



**MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING
September 13, 2007**

Members:

<u>Council Chair:</u>	Mr. Bruce MacDonald	
<u>President:</u>	Mr. Don Gnatiuk	<i>Notice of Absence</i>
<u>Vice President Academic:</u>	Mr. Doug Hart	
<u>Registrar:</u>	Ms. Jean Nordin	
<u>Deans</u>	Dr. Scott McAlpine	
	Ms. Jane Friesen	<i>Notice of Absence</i>
<u>Academic Staff Association:</u>	Dr. George Ding	
	Dr. Weixing Tan	<i>Notice of Absence</i>
	Dr. Laurie Nock	
	Ms. Dianne McDonald	
	Ms. Shonda Klatt	
	Ms. Karen Kennedy	
	Ms. Joan Godbout	<i>Absent</i>
	Mr. Evans Forsyth	
Alternate:	Mr. Edward Bader	<i>Notice of Absence</i>
<u>Students' Association:</u>	Mr. Rory Tarant	
	Ms. Amber Amy	<i>Notice of Absence</i>
<u>Employees' Association:</u>	Ms. Jill Thomson	
	Mr. Gordon Pellerin	<i>Notice of Absence</i>
	Ms. Joanne Stiles	
Alternate:	Ms. Lynne Ness	
<u>Community Members:</u>	Mr. Dennis Fedeyko	

3339 CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called to order the meeting at 4:01 p.m.

3340 AGENDA

MOVED by J. Nordin, seconded by S. McAlpine, that the agenda of September 13, 2007 be approved, as presented.

CARRIED**3341 MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2007**

The Chair called for errors or omissions in the April 12, 2007 Minutes. It was noted that under item 3334, the word "committed" should be replaced with the word "committee".

MOVED by D. Hart, seconded by D. Fedeyko that the Minutes of the meeting of April 12, 2007 be approved.

CARRIED**3342 MINUTES OF MAY 10, 2007**

The Minutes of May 10, 2007, in which there was no quorum were provided for information.

3343 ACADEMIC COUNCIL AUTHORITY AND BYLAWS

The Chair provided a notice of motion to amend the Authority and Bylaws at the October 11th meeting of Academic Council. Any suggestions or wording changes, including changes to the proposed amendments should be submitted in writing to the Chair two weeks prior to the October meeting date.

3344 2007-2008 ACADEMIC COUNCIL SCHEDULE

Moved by E. Forsyth, seconded by J. Stiles that the 2007-2008 schedule of Academic Council meetings be approved as presented.

CARRIED**3345 ACADEMIC COUNCIL COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

The Chair provided notice of motion of the upcoming Academic Council committee elections to take place at the October 11th meeting of Academic Council. The Nominating Committee of Academic Council is currently working on soliciting nominations for the various vacant positions on Academic Council and its subcommittees. It was noted that additional nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the October meeting.

3346 ACADEMIC POLICIES REVIEW***2007-2008 Policy Review List***

A list of Academic Council Policies and their review dates was presented. The following three policies will be reviewed in the 2007-2008 academic year:

- Athletic Eligibility Standards
- Absences for Athletic Team Travel
- Admissions

Other policies requiring review will be brought forward to Academic Council as required throughout the 2007-2008 academic year.

3347 COMMITTEE REPORTS***Curriculum Committee Minutes of May 1, 2007***

Approval of the Curriculum Committee Minutes of May 1, 2007 cannot occur without the Minutes of the Fast Track Committee meeting held in May.

Moved by S. McAlpine, seconded by L. Nock that the Curriculum Committee Minutes of May 1, 2007 be tabled until such time as the Minutes of the Fast Track Committee meeting held in May can be collected.

CARRIED***Fast Track Committee Minutes of June 18, 2007***

The Minutes of the Fast Track Committee meeting of June 18, 2007 were provided for information.

Fast Track Committee Minutes of July 25, 2007

The Minutes of the Fast Track Committee meeting of July 25, 2007 were provided for information.

3348 INSTRUCTOR EMERITUS

The honorary designation of Instructor Emeritus is awarded by Grande Prairie Regional College to retired faculty members in recognition of meritorious services. To be eligible, faculty members must have at least 15 years of tenured instructional service and have left full time employment with the College. Instructors achieving this distinction are encouraged to display their continuing affiliation with the College in various ways including research, community service and publications.

MOVED by K. Kennedy, seconded by J. Nordin that Ms. Gail Sherman be granted Instructor Emeritus of Grande Prairie Regional College.

CARRIED

Members noted that Ms. Gail Sherman, of Administrative Technology is hugely admired by her students and widely respected by her colleagues and is very deserving of this designation.

3349 ACADEMIC ISSUES***College-wide Professional Development Day***

D. Hart provided an update on the College-wide Professional Development day. The feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive and we will be seeking volunteers, in the near future, to begin planning another event. In addition to another college-wide PD event in August, the possibility of hosting a second event at another time (ie. Reading Week) is being explored. It was noted that \$10,000 was allocated for the event and the actual costs have totaled approximately \$10,500. Some suggestions received from members included:

- Spreading out the same number of sessions from the August 20th College-wide PD day over a couple of days
- Offering fewer sessions to allow for increased attendance at sessions from staff across the institution
- Looking at having a second College-wide PD day after classes are over in the spring rather than during Reading Week

Roles and Mandates Policy Framework for Alberta's Publically Funded Advanced Education System

D. Hart provided an update on the draft Roles and Mandates Policy Framework released by Advanced Education and Technology. At the last meeting of Council in May, he reported that Phil Gougeon (Assistant Deputy Minister) had been charged with the responsibility of writing a document that paved the way for institutions to collaborate more effectively and to buffer the competition that had permeated the post-secondary system in recent years. The document was predicated on several assumptions, but prominent drivers were the need for "differentiated roles" and a "high degree of system collaboration".

The first draft of the document indicated GPRC would have degree granting in its mandate (as currently is the case) and all comprehensive colleges were expected to deliver apprenticeship and trades.

On August 14th (one week before the document was formally delivered) a phrase was added into the line that read, "comprehensive community institutions may provide baccalaureate degrees if feasible, and if in alignment with areas of specializations". Added to that phrase was "and if in collaboration with a degree granting institution".

Though the current Post-Secondary Learning Act opened the door to GPRC granting degrees and degree granting was added to our mandate in January 2005, it appears as though the new Roles and Responsibilities document closes that door once again. It is our belief that legislation will need to change to officially remove degree granting from GPRC's mandate.

It is our understanding that Red Deer College who has initiated approval for three different degrees was told that their request for degree approval will not be considered by the Quality Council.

Presidents and Boards of colleges affected by this recent change are currently discussing how best to make their collective dissatisfaction known.

Members expressed grave concern regarding this direction from the Ministry when there is a community expectation and need to offer degrees in the region.

Program Review Steering Committee

The last meeting of the Program Review Steering Committee was held in the spring. The Program Review Steering Committee was appointed by Academic Council in the middle of September 2006. The Program Review Steering Committee was tasked with creating a template which a future standing committee could use to review academic programs. All programs will be reviewed bi-annually as well as undergo a comprehensive review every six years.

The standing committee, known as the Program Review Committee will be meeting with the members of the steering committee in the next couple of weeks. Members of the outgoing steering committee will share the template and explain the work completed to date with the standing committee.

The Program Review template document will be forwarded to Deans and Chairs.

ACTION: D. HART

D. Hart, Chair of the Program Review Committee will provide regular updates at through Academic Council.

3350 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of Academic Council adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Bruce MacDonald, Chair

Wanda Moen, Records

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