

Minutes of History Articulation Committee Meeting June 8,
1983, University of B.C.

Chairman: Bob McDonald U.B.C.

Secretary: J. Gresko Douglas College

Attending: B. McDonald U.B.C., J. Hendricson U. Vic., S. Meen
I. Mugridge OLI, A. Seager S.F.U., R. Campbell Cap.,
J. Dwyer N. Island, J. Gresko Douglas, C. Dunn and
A. Smith V.C.C., C. Bolt N.C.C., P. Webber N.W.,
S. Knight Coquitlam, C. Nordman N.L., Bob Smith F.V.,
D. Thomson Okanagan, C. Karr Malaspina, R. Falconer
and R. Taylor Camosun, Bill Sloan Selkirk.

I. Elected J. Gresko as secretary this year, chairman next
year to replace C. Bolt who is no longer employed at NCC.
Approved agenda unanimously.

II. Minutes accepted unanimously.

III. College reports:

R. Campbell, Capilano: scaling down by 10% - est 60 sections
cut but history not affected. Low library funds.

J. Dwyer, North Island: restraint had not hit much yet.

J. Gresko, Douglas: new building and books in library from
split funds, but future less certain.

C. Dunn, VCC,: as for Cap College.

- C. Bolt NCC: several cuts last year in liberal arts, emphasis of college now on high tech. An administrator and a librarian will teach history.
- I. Muggeridge, OLI: hope to continue to develop new courses but will have to limit enrollment to 82-83 levels.
- S. Knight, Coquitlam: extension of Pacific Basin Ed. Services and L. Kavic. Doing Gr. 11 and 12 for market from Japan, Korea, Taiwan. In history developing 1st yr. pre and post Confederation Canadian. Coquitlam has a sister institution in Japan.
- C. Nordman, N. Lights: reported on strike, 5 year plan, cutbacks. Only 4 second year courses to be offered despite pre-registration indications that enrollment would be high.
- D. Thomson, Okanagan: maintaining status quo despite doom rumors.
- Bob Smith, Fraser Valley: holding pattern and new campus Abbotsford.
- J. Hendrickson, UVic: similar situation but Artibise leaving. Other minor changes will not affect college transfer. Reported losses in funds for research and equipment.
- R. Falconer, Camosun: big college programs e.g., nursing and criminology do not require history. Attrition in humanities subtle but present.
- C. Karr: big enrollment but same number of faculty. No layoffs of permanent faculty.
- Bill Sloan: Selkirk static because of no second year history and only $\frac{1}{2}$ a historian at Castlegar. Sloan teaches for DTUC (UVic) at Nelson.

General discussion of erosion of history teaching at colleges followed. Particular concerns were need for ongoing appointments, library budgets, personnel to work with local historians.

The College reports section of the meeting ended with a motion expressing our regret on hearing of the death of Hugh Campbell of East Kootenay College.

III. B. REPORT ON ARTICULATION REPS. MEETING May 11, 1983

General discussion of erosion of college history programs culminated in resolution as follows:

That this committee registers its increasing concern about the erosion of the viability of history transfer courses in many of the colleges, given the serious shortage of funding for library acquisitions (which are especially critical to the discipline of history), and the reduction, and in some cases the outright elimination, of permanent teaching positions in history in favour of part-time teaching on a contractual, short-term basis.

This resolution was accepted unanimously. It was agreed that the chairman would put this in a letter to the ministry, academic council and college principals.

C. The problem of academic council and the dissemination of information was raised. The amalgamation of the three councils is in the works according to Couch. The question do we value separate academic council was put. The consensus was to leave it there.

D. Other business: see ~~attached~~ ministry policy circular regarding Social Studies curricula. May 1983. (*will be available Oct 21/83*)

IV. Fisher Report and Core Curriculum:

A. Introduction to Fisher Report (4th Draft) by R. Campbell. He referred to the emphasis on job specific training and rationalization by region. He also raised the issue of the erosion of local autonomy in favour of central decisions on priorities. Yet each college is doing its own mission and goals statement in its own 5 year plan.

Professor Mugridge pointed out Draft 4 was now policy.

IV. Chairman's report on Core Curriculum.

The impression of correspondence from Couch is that core is not yet carved in stone. The chair went through the correspondence and the Morin Report with us.

At the May 11 articulation representatives meeting chairman MacRae said core = a minimum of 11 courses and not a maximum. Arts and Social Science courses would make way for those emphasizing technology.

Couch did not see the core program and OLI as threats and had no firm knowledge about possible Lower Mainland rationalization.

The motion passed at the May 11, 1983 articulation reps. meeting was read:

That this committee inform Grant Fisher and the Ministry of Education that we object to that part of the definition that permits college boards to direct students to another agency, in that this clause undercuts the intent of maintaining a curriculum with a core offering at each comprehensive college.

IV. C. Discussion of the above motion included:

- Fisher is policy not proposal.
- Fisher makes errors and overrides local mandates
- rationalization within the lower mainland is underway at the principals' levels.
- Fisher breaks with the academic excellence ethos of the McDonald commission report and the origins of the colleges.
- Fisher's reports are pro-OLI and KNOW and in the context of the government wanting direct control of funds.
- but core concept has been put to mean that face-to-face instruction should come first, and then OLI when the former not needed.
- does the core program equal an academic version of trac?

V. Articulation--report from OLI representative. I. Mugridge.

He began by attempting to clear up misconceptions and misinformation from the Camosun history articulation meeting regarding OLI. Professor Mugridge had attended Langara and SFU articulation meetings and would like to be invited regularly.

Sharon Meen restated the position of OLI as having two functions:

1. as an indepent institution with coherent separate programs serving its own students moving to degrees; and
2. as a service institution to other parts of the system.

Professor Mugridge used Ellis' Sechelt school example* to explain how OLI could assist colleges with offering programs. Colleges and OLI are both under restraint. They should work together to offer as full a range of programs as possible. Some colleges will want to cooperate and some will not.

In response to the comment that we don't know the nature of cooperative arrangements between OLI and the colleges and that cooperation might mean the end of college courses, Professor Mugridge replied that OLI fears the erosion of history courses. OLI is not in the business of assisting erosion of college history courses. The maximum number of course should be face-to-face courses at colleges.

Professor Mugridge expressed intent and goodwill but is not taking the initiative on discussion with colleges. He would be happy to provide a written statement of OLI position.

Seager moved, and Hendrickson seconded a motion requesting the minutes to reflect the core statement of Mugridge on OLI-College relations. Hendrickson spoke to the motion thanking Mugridge for his statement and his sympathy for historians. The motion was voted on and approved.

*Sechelt School example-- a two teacher school could not offer a wide range of courses--correspondence courses could usefully supplement the curriculum.

VI. NEXT MEETING FRASER VALLEY COLLEGE ABBOTSFORD OCT. 21, 1983

VII. C. Karr moved a note of appreciation to UBC and Chairman B. McDonald for lunch and accomodation for the meeting today.