIC: a range of new programmes, details pending. VCC: two new courses are proposed for 2013 as required courses for Diploma students. VIU: Budget cuts are resulting in significant re-envisioning and redesign of programmes; electives will be altered; robust programmes will continue and streams will be refined.

Changes to Curriculum: CC: elements of Diploma in Jazz Studies will be shifted around to allow easy alignment of MTEC courses. CapU: music courses for non-majors. DC: First year theory will increase in hours, and tangentially changes in English requirements; KPU: 18 non-music electives will be integrated into curriculum but not until 2014/15. SFU: core courses are moving to additional summer offering and online offering to increase access. UBC: work-load is being scrutinized to help alleviate stress problems in student body; non-music courses to be trimmed. UVIC: credit balance is being examined; ensemble credits may increase to align with UBC example.

Changes in Fees: See PowerPoint PDF. Supplemental fees are discussed without reaching conclusion or recommendation.

Changes in Funding: See PowerPoint PDF.

Administrative Changes: See PowerPoint PDF.

Faculty Changes: See PowerPoint PDF.

Conclusion Moved by Geordie Roberts, seconded by Susan Lewis: the institutional reports be accepted as received. Passed

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
Circulate Institution Reports with Minutes	Mary Byrne	11/1/2013 12:00 AM
Attach PowerPoint to Minutes as Reference	Mary Byrne	10/15/2013 12:00 AM

**Time allotted | 12:00-1:00 | Agenda topic Lunch | Presenter Victoria Conservatory of Music**

Discussion The conversations of the morning continued with great energy through the lunch hour. Mary Byrne was soundly reprimanded for setting a high bar for future Articulation lunches!

Conclusion Let VCM host in the future, if this service is truly representative of "something simple."

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
Clean-up	VCM facilities staff	5/6/2013 4:00 PM
Disbursement of left-overs	Mary Byrne	5/6/2013 4:00 PM

**Time allotted | 1:00-1:20 | Agenda topic Jazz Programme Articulation | Discussion proposed by Mary Byrne (CC) Free discussion**

Discussion: Jazz transfer within the Province is specific to individual institutions. Some block transfer to VIU exists. Current practice at CapU opposes block transfer and is unlikely to change in the foreseeable future. Learning outcomes need to be final arbiter for transfer. As a matter of continuing indecision, jazz and classical distinctions seem to be interpreted as exclusive categories. It would be a topic for further discussion whether this is

a valid distinction in an educational context. There is some desire to establish some flexibility – CapU music therapy appearing to be one of them, and therefore, should involve Stephen Williams in future discussions. Fundamentally speaking, Jazz course works places heavy emphasis on ear training; classical, reading/writing. BCCAT stresses learning outcomes in this equation as these attest to a skill set in a way that a credential does not necessarily do. Further, BCCAT asks to be notified of transfer issues: a notification bubble can be added to the website.

Conclusion Individual institutions should keep strong channels open with institutions offering receiving programmes to maximize options for transfer, keeping BCCAT in the loop all the way.

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Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
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None at this time

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Time allotted | 1:20-1:40 | Agenda topic Articulation of Music Technology courses | Discussion proposed by Mary Byrne (CC) Free discussion

Discussion: With a proliferation of music technology courses and programmes throughout the Province, is there desire to seek articulation options for these? Even with learning outcomes, a common ground as a basis for articulation is difficulty to establish owing to a rapidly changing field of study. There is concern that ultimately, support money might not be forthcoming from institutions to maintain absolutely current. Individual institutions invite others to engage in direct conversation regarding possible articulation of specific courses.

Conclusion: There is no strong appetite to pursue a unified Provincial direction in articulation of music technology courses/programmes

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Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
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None at this time

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Time allotted | 1:40-2:0 | Agenda topic Writing Reference Letters | Discussion requested by Joy Ollen Free discussion

Discussion The questions are posed: What should be included in a letter of reference? What role do they play? How are they received? In short the letter of reference should let the prospective next institution what it is like to work with the student, or something about the character of the student. The transcript will give grades, but letters can fill in the gaps such as illnesses etc. which might have contributed to poor marks in a given term. It can be a “red flag” and it can verify the audition and interview. Most are read during the audition process by the audition committee. Generally all letters are supportive and similar to the next, and so therefore they do not play a central role in the audition process. The foregoing is true for undergraduate; however, at the graduate level a letter of reference carries a great deal more weight, and while rare, can be determinant in the final decision.

Conclusion: Information was gratefully received

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Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
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None at this time

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Time allotted | not scheduled, but taken up as we moved ahead of schedule | Agenda topic Transfer Credit Disparities | Topic posed by John Glofcheskie (DC)

Discussion Note was made that differences in institutional policies – credit determining and financial – can result in wide disparities in both credits granted and tuition charged between otherwise parallel courses. Quickly this

became a thorny discussion! Many elements of the process are out of the hands of those around the table, and therefore, the discussion became more of a venting in a reasonably constructive way. UVIC/UBC stressed that they are in the habit of granting “level credit” for sending courses that don’t quite match up with exact receiving courses. Also, in some are cases a higher degree of credit is granted for transfer if the full learning outcomes are met and demonstrated. The result, however, is often that a transfer student may not receive all the credit, or receive usable credits s/he might otherwise expect for courses taken.

Conclusion: These conversations are important and individual institutions are encouraged to keep open lines of communication with receiving schools as courses are being developed or changed, or where institutional policy is shifting.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
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None at this time

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**Time allotted** | 2:00-2:30 | **Agenda topic** BMus Programmes at UVIC | **Presenter** Susan Lewis with Kurt Kellan and Eugene Dowling

Discussion UVIC presented a review of years 1 and 2 of their BMus programmes to assist sending institutions in better preparing students for transfer. The highlights of the this presentation follow. The UVIC team notes that transfer students are arriving well-prepared except that they often lack general electives. First years at UVIC need one non-music elective (but English often counts for this). Second years need one non-music and two music electives: Many students are about 4 courses behind on transfer. FA 101, Creativity is one that all must take, but few have on transfer: Susan Lewis will investigate possible transfer options. ME 100 and ME 200 are also unique courses at UVIC for education majors. Susan Lewis will consider the subscription of these courses and consider options (if they exist) for possible dual enrolment of these courses. Prospective education majors should bulk up on English before transfer. Now, some specifics to individual course streams follows. While UVIC’s aural skills courses are very specific, most transfer students arrive well-prepared. At UVIC all students receive one-hour weekly ensemble coaching, and so this drives intake numbers for balance. Music History courses are looking at a new textbook [insert] which gives greater emphasis on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>-century trends. First-year research paper is very directed, while second-year research paper is more intensive. Theory is more universal in approach. Theory experiences about 25% failure rate although exact figures are hard to determine if student have dropped for fear of failing. Students are placed in their performance classes based on their audition level.

Conclusion: A very valuable and informative presentation

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
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Search Transfer Options for FA 101	Susan Lewis	5/1/2014 12:00 AM
Confirm subscription of ME 100 and ME 200	Susan Lewis	5/1/2014 12:00 AM
Provide name of current Music History textbook	Susan Lewis	5/1/2014 12:00 AM
Forward UVIC History Outlines to Douglas College	Susan Lewis	5/1/2014 12:00 AM

Special notes: 1) since different institutions have different pass marks, it may be valuable to ask BCCAT to insert “subject to ...” indications as a condition of transfer; 2) pathway to Music Performance was not probed. Number 1 might be a good topic for next BCPSMF meeting. Additional information from UVIC regarding number 2 might be solicited.

Discussion: There is an appetite to meet more than once per year, and there is appetite to have greater access through the year to the materials of the meeting and the work of the BCPSMF committee. To accomplish this, online and conference call can be used, as well as drop box technology. A burning issue – which admittedly exceeds the mandate of this committee – is how to position music and music education in a broader public consciousness. Perhaps we should involve our colleagues in the other fine arts, and potentially those in sports. Mary will look into options and call a meeting for early November, or alternately in February. Next full articulation meeting will be held in May at [insert] on a day to be determined upon confirmation of Chair’s May schedule.

Conclusion BCPSMF will meet in May 2014 (day and place TBA) and will seek options to meet in November or February. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 3:00.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
Consult with BCCAT regarding supported options to add a midyear meeting.	Mary Byrne	10/25/2013 12:00 AM
Recover details on the location for 2014 May meeting	Mary Byrne	10/25/2013 12:00 AM
Set date of 2014 May meeting	Mary Byrne	10/25/2013 12:00 AM
Reconstruct conversation that led to initial desire to have second meeting in November/February	Mary Byrne	10/25/2013 12:00 AM
Set up dropbox for BCPSMF documents	Mary Byrne	10/25/2013 12:00 AM

Special notes: In the months since the minutes were sketched out, the purpose of the November/February meeting has become lost, and likewise the desired location of the 2014 May meeting. These items will need to be recovered by email in the coming weeks and have been added to the action items above.