

The EDUCATION COUNCIL
 Special Meeting Minutes – March 31, 2020
 3:00 pm, via bluejeans

P = Present - A= Absent

In Attendance:

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| P |
| P |
| A |
| P |
| P |
| P |
| P |
| P |
| P |

T. Ballam
 D. Falkenhagen
 K. Gear
 C. Gotta
 S. Lachthaler
 T. Clark
 T. Larsen
 I. Parfitt

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| A |
| P |
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| P |
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| P |
| A |

P. Pastor
 J. Vanderhoek
 K. Martin
 R. Fayant
 J. O’Meara
 Y. Monroe
 B. Olsen

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| P |

K. Pham
 R. Andrews
 T. Snauwaert
 D. Feldman
 T. Whitehead
 A. Graeme
 J. Kincaid
 N. Makortoff (recorder)

Guests:

Call to order and welcome

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm

1 Territorial Acknowledgment

Selkirk College acknowledges our respect for and deep gratitude to the First Nations of the West Kootenay and Boundary Regions: the Sinixt (Lakes), the Syilx (Okanagan), the Ktunaxa, and the Secwepemc (Shuswap) peoples on whose traditional territories we are honoured to operate.

4a Updates

Information

Rhys Andrews VP Education provided a briefing document that provided the policy framework and rationale for Selkirk College’s final grading and withdrawal procedures in light of the impacts of moving from face to face to online learning. In the previous week instructors had revised course outlines and evaluation activities due to the delivery change to online learning with the goal of providing most or all of the planned learning outcomes. Students will receive final grades rather than pass / fail marks as they are expected to provide them with smoother transitions to receiving institutions.

ITS has supported instructors in the move to online instruction.

The status of students was discussed.

Work is being done to assess student response to the delivery change and other pandemic impacts. Some students may not have a laptop or a computer. Just learning how many have this challenge. Lots of students have gone home. Very important for students to communicate with instructors and chairs. Some issues with Zoom. Some evaluation/assessment modifications may need to be made to accommodate all different modes of access. E.g. phones, tablets, computers...

Options including the examination software Respondus were discussed. Not clear how many licenses will be available. In Respondus each student will be registered once and will have access to all of their exams.

Specific updates on programs were discussed as outlined below.

- A number of programs have courses or intakes starting in the Spring Term. Some have had to be postponed or rescheduled. Either in the summer or fall. Some programs have been cancelled – mostly CE programming.
- Academic upgrading some program postponed – Kitchen Assistant
- Some post grad programming have been postponed to the fall – not sure when international students will be arriving
- RHOT and SROAM spring work terms are being postponed.
- SEG field school postponed to the fall
- All practicums are postponed – hopefully to be rescheduled to the summer
- ITA – students who have completed 70% of their program will be able to graduate.
- School of the Arts – postponed the spring practicum
- Health and Human services working on alternative delivery of the spring practicum
- Where there is no regulatory body we have more flexibility where there is one there is less flexibility.
- Nursing regulatory body says that the spring practicums should continue. No one place can refuse a practicum placement without going through the proper channels.

Selkirk College is in communications with the provincial government about budgets. Current projection is that Fall 2020 term will go ahead as planned and that there will not be a high impact on this term. The 2020 Spring term is more concerning. The board has approved the 2020-2021 budget pre COVID 19. Will see how this first quarter goes and adjustments will be made a necessary. Taking the month of May or June to rethink the Fiscal 21 budget.

Document with information will be provided to chairs and instructors around how to grade out students.

- Appeals – anticipate we may get some. Will have to take it one day at a time. ‘I’ grade date may be extended.
- Complications could arise from using the ‘I’ grade. International student will be impacted by this method, especially with having to send out work permit letters. Jim and Rhys may send out a FAQ document around the use of the ‘I’ grade.
- The ‘I’ grade usage will not impact everyone. Only those that have courses that they cannot complete.
- Record keeping – are we tracking any of the changes that are happening with courses? Yes, the Chairs are collecting this information from the instructors.
- Accommodations are being made and options are being looked at with all courses that need to be postponed because there is no way that they could be delivered online.

Motion:

“That Education Council approve the extension of the ‘Last day to withdraw from a course without academic penalty’ date to April 9, 2020, as described in the briefing note, for Winter 2020 term courses.”

CARRIED

10 Adjournment

Next meeting April 14, 2020 at 4:00 pm in the Staff Lounge on the Castlegar Campus.