

MINUTES – Approved
COLLEGE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
January 25, 2021

Chair	Martin Lee		Present
Academic Representatives	Algonquin Centre for Construction Excellence	Ken Hill	Present
	School of Advanced Technology	Martin Lee	Present
	School of Business	James Halls	Present
	School of Health and Community Studies	Jennifer Liberty	Present
	School of Hospitality and Tourism	Enrico DeFrancesco	Present
	School of Media and Design	Danielle Allard	Present
	General Arts and Science	Leslie Wyman	Present
	Career & Academic Access Centre	Karen Carr	Present
	Language Institute	Carl O’Toole	Present
	Police and Public Safety Institute	Sharleen Conrad-Beatty	Present
	Algonquin College in the Ottawa Valley	Heather Klein-Horseman (Macmillan)	Regrets
	Algonquin Heritage Institute	Pat Murphy	Present
	Counsellors	Karen Barclay-Matheson	Present
Librarians	Maureen Sheppard	Present	
Support Staff Representative	Lisa Lamb		Present
Student Representatives	Emily Ferguson, President, Students’ Association		Present
	Robert Richter, Director, Students’ Association		Present
	To be confirmed		n/a
COL	Rebecca Volk		Present
Past Chair	Enrico de Francesco		Present
Dean	Robyn Heaton, Faculty of Arts, Media and Design		Present
Chair	Jodi Jaffray, Community Studies		Present
Ex-Officio Members:	Senior Vice President, Academic	Chris Janzen	Present
	Vice President, Student Services	Laura Stanbra	Present
	Registrar	Krista Pearson	Present
Guests:	Cristina Holguin-Pando, Director, Applied Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship		

	<p>Danielle Evong, Research Operations and Ethics Officer, Applied Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship</p> <p>Ben Bridgstock, Director, Student Support Services, Student Services</p> <p>Ron Deganadus McLester, Vice President, Truth, Reconciliation and Indigenization</p> <p>Farbod Karimi, Chair, Learning and Teaching Services</p>
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1. Approval of Agenda – January 25, 2021

The meeting was constituted at 4:30 pm. The agenda was approved as distributed, without objection.

1.1 2020-2021 College Academic Council Work Plan

The work plan was reviewed.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of Minutes of November 02, 2020

The minutes of November 02, 2020 were approved as distributed, without objection.

2.2 Approval of Minutes of November 30, 2020

The minutes of November 30, 2020 were approved as amended, without objection.

3. Business Arising

Cristina Holguin-Pando, Director, Applied Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Danielle Evong, Research Operations and Ethics Officer, Applied Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship were welcomed back to Council to present revisions to policies RE01 and RE03 based on recommendations put forward by Council at the last meeting.

3.1 RE01 Research Administration

In light of feedback received, the following changes were incorporated into the policy:

- Clarification of “Principal Investigator” role
- Clarification of various roles in section 4.3
- Amended procedures

The policy RE01 Research Administration received Council endorsement.

3.2 RE03 Research Involving Human Subjects

In response to feedback received, the following revisions were incorporated into the policy. As well, additional feedback was provided.

- Revision to the definition of vulnerability
- 5.3.1 – Revised to address concern of members
- 9.2.1 – contains language specific to women. Following discussion, it was agreed that the concerns would be brought to the Research Ethics Board to clarify the definition and recommend language
- Suggestion to include an age bracket for children engaged in research. This will be brought back to the Research Ethics Board for further clarification
- Suggestion that instead of using “gender” or “sex” in the language, to include “trans”. Again this will be brought to the Research Ethics Board for clarification

The policy RE03 Research Involving Human Subjects received Council endorsement.

4.0 New Business

4.1 Policy SA02 Ombudsman

Ben Bridgstock, Director, Student Services was welcomed to Council. He noted that there has been extensive consultation and spoke to the subsequent revisions to the policy. A question regarding gender neutrality for the term Ombudsman was raised and will be discussed at the next meeting of the Policy Review Committee. Members were directed to the following research paper on the term:
<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/globalassets/documents/raise/publications/2015/ofmdfm/8115.pdf>

The policy SA02 Ombudsman received Council endorsement.

4.2 College Academic Council Priority – Indigenization

Ron Deganadus McLester, Vice President, Truth, Reconciliation and Indigenization was welcomed to Council. It was noted that at the last meeting, Andre O’Bonsawin provided information on the training module being offered by the College which members advised was very helpful.

Ron spoke at length noting the commitments and support provided by the College to embedding indigenous thinking and being into the workplace and the curriculum. Indigenous knowing has to impact the way we conduct ourselves; it has to be embedded at the molecular level. Recognizing that we need to understand traditional knowledge and teachings – the creation story, the class system, the Great Lie – before we can understand “how to conduct ourselves”.

Chris Janzen noted that it is not just about curriculum. We need something more rich and robust – we need to find out and understand our role in order to be

successful. We need to recognize where and what we are ignorant of – and that is part of the path forward to understanding and reconciliation.

Ron noted that elders do not always answer the question asked. Indigenous knowledge is about community and family. We need to find a better way of articulating indigenous knowledge. There is a need to work together to find the way to true Indigenous knowing.

Members were invited to join the Indigenous Book Club, a reflective practice activity, as a path towards Indigenous Knowing.

Martin Lee thanked Ron Deganadus McLester for sharing his thoughts.

4.3 College Academic Council Priority - Admissions

Martin Lee introduced the topic and opened the floor for discussion.

Concerns were identified as follows:

- Although admission requirements are understood to provide rigor to the admissions process, students are struggling. It was suggested that there is a gap in the College's ability to address student academic weaknesses.
- High school graduating do not seem to have the skills to learn the materials. How can the College address this?
- The College needs to do some extra work at the beginning for students. It was suggested that the College identify required skills and ensure they are embedded in the program.
- Class sizes are a challenge to learning.
- Identifying and defining the specific faculty concerns would be helpful to determining what needs to be done.
- Examining student progression rates from L01 to L02 by program against the admission requirements could provide interesting data to work with.

Action: Krista Pearson to investigate the availability of a progression report.

Martin Lee spoke to some of the comments included in the Priorities Survey and suggested that the results of the F20 Student Experience Survey could help inform further discussion.

4.4 College Academic Council Priority - COVID – Online Adaptation

It was agreed to invite Academic Operations and Planning to present on the F20 Student Experience Survey results to help inform this discussion.

Recall: March 01, 2021

4.5 College Response to COVID-19

Deferred.

4.6 Video Camera Use

Martin Lee introduced the topic by noting the tension between technology and policy. Specifically, what is the expected outcome when a student does not want to be recorded on camera but is participating in the class?

Chris Janzen noted that there are two perspectives: the student and the faculty. Students are not required to turn on their camera as per privacy laws. However, exceptions to this include the need to verify identify in some circumstances. In general, faculty are not required to turn on their camera. However, students would say they are and it would be needed to provide the best possible educational experience.

Emily Ferguson advised that the SA encourages student to turn their camera on. It makes for a more engaging class experience and the resulting tie to productivity.

Enrico de Francesco recognized the Learning and Teaching Services (LTS) assistance to faculty. Farbod Karimi, Chair, Learning and Teaching Services noted that LTS is always trying to find better ways to engage students. Faculty requiring assistance are welcome to connect with an LTS Subject Matter Expert for a one-on-one consultation.

Martin Lee noted that there is also an issue around recording the class. Chris Janzen advised that if participation is a requirement of the class, then it may impact the requirement for recording. Perhaps make it an audio recording rather than a video. The students are at home and have a right to privacy and turning off the camera supports this. The audio component does not have the same impact.

Concerns:

- Students are complaining about other students turning off their cameras
- Large class sizes are making it more difficult to connect.
- Some of the OTFT faculty are having difficulty with proper set up - are there additional educational opportunities available
- Synchronous online learning in different time zones.
- One-on-one with students is taking longer and is taking away from class time.

Action: If faculty require assistance, please contact Farbod Karimi in Learning and Teaching Services for assistance.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned, without objection.