

# EDUCATION COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON

Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 14:30  
Meeting held online via videoconference

### Attendees:

Darren Bernaerdt (Chair)  
Jim Bowers  
Patricia Cia  
Arnie Clark\*  
Sandra Enns  
Nora Franzova  
Marianne Gianacopoulos  
Margaret Heldman (a)

Amanjot Kaur (a)  
Pavneet Kaur  
Tess Khan  
Gerda Krause  
Carmen Larsen (a)  
Tanya Lewis  
Tess MacMillan (Vice-Chair)  
Ben Park  
Wanda Pierson

Udesh Sharma  
Anmol Singh  
Jan Smith\*  
Lane Trotter\* (a)  
Yusuf Varachia  
Ryan Vernon\* (a)  
Sunita Wiebe\*  
Peter Warren\*  
Lulin Zheng

**Regrets:** C Larsen, L Trotter, R Vernon

**Minutes:** Susan Smith

**Guests:** --

\*non-voting  
(a) absent

### 1. CALL TO ORDER / WELCOME

D Bernaerdt called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. and declared the presence of a quorum.

Announcements:

- Margaret Heldman accepted an appointment to fill the vacant administrator position on Education Council.
- Reminder about teleconferencing etiquette.
- Reminder to check proposal forms carefully for errors before submission.

### 2. MUSQUEAM LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

D Bernaerdt acknowledged Langara's location on the unceded traditional territory of the Musqueam First Nation, who have given Langara College the name *snəwəyət̓ leləm̓*, *house of teachings*.

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**IT WAS MOVED** by T MacMillan, seconded by J Bowers, that the agenda be approved as distributed.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### 4. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Education Council bylaws (Sec.5), Council members were provided an opportunity to declare a conflict of interest related to any item on the meeting agenda. No conflict was declared by any member present.

## 5. CURRICULUM

### A) CHEMISTRY

N Franzova explained that these proposals are a result of changes made by UBC in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The UBC Vancouver Chemistry department has separated its first year chemistry courses into 3-credit lectures and 1-credit lab components. UBCV has stated that courses with virtual labs (less than 18 hours of face to face lab experience) will be given articulation for the lecture only; students transferring to UBC who need the lab portion will have the opportunity to take the lab at UBC until 2025. In response to these changes, Langara Chemistry is creating first year chemistry courses that will run fully online (lectures and labs). This will allow students who do not need the face to face lab experience for their program, and international and other students who are unable to attend traditional labs due to the pandemic, to progress with their studies. The Chemistry Department will offer both versions of these courses - CHEM 1120 and CHEM 1220, which run traditionally with face to face labs, and the alternative new online courses CHEM 1121 and CHEM 1221. The calendar descriptions include information to explain that the new courses are not intended to transfer to UBC Vancouver first-year chemistry.

#### a) New Courses

- i) CHEM 1121 – General Chemistry I
- ii) CHEM 1221 – General Chemistry II

**IT WAS MOVED** by N Franzova, seconded by T Lewis, that the new courses *CHEM 1121 – General Chemistry I*, and *CHEM 1221 – General Chemistry II* be approved by Education Council.

During discussion, the following points were clarified -

- These new courses are not intended for Langara Chemistry programs, which also require face-to-face lab experience.
- Although a student may receive credit for only one version of each course, this does not prohibit later enrolment in the regular (face-to-face) version of either course if a student decides to pursue a chemistry degree after receiving credit for the online version.
- Students will be able to utilize credits from the online courses in various ways, as many institutions are accepting virtual labs during the pandemic, although most Langara students transfer to UBCV. It is important to maintain transfer agreements while also supporting students who are unable to complete the face-to-face lab.
- Chemistry Department will ensure students are fully informed before registration.
- These proposals were presented ahead of the normal Education Council approval schedule in order to be available for June 2020 registration.

**MOTION CARRIED**

#### b) Course Changes

- i) CHEM 1120 – General Chemistry I
- ii) CHEM 1220 – General Chemistry II

The proposal adds a restriction in each course so that students will receive credit for only one of *CHEM 1120* or *CHEM 1121*, and *CHEM 1220* or *CHEM 1221*.

**IT WAS MOVED** by N Franzova, seconded by M Gianacopoulos, that the proposal to add registration restrictions in CHEM 1120 and CHEM 1220 be approved by Education Council.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**c) Global Change**

- i) Permit CHEM 1121 and 1221 to stand for CHEM 1120 and 1220

The global change adds the new courses CHEM 1121 and CHEM 1221 as options in all programs that currently allow CHEM 1120 and CHEM 1220, except in those programs that specifically require CHEM 1120 and CHEM 1220.

**IT WAS MOVED** by N Franzova, seconded by M Gianacopoulos, that the global change to permit *CHEM 1121* and *CHEM 1221* to stand for CHEM 1120 and CHEM 1220 in applicable programs be approved by Education Council.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**B) EDUCATION ASSISTANT**

**a) Temporary Change**

- i) EDAS admission requirements for 202030

This proposal puts into immediate effect the changes in Langara admission requirements for English proficiency approved by Education Council at its May 19, 2020 meeting. This will allow students to apply for Fall 2020 admission to the Education Assistant Certificate program (full-time) with a 70% grade in English 12 rather than 80% as is currently required.

**IT WAS MOVED** by J Bowers, seconded by M Gianacopoulos, that the proposal to adjust English proficiency requirements for Fall 2020 admission to the Education Assistant Certificate full-time program be approved by Education Council.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**C) OTHER BUSINESS**

**a) Division Chairs – Final Exam Weight for Fall 2020**

N Franzova presented a memorandum from the Division Chairs which recommends that, in consideration of courses being delivered entirely online due to COVID-19, faculty be permitted to reduce the emphasis on the final exam grade in the evaluation scheme of particular courses, so that grading can be redistributed among other assessments. This would not change the exam status of any course, and final exam weight must still fall within the normal 20-35% range. In courses where the final exam was previously approved at a higher weight than 35%, instructors would be permitted to reduce the weighting to within the standard 20-35% range, and this would apply to all sections of the course. Faculty that decide to change their final exam weight for Summer 2020 must do so in agreement with their Department Chair (or Assistant Chair, Coordinator or Course Convener, as appropriate) and notify their Division Chair. Articulation committees or regulatory bodies will also be consulted, and students will be informed of this change in the course outline distributed at the beginning of the Summer term, before any evaluation has taken place. Faculty must continue to follow the guidelines provided in the Course Outlines policy (F1003).

This proposal is identical to the one approved by Education Council for the Summer 2020 term, and extends the recommendations through the Fall 2020 term.

**IT WAS MOVED** by N Franzova, seconded by M Gianacopoulos, that the memorandum recommending a temporary adjustment to final exam grading for the Fall 2020 term be approved by Education Council.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**b) Suspension of the Digital and Print Publishing**

A memorandum from J Longo, Dean, Faculty of Arts was presented as notification that the College intends to suspend the Fall 2020 and Fall 2021 admission for the Digital and Print Publishing Program, effective immediately. J Longo explained that this program has been offered by Langara for more than 20 years, has produced some very successful graduates, and is recognized and highly regarded in the industry, however declining enrolment over the past several years has made the program unsustainable. Plans have been put into effect to advise and direct current students and applicants who may be affected by this decision, and faculty will work with current students to enable them to complete the program.

**IT WAS MOVED** by P Cia, seconded by G Krause, that the memorandum to inform Education Council of the suspension of the *Digital and Print Publishing Program* be received by Education Council for information.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**IT WAS MOVED** by T Lewis, seconded by P Cia, that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.