

Minutes
BC History Articulation Committee
May 2021, by Zoom
930am—2pm

In attendance: Analji Malhotra (Alexander College); Eric Strikwerda (Athabaska University); Lindsay Hutchison (BC Social Studies Teachers Association); Chris Morier (Camosun College); Teresa Tremblay (Coast Mountain College); Marcel Dirk (College of the Rockies); Lee Blanding (Columbia College); Patrick Best (Coquitlam College); Jessica Hemming (Corpus Christi College); Sally Mennill (Douglas College); Adam Rudder (Farleigh Dickinson University); Liam O’Flaherty (Fraser International College); Tracey Kinney (Kwantlen Polytechnic University); Niall Christie (Langara College); Daniel Kae (LaSalle College); Rob-Roy Douglas (Northern Lights College); Chris Clarkson (Okanagan College); Duff Sutherland (Selkirk College); Sarah Walshaw (Simon Fraser University); Wilson Bell (Thompson Rivers University); Julien Vernet (University of British Columbia-Okanagan); Laura Ishiguro (University of British Columbia-Vancouver); David Gossen (University of Canada West); Adrianna Bakos (University of the Fraser Valley); Dana Wessell Lightfoot (University of Northern British Columbia); Peter Cook (University of Victoria); Tim Lewis (Vancouver Island University)

Guest: Fiona McQuarrie, BCCAT

Recorder: Duff Sutherland

Meeting called to order by chair Tracey Kinney. Welcome by Kinney acknowledging the traditional territory of the Kwantlen people.

Approval of agenda. Kinney (KPU)/Sutherland (Selkirk)

Approval of minutes of the 2019 meeting. Christie (Langara)/Bakos (Fraser Valley)

1. Institutional Reports:

Each rep. began report with a territorial acknowledgement

Fraser Valley—

- One retirement with two more to follow in August 2022.
- Difficulty hiring due to financial constraints caused by pandemic.
- Faculty have heavy workloads; lots taught by sessionals.
- Department shrinking when it should be growing but collegiality has been maintained.
- Micro-credential launched: digital stories and oral history.
- Hosted BC Studies which had smaller attendance than usual but great event.
- Department willing to develop hybrid courses.

UBCO—

- Enrollment increase due to increased course offerings.
- New hires are Dr Margaret Carlisle, Dr Todd Campbell, lecturer.
- Ruth Frost is the new department head who splits time between Arts and Sciences.

Columbia College—

- strong History enrollments, added sections during the past year.
- College is also growing; it has about 2,000 students.
- History has one FTE, one part-timer, and one sessional.
- Moving ahead with indigenization.
- Lots of use of open source resources except for World History.
- Using John Belshaw's Canadian History open source textbook.
- Completing process of standardizing learning outcomes.

Langara—

- Difficult couple of years. Procedures have changed regarding online technology which show that senior administration does not understand what faculty do.
- Lots of workshops but they make for more work.
- Students appreciated synchronous online learning during the pandemic.
- Department will offer 50% of courses in person this coming Fall. With no social distancing, this will create a problem for facilities—concern that we could be switching back and forth between online and in person.
- Enrollment is steady. Extra section in the summer. Chugging along.

Camosun—

- celebrating anniversary of the college this year.
- president is stepping down.
- Department includes two full-time historians, one part-timer.
- Enrollments are recovering, lost sections due to low enrollments.
- Dean wants section to run at 90% capacity so that 5-6 students make all the difference.
- Workload issues due to pandemic will take time to resolve.
- Going back to in person at Camosun. Only one section allowed to be online.

Okanagan—

- Four full-time historians at four campuses.
- Lost part of a position but a part-timer being hired back.
- Courses were taught synchronously. Moving back to in person with some online for international students.
- Some decline in enrollment.
- Now offering a 300-level course in the History of Capitalism which is successful.
- Warfare and terrorism course also very popular—capped at 60.
- Developing a course in the history of space exploration.

-Also developing an applied BA in Legal History.

Coast Mountain—

- Teresa teaches (.50 regular contract) at Terrace. Hondo has retired.
- During pandemic, smaller class sizes meant smaller enrollment.
- History students about 50/50 international/domestic. A significant number of students are indigenous.
- For international students, reduction in the language barrier, along with their better understanding of academic integrity and other expectations has improved outcomes.
- Lots of pressure round course modality--college wants high-flex offerings which is leading to grievances.

Douglas College—

- Enrollments are solid.
- three sections will be online; otherwise returning to in person.
- some happy to go back to in person teaching but others have concerns.
- administration is asking for specific professional development for faculty to teach online.
- New associate Dean; Dean on medical leave.
- we have great faculty and great collegiality in Humanities and Social Sciences.
- Program review is coming up.
- We are indigenizing the curriculum. Indigenous Studies program in development.
- All eight full-time faculty have regular contracts—no sessionals.
- One education leave coming up.

UBC-V—

- An extended leadership transition in the department with an acting head. Moving forward but also treading water.
- Increased workloads with thank yous but not much more.
- Concern about the long-term impact of the pandemic on research programs of faculty and graduate students.
- Enrollment numbers are steady.
- Personnel shifts within the department have meant multiple hires.
- Developing a middle eastern studies program. Search is on to hire in Modern Middle East.
- Evaluating courses beyond the honors level—looking at courses that focus on theory and historiography.
- Changes are coming in the Arts program.

Northern Lights College—

- small program and smaller this year.
- Rob-Roy is now the campus chair but not fully replaced despite increase in workload.
- Senior administration favors asynchronous/online delivery.

- All courses were delivered synchronously despite the tremendous differences in time zones for students—looks like it will continue but final decision will likely come from the ministry.
- Classrooms will be set up to do both in person and online.
- Eva St. John is easing into retirement and will likely not be replaced.
- Cheating and plagiarism are at an all-time high with international students struggling with expectations.
- Enrollment steady. College posted a surplus.

Alexander—

- courses articulated last year included Western Civ.
- department has grown.
- Students struggled with asynchronous. Will stick with synchronous learning which was more successful.
- enrollments have increased so we are looking to hire a part-timer. Overall, however, the college's enrollment declined.
- ongoing challenge of teaching students how to be good students.
- Using more creative assignments to create more interest in History.
- Hybrid model is our focus.
- Have a new Burnaby campus.
- Lots of discussion of covid protocols including vaccination cards.
- Will have 3-4 delivery options.
- Overall, the sudden change to online led to anxiety for students who lost touch with their instructors and felt isolated. Faculty workload increased to support students and relieve their concerns.

Canada West—

- CW a privately run university with a new campus near the Granville Bridge called "Vancouver House."
- teaching is online but plan is for in person classes.
- Other campus is on Pender, "London House."
- Small history department at what is a BUS and IT institution. Have had up to 87 students but enrollment goes up and down. Students want more history.
- Overwhelmingly international students.
- New VP Academic.

SFU—

- Public lecture series focused on history was popular.
- "History Reads" series also received a good response.
- Indigenous historian has moved to Western.
- Andrea Geiger has retired. Jeremy Brown is the new department head.
- Summer term is full.
- writing, quantitative and breadth requirements may be changing as move towards experiential learning.

- Arts Division provided support in the move to remote teaching. Faculty received help loading course shells.
- Plan A is to return to 80% in person this Fall. Plan B is less.
- Lots of options offered to faculty but some may have to choose online.
- Hellenic courses moved to the Humanities.
- Developing a joint major in Indigenous Studies/History. Hope to hire in that area.

COTR—

- students have been kind towards faculty.
- History of the Canadian Environment moves to Fall to accommodate course load in the Environmental Science certificate—hope is to bring in science students to the history course.
- transfer system is working—we have very limited issues.
- Can FNST 101 be articulated as a history course?
- Recommend that receiving institutions continue with current designation of the course which does not sufficient history material.

UVIC—

- enrollment steady.
- graduate intake will be cut in half due to less financial support for students.
- streamlining major's program—from unstructured to slightly structured.
- Now requires a 100-level course: HIST 100: History, Power, and Justice. Course will help students consider global inequities.
- Also required 200-level course—a core course which will eliminate complexities in course offerings.
- New department head. Lynne Marks now president of the Faculty Association.
- New hires in Ocean and African History.
- Department committed to anti-racism activism including the support of refugees.
- Students are showing a lot of initiative as they re-named the undergrad society, “the Ascendant Historian.”

Corpus Christi—

- offers AA. 500 students at the college.
- interim president.
- One permanent historian as part of seven permanent faculty at the college.
- Lots of sessionals to teach first- and second-year courses.
- College has an Education stream which supports Canadian History enrollments because teachers require a Canadian history course.
- Some low enrolled courses.
- Two new survey courses on Indigenous History—one running this summer.
- History of racism course not offered yet.
- Ongoing program revisions which involves, in some cases, combining two courses into one.
- College in process of merging with St. Mark's to offer a single-track BA for students to move into Education. St. Mark's has nine upper division courses.

-In Fall, offerings will be hybrid with course caps to allow for social distancing. IT support comes from UBC's LTHub.

BC Social Studies teachers—

- A year of different schedules and delivery modes.
- workload has been difficult as teachers deliver learning in different modalities.
- No plans to go back to the way things were.
- Finding increased failure rates and increased academic dishonesty at the senior grade level.
- Had successful conference with the Canadian Geographic Society: "Re-imagining our relationship with Planet Earth."

UNBC—

- steady enrollments with increase in the spring as students make up for lost time.
- 3.5 faculty; two will be on phased retirement.
- department members have course releases.
- Search on in area of modern World History.
- The new methodology course requirement has been put in abeyance as there is no one to teach the course.
- UNBC has five faculties. New Dean is a medievalist.
- Worries about short falls in funding that will require flexibility across schools.
- Unclear what will happen in the Fall.
- UNBC FA has a new collective agreement which is a big step forward for faculty.

Vancouver Island University—

- Department responded well to year dominated by Covid with good support from TLI.
- As smooth a year as possible.
- Status quo for staffing in the coming year.
- Lots of publications and research work by members of the department despite the problems of the past year.
- Student numbers are up due to high summer enrollment but, in general, there is positive signs for enrollment this coming year.
- Planning for in person with an online presence.

Coquitlam College—

- student numbers have been strong during the past year.
- interest in working on different forms of assessment to encourage an interest in History but also to help with academic integrity issues.

TRU—

- steady enrollments.
- interdisciplinary MA moving forward.

- there is an interim coordinator; beyond that, department has for full-timers and one sessional. There is one phased retirement.
- Tina Block is becoming the chair of the Division.
- In general, struggling to find instructors.
- Program review is coming up. EDI is now part of the discussion.
- TRU moving to in person with no social distancing.

Open Learning Agency—

- new courses being offered. Eight OLA faculty members.
- Using Proctorio for exams but has a negative effect on student experience.

LaSalle College—

- LaSalle an Arts college with a Liberal Studies program. High enrollment of international students.
- Enrollment is down.
- Numbers declining in first-year survey courses.
- During the past year, went to asynchronous with some hybrid learning.
- returning to in person in the Fall.

Fraser International—

- FIC a pathway college to SFU for international students—100% international student body.
- Located on the SFU campus.
- A small department--two instructors offering two courses per semester coordinated by Mark Leier.
- teaching asynchronously and synchronously.
- enrollment is holding steady but not sure what the future holds.

Athabaska University—

- entirely online—looking to broaden program with new hires.
- Courses being offered asynchronously.

Farleigh Dickinson University--

- head of the university is based in New Jersey.
- Some history courses offered as part of the Business and Hospitality program.
- expanding offerings into a humanities minor.
- Almost all the students are international.
- Enrollments not as bad as expected.
- Standards becoming more rigorous.
- DQAB process underway.
- Trying to fit offerings into the Canadian context.
- EDI principles being introduced across the institution.

- Important part of the dynamic is settler/indigenous relationship alongside the Euro-Canadian/international relationship.
- in person teaching returning in the Fall with blended options.

KPU—

- Alex Popovich is retiring and KPU will begin looking for a full replacement in late Fall 2021.
- Enrollment declined in the Fall, but recovered in the Winter and Spring.
- Domestic enrollment is up in History courses; students expressed a preference for online options going forward
- Program review just coming to an end. Thanks to Niall Christie and Sally Mennill for their work on this
- 30-35% of courses will remain online in this coming Fall. Update: with the Delta Variant surging KPU History has moved 90% of its courses to either online or hybrid delivery
- Experiential learning, via the KPU Arts Practicum course, is very popular with students.
- Overall, the “new” KPU seems to be doing well financially

Selkirk—

- One FTE for History. Three faculty teaching: Duff Sutherland, Darcy Ingram, Takaia Larsen.
- Duff Sutherland became chair of the School of University Arts and Sciences last summer.
- Enrollment steady with all courses taught through a combination of synchronous and asynchronous delivery.
- College currently planning a return to in person with some online offerings.
- Students made it through the year despite challenges and were supportive of faculty.
- Ongoing challenges for students include shortage of housing, poverty, lots of part-time work to make ends meet. All makes studying difficult.
- College focused on EDI.
- TLI also has established an academic integrity taskforce.
- Search for a new President has begun.

2. BCCAT Report—

- BCCAT has published a spring update document and new research documents on transfer issues on the website: bccat.ca
- Ongoing concerns for the transfer system include determining who decides transfer, the status of block transfer agreements, data governance, and the introduction of micro-credentials. Micro-credentials seen as a development that will increase transfer in BC.
- 2020 BCCAT JAM was online with 300 registrants.
- 2021 version will also be online in November.
- Number of articulation committees now have Moodle pages. Looking for a host.
- About 30% of all courses in the system have not been reviewed in more than ten years. It is important to regularly evaluate courses for appropriate transfer credit.
- Members of the committee should know that in the registrar’s office of every post-secondary institution there is a person whose duties include maintaining transfer credit—these include British Columbia, Canada and international equivalencies.
- BCCAT publishes equivalencies for courses from around the world.

- ABE courses will be included on the BC Transfer Guide.
- Funding is available for Articulation Committee projects with an August 23 deadline for applications. Last year there were no applications.

3. Instructor qualifications and transfer

- Committee member from COTR asked the university representatives if qualifications were a factor in determining transfer for a course at their institution.
- None of the university representatives felt it was an issue.
- Longstanding contention by articulation committee that an outline should be judged on its learning outcomes, assessments, and learning resources.
- Within the system, the decision on transfer credit is up to the receiving institution. BCCAT offers guidance on instructor qualifications.

4. Future of online and hybrid delivery

- Douglas College is requiring PD for instructors to teach online.
- Canada West: problem has been getting responses from students and they fall off the radar. Have found that a combination of synchronous and asynchronous works best in a course.
- Choice of delivery mode could be a question of academic freedom.
- UFV: administration favored asynchronous for international students but students wanted synchronous as a learning experience.
- UBCV: learning from the experience has been very important—finding balance of delivery options for students is important.
- VIU: synchronous with asynchronous has worked.
- Faculty have adapted as best they could but courses look different from each other. Consistency for students is important.
- Students generally want to be in the classroom and so online synchronous is an important option.
- We will have to learn how to engage student in different ways online.
- Concern expressed about inequitable access to resources. The hybrid classroom will not be a level playing field for all students because students cannot afford all the required technology. Important to have multiple pathways within courses so that students can use their tools to their best advantage.
- In the online world, students enter a space where they might not feel comfortable.
- Students would appreciate knowing how much the instructor cares. What do you want to do? This can be a good question.
- Forums can work for working students.
- We should accept that different modalities may lead to different outcomes.
- Important to recognize that online can work for some students.
- Sharing tips among faculty is important.

5. Academic Integrity

- Important to track students with steadily increasing penalties.
- An online database of academic violations would make it easier to track students who need support.

- Important to have a standardized rubric across courses so that students clearly understand the difference between intentional and unintentional plagiarism.
- Important for faculty to understand what students understand about plagiarism.
- Contract cheating is a reality.
- Important to have compassion and empathy for students. Support is very important.
- Smaller, low stakes assignments work better.
- Suggest that faculty vet some online sources for research essays and make clear their use to students.
- There needs to be an ongoing discussion between the instructor and students in the classroom about cheating and plagiarism.
- The goal is for students to produce authentic work that they can take pride in.

6. Micro-Credentials

- UFV has established a community history course that leads to a micro-credential. The course used a mix of facilitators. It was supported by the institution but there was not enough follow-through on the back end in the granting of the credential/badge.
- Faculty Associations have expressed concern about the weighting workload for micro-credentials.
- SFU has micro-credential offerings.
- Citation in history at Langara did not go anywhere. It was very laborious to put together.
- KPU now has badging support, but microcredentials remain a contentious issue
- Micro-credentials can be an add-on to a program.
- UFV: wanted to have micro-credential recognized beyond the university—perhaps badge added to your linkedin account.
- micro-credentials could be linked to an eportfolio of student learning.
- Offering extra credentials could be a way to recruit students.
- BCCAT has published a report on micro-credentials and transfer. It is available on the BCCAT website.

7. General Discussion of pandemic experience

- A difficult year.
- What we have learned is that lower class caps would help, more time is required for development of courses especially in a Winter semester, a reduction in the teaching load would help, lots of thank yous would go a long way, more course releases would help as would shorter times to sabbatical years.

8. Housekeeping

- Following committee custom, secretary Duff Sutherland, acclaimed as chair for next year.
- Lee Blanding acclaimed as new secretary.
- Douglas College offered to host next year's meeting.

-Following year, UBCV may host the BC Studies Conference and would consider hosting articulation meeting. To be determined.

-Next meeting, **May 2, 2022**

-Motion of thanks to outgoing chair, Tracey Kinney.

-Motion to adjourn. M/S/C

