

## Academic Council Update:

Angela Pind and Tracy Finlay are the GA&S representatives on Academic Council. The last meeting for the academic year was on Wednesday, June 22. Below are some highlights, but for full details/official minutes, you are encouraged to visit the [Office of the Vice-President Academic Website](#).

### (1) Roundtable:

- Jason Jackson, Angela Pind and Tracy Finlay provided comments about the recent AODA policy for duplicating. Angela's comments included her experience with AODA resources, the time it takes for creating/editing material to be AODA compliant, need for training on fixing current documents, and the timing of the memo to faculty (close to the full-time faculty vacation date). Other issues include the potential effect on duplicating process. Laurel recognized that the timing was not great, but they were making sure that AODA resources were in place before the memo was distributed. Duplicating will be doing a very quick check (not through the screen reader) with emphasis on looking for any hand-written documents or unclear images.
- Carol Kelsey noted that the facilities website for online booking is not operational yet. The website was to be used for booking space in the fundraising guidelines for student fundraising and awareness.

### (2) Recognition of Exiting Council Members:

- Four members are exiting the council (Barb Elliot, Raymond Yip-Choy, Kelly McKnight, and Tracy Finlay). Nick Stone will be returning after leave and new members will be welcomed in September.

### (3) Applied Projects – Final Recommendations:

- Raymond Yip-Choy (Chair of the Applied Projects Working Group) presented the final recommendations of the working group's research, including the benefits to the students and the college in using applied projects, as well as the "pain points" in overseeing an applied project. Fifteen recommendations were made to address the pain points, including a college wide support staff position, applied project coordinator in relevant schools, creation of project list database (Beta currently under construction) and repository of completed projects, reviewing assessment plans for applied projects. Please find the recommendations in the full report on the [Office of the Vice-President Academic Website](#).

### (4) Working Group Updates:

- Tracy Finlay (Chair of Grade/Credit Standards Working Group): Briefing note presented with current research and timelines of the working group's progress. Recommendations include reforming the group (include more faculty voice) and revisiting the scope of the deliverables.
- Thomas Luloff (Chair of Advising Working Group): Continuing to work on the Advising Module material (will communicate in the future) and have created "Pop-Up" Advisement Calendar for critical times during the academic year.

- Testing Centre Working Group: Need to revisit deliverables and membership.
- Cindy Gervais (Chair of the Academic Standards Working Group): Presented the final recommended Academic Integrity Policy based on the discussion from the last Academic Council. The policy and procedure will move to the next tables for approvals. As the policy moves into the final stages, the group will be considering the communication process and the educational piece. An academic integrity piece will be incorporated into the Advising Module.

(5) Convocation Debrief (presented by Brenda Pander-Scott):

- The convocation ceremony is always changing. The reception area changed for the Peterborough ceremonies (provide feedback). Some feedback around the table included the space may have been a little cramped, students were in different pocketed areas, signage for coordinators might be helpful. One name caller was also used at the ceremonies again this year (provide feedback). There were some issues (late students, student attended wrong ceremony), but the RO staff were praised for dealing with these situations very well.

(6) Indigenous Education at Fleming College (presented by Judith Limkilde):

- Briefing note presented about current practice for the Indigenous Perspectives Designation (IPD) at the college. Currently two programs (Social Services Worker and Ecosystem Management) meet the requirements, with another program (Drug and Alcohol) going to have the designation in the Fall. Only programs that meet embedded Indigenous vocational outcomes, take GNED 49 and 128, and participate in four approved activities can be approved for the designation. The council discussed ways for those programs without the designation to get student exposure to Indigenous information (guest speakers, continuing education package for recognition, promotion of IPD in programs without it, and including questions in program review).

(7) Academic Technology (presented by Judith Limkilde):

- Briefing note provided an update on the Academic Technology Committee (ATC), who are working towards the creation of an Academic Technology Plan (including things like e-conferencing, e-classrooms, office communication, Turnitin technologies, etc.). The group will be looking for feedback from faculty in October. What is the best way to solicit input?

(8) Review of Academic Council Evaluation (presented by Thom Luloff):

- Group looked at the feedback from the Academic Council Evaluation and were asked to reflect on the lower average for “All Council members understand their role as a representative of their department/school” and ways to communicate information to our constituents.