



**NORTHERN ALBERTA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Board of Governors**

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

**11:15 am – 1:15 pm
O102P Governors Boardroom**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Dr. Glenn Feltham Dr. Paula Burns Dr. Annemarieke Hoekstra
Anna Foshay Doug Short Max Varela Arevalo
Govind Pillai Timothy Jobs Miranda Holman
Teagan Gahler Kat Hawn Daryn Rainer
Kristen Richardson Leanne Telford Cecilia Rodriguez
Diane Brickner George Hardy Dr. Ray Block

RESOURCES: Corie Phillips Roxanna Stumbur

REGRETS: Joanne Mankow Norm Hill George Andrews

1. Opening

1.1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:22 am.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

Moved by Leanne Telford that the agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried

1.3 Review of the Minutes of January 17, 2012

Revision on page 8, 3.2 should read “why should it matter?”

Moved by Timothy Jobs that the minutes of January 17, 2012 be accepted as revised.

Carried

2. President’s Report

Glenn advised he provided a revised NAIT 2021 draft to the Board at the February retreat. He will make further revisions after individual consultations with the Board and in turn, will be made available to the broader NAIT community. Such revisions include changes to the sections of promises to staff, students, and industry.

Glenn is also continuing work on the airport lands which is close to finalization. The Executive team continues to work hard with the Mayor and City Council in this regard.

3. Business Arising

3.1 Future Participation in Subcommittees – Most Value for Students

Paula Burns asked for ideas roundtable to involve students earlier on in the academic year and to

better engage students on the subcommittees:

- The students find the timing of the meetings difficult.
- What value does Academic Council provide to the institution?
- The meetings would accommodate schedules better to occur at the end of the day.
- As the student members are not appointed until mid-late September, the NAITSA Executive will attend a September 10th Academic Council meeting to set the agenda for the work of the committee for the year ahead.
- Review of the by-laws to reflect this change if necessary.
- Consider exam week when scheduling meetings.
- NASA and NAITSA members should send requests to their members for what items should be the mandate for Academic Council and brought to the September meeting for consideration and discussion.

ACTION:

Paula and Corie to schedule a meeting with NAITSA prior to the planning meeting of the year.

ACTION:

Corie to poll members on their time preference for Academic Council regular meetings.

3.2 Jargon and Terms Surrounding the Academic Model

Paula Burns distributed a handout at table which provided an overview of the various terms used in the new academic model and highlighted some of the key acronyms as follows:

| | |
|------|---|
| OBE | Outcomes Based Education |
| 15/3 | 15 week semesters, 3 stands for 3 credits |
| TBP | Transfer between programs |
| RPL | Recognition and Prior Learning |
| WIL | Work Integrated Learning |
| AR | Applied Research |
| SPM | Sustainable (and strategic) Program Mix |
| SEM | Strategic Enrollment Management |

ACTION:

Corie to distribute the handout to the Board of Governors.

3.3 Copyright

Doug Short advised that there are certain websites that you have to pay for, for articles for use in class and others where you can access the articles for free. He utilizes the drop box provided by Harvard for use in his classes. There are other sites where there is a one-month time limit to access the articles for free and they have also been found on other sites at no cost. The communication should be relayed to staff to go through the proper processes and use the library resources as applicable. The coursepacks that are created come with an increase cost.

Glenn advised that there is a need to determine best practice and let the academic staff know how to provide students the required material in the most cost effective ways.

Govind Pillai advised that there needs to be communication on the copyright laws as there is a lot of confusion as to why students suddenly are being forced to pay for the article as a part of the coursepack. Secondly, Govind advised that there are instructors who are enforcing the notion that if students do not buy the material, they will face an automatic fail. Clarification was provided around this by Miranda advising that the reason for this is that the coursepack is a one-time use license and cannot be resold. There are students that have found the same material online for almost a 90% discounted price.

ACTION:

Glenn and Paula will investigate the enforcement of the notion that students will fail if they do not purchase a coursepack and provide information at the April meeting.

If NAIT is putting together the packages of information, NAIT is then responsible for communicating to users the copyright rules around the distribution of the material.

4. Sub Committee Reports

4.1 Academic Policy Review Committee

The terms of reference were provided in the meeting package and Paula provided a quick overview of the revisions which were focused around the Committee Composition. The committee is responsible for the regular review and revisions of academic policies pertinent to NAIT's strategic direction and the post-secondary educational environment, including the Post-Secondary Learning Act. There will be new policies and guidelines coming forward in April to the committee in relation to the new academic model and the academic model alignment team. The NAIT Policy on Student Consultation was developed, as required by the Government of Alberta, and circulated at table and will return to Academic Council in April.

Moved by Dr. Paula Burns that the draft terms of reference be approved as presented.

Carried

4.2 Instructional Awards of Excellence

The instructional awards of excellence nominees were distributed at table. Usually, there is only one award per school. This year, as the scores were so close in the schools of health and business, there were two awards per school. This year the committee handled the largest amount of nominations thus far.

The nominees are as follows:

Renaë Kassehi – Combined X-Ray, School of Health Sciences

Seth Turner – Paramedic, School of Health Sciences

James Guthrie – Business Administration – Accounting, JR Shaw School of Business

Luigi Figliuzzi – Business Administration – Finance, JR Shaw School of Business

Landon Paquet – Welding, School of Trades

Kouloude (Claudia) Elsayed – ESL, Department of Continuing Education

Keith Munro – Power Engineering, School of Sustainable Building and Environmental Management

Claudia Calin – Civil Engineering, School of Information, Communication, and Engineering Technologies

Moved by Dr. Paula Burns that the nominees be accepted as presented.

Carried

4.3 Honorary Degree

The nominees are as follows:

Andrew Clark, Clark Builders

Don Breen, Ledcor Industrial

Darren Entwistle, TELUS

Moved by Dr. Paula Burns that the nominees be accepted as presented.

Carried

4.4 Faculty Emeritus

The Faculty Emeritus nominee put forward was David D. Odegard who had 39.31 years of service with NAIT in the School of Resources and Environmental Management, Biological Sciences. There will be revisions made to the nomination process which will focus more on a nomination led by peers.

Moved by Dr. Paula Burns that the David Odegard be awarded the Faculty Emeritus be accepted as presented.

Carried

4.5 Program Excellence

There is nothing to report.

4.6 Campus Community

There is nothing to report.

5. Topics for Future Academic Council Meetings

What are the objectives for Academic Council for the year? How do we make Academic Council as valuable as possible to the institute?

Kahn Academy and the use of technology provide 10-minute segments on the direction of technology in education.

Overview of the Social Networking Committee with Social Media as the focus for NAIT's position.

There are four pillars within NAIT which all operate very differently and abide by different rules. It is important to streamline rules across the institute and pillars while still maintaining individual school independence. Eg: use of cell phones, technology in the classroom.

Does NAIT's leadership style support the new academic model? What is the expectations of leaders overall within the institution?

6. Open Questions to the Chair

The concern was reiterated for Glenn and Paula to follow up on the enforcement of the coursepack material being purchased or a student facing the consequence of failing.

The new academic model is only in the evaluation stage and being looked at from a development perspective as they go to increase flexibility, access and labor market needs. September 2013 the model will be fully implemented.

The model is also considering the use of technology in the classroom and how it is used outside the classroom to utilize the resources we currently have and leverage those resources to use classroom time differently.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17, 2012 from 11:15 am to 1:15 pm in Ernest's Dining Room.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Miranda Holman that the meeting be adjourned at 12:55 pm.

Carried