

*Previous Douglas
March 1981*

Minutes of History Articulation Meeting

25 April 1986

Douglas College, New Westminster

Chairperson: A. Yarmie, Cariboo College
Secretary: A. Seager, Simon Fraser University
Attending: R. Kitson, Douglas College
D. Darling, " "
G. Porges, " "
T. Frohn-Nielsen, East Kootenay
A. Smith, Langara
R. McDonald, U.B.C.
D. Thompson, Okanagan
W. Sloan, Selkirk
P. Whyte, North Island
R. Campbell, Capilano
J. Gresko, Douglas College
G. Gilgan, PSACC
J. Hendrickson, U. Vic.
R. Elmes, Kwantlen
B. MacKintosh, Program Services

Regrets: S. Meen, O.L.I.
B. Leach, Kwantlen
R. Taylor, Camosun
W. Rodney, Royal Rhodes

I. Call to Order (9:30 AM), introductions.

Professional development: Members of the Working Lives Collective (Campbell, McDonald, Seager, and Smith) gave an illustrated slide/lecture presentation on their project, Working Lives: Vancouver 1886-1986 (New Star Books, 1985), and a wide-ranging discussion on Vancouver Centennial history activities followed.

II. Business Meeting (10:30 AM), A. Yarmie in the Chair.

Minutes of 12 April 1985

Adopted as presented.

Agenda

Adopted as presented

III. Correspondence

1. Ministry of Education. The correspondence from Mr. Bob Overgaard (24 March 1986) re History 12 curriculum was read. It was M/S/C

That we write recommending William Sloan as a consultant on this matter.

2. College of New Caledonia. Frank Leonard's letter of 25 April 1986 was read, citing difficulties in ensuring CNC representation at the meetings since 1982. It was M/S/C

That the letter be referred to Gordon Gilgan, to solicit his suggestions for a resolution of the whole problem of non-attendance at articulation meetings.

3. Northwest College. Peter Weber wrote with a query concerning their offering, History 231. History 231 is now apparently being given by "telecoursing"; would this change in delivery mode affect transferability of credit? It was M/S/C

That the matter be referred to the university representatives for a response: i.e., would a change in the mode of delivery of a course mean that such a course would have to be re-articulated?

IV. President's Report

Andrew Yarmie reported on the College Academic Program Conference which he attended on 13 February last. Questions such as "should colleges grant their own degree?" were discussed. Only 14-16% of college students seem to be transferring into the universities but the remainder cannot for the most part be viewed as drop-outs. In John Denison's phrase, there is presently a "renaissance in the humanities" which should help open the door to historians. The dominant note of the conference was positive expectations for change.

Following discussion it was M/S/C

That the committee attempt to find out how college students in history are doing after transfer to the universities, with data based on the last 5 years.

V. Program Services Report

Blaine MacKintosh gave a detailed report on reorganization in the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education. The old College-Institute division of the Ministry of Education is now to be combined with the former with good results expected.

There are at present 11,963 FTEs in the UT liberal arts, as compared with 5,700 in business administration. Mr. MacIntosh has been involved with Business programmes where the question is being asked--why train people to be vice-presidents in 20 years? He detects no real threat from "employment-oriented" prgms.

He is attending articulation meetings as an observer, reporting back to the assistant deputy minister; this is the first humanities meeting he has attended and notes the similarities of problems across the disciplines.

Mr. MacIntosh stressed the "message" that articulation meetings are important, and that all institutions should attend. Issues raised are to be referred back to the provincial level, to the two Central Co-ordinating Committees (vocational and academic); "if you have a good argument, put it up."

The committee thanked the speaker, and, in the light of the new situation outlined above, asked that an organizational or flow chart of the ministry's agencies be provided when such became available.

VI. College Reports

Common concerns included the impact of cutbacks on teaching positions, workloads and quality.

Douglas

History 100, 130, and 135 have been dropped or are in process, and the forthcoming retirement without replacement of one faculty (leaving one) is causing particular difficulties.

George Porgas read a statement that the committee found sufficiently interesting to urge him to submit it formally.

[This was received by the secretary on 5 June and is appended to the Minutes.]

Capilano

Robert Campbell cited History's growing importance as the place where the student is compelled to learn how to write, given the de-emphasis on writing in some other disciplines.

A new course on Canadian-American Relations is forthcoming.

North Island

The college's own offerings remain the same, but NIC will be acquiring OLI courses 210 (Modern Europe) and 240 (Modern Britain) to supplement.

Selkirk

The Selkirk report suggested that calendar entries for the college may present a rather over-optimistic view of what is actually being offered--3 sections of History. William Sloan had also to report on the disappointing results of a "Tele-course" on European history that lost 80 per cent of those enrolled.

Fraser Valley

Jack Gaston reported on attempts to improve the library system by application to the Excellence in Education Fund.

Okanagan

Duane Thompson raised the issue of bottlenecks in the articulation of OLI courses .

Langara

Andrea Smith presented some detailed statistics that are of interest from the point of view of historians' vastly increased productivity :

In 1981-2 45 sections were taught with 1,300 students.

In 1985-6 30 sections with an estimated 1,200-1,300 students.

East Kootenay

Thor Frohn-Nielsen submitted his list of courses and reported on the creation and successful articulation of the course on Twentieth Century World History (supplanting the former Western Civilization course).

The library here, in contrast to virtually all other institutions, reporting, is in good condition with a major new purchase of books for the Twentieth Century course.

Kwantlen

Roger Elmes reported on the computerization-of-grading technique that has been developed as a necessary response to the loss of teaching faculty. This involves the codification of common or standard-type errors --A, B, C, D, etc.-- which letters are entered into the margins of the papers, with the computer-generated key being appended to the end.

Cariboo

Andrew Yarmie's report focussed on the special challenges of the increasingly pervasive large lecture hall environment at Cariboo and elsewhere.

The Universities

Robert McDonald and Allen Seager reported on the status quo at U.B.C. and S.F.U. respectively: attrition of faculty, library problems, loss of potential students to other centres, etc.

Jim Hendrickson, on the other hand, was pleased to report the filling of three full-time positions at U. Vic., whose new Canadian historian (replacing Chad Gaffield) will be Dr. Ken Coates, a BC and native history specialist.

Reports by Correspondence

Were received from Malaspina, which is experiencing severe financial problems, and Camosun, where Robert Taylor has retired.

Motion re College Reports

Whereas the enrollment figures from the various institutions are being reported in different and often non-comparable ways it was M/S/C that the committee seek to assemble a practical "form" which could be distributed at a future meeting.

VII. Motions re U.B.C.

Citing recent press reports, Roger Elmes moved the following, which were seconded and carried:

1. That we express to our respective College and University Presidents our serious concern over the recently reported decision of the U.B.C. Senate to limit enrollment from BC's Community Colleges.
2. That we ask the Senate of U.B.C. to reconsider their decision, in the process seeking consultation with and input from BC's Community Colleges.
3. That we ask the Board of Governors of U.B.C. to delay implementation of this reported decision until full consultation with the BC Colleges has occurred.

(Each to be forwarded to Gordon Gilgan)

VIII. Elections

It was M/S/C that the Executive be elected for a 2-year term, the present executive to serve for another year.

IX. Adjournment, Future Meetings.

The tentative date for the next committee meeting is April 3, 1987, the place: Open Learning Institute.

Sharon Meen will be asked to co-ordinate a professional development seminar on "Seminar Effectiveness and Distance Learning."

All members are urged to collect data and their thoughts on this issue.

Announcement

The Fourth BC Studies Conference will be held at the University of Victoria, November 7-8, 1986. Brochure Enclosed.