

Academic Council Meeting

March 8, 2022
5:00 – 6:30 pm
Microsoft Teams

Minutes

Time	Item	Action	Owner
5:00	<p>WELCOME & TREATY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</p> <p>Attendees: Corey Mushynsky, Dawn Witherspoon, Diane Van der Gucht, Echo Schmidek, Emmeline Marie Sanson, Japleen Punia, Karrie Auger, Karyn Nickerson, Lee Heon, Leonce Rushubirwa, Manna Liu, Marlene Phillips, Mayme Wong, Navjot Kaur, Nicole Cossette, Nikota Krawec-Toutsaint <nkrawectoutsaint@mynorquest.ca> Norma Schneider, Renuka Jantz, Sandra Moore, Tanya Friesen, Tibetha Kemble</p> <p><i>Scribe: Rebecca Bock-Freeman</i> <i>Guest: Mike Reeves</i></p>		
	<p>AGENDA ITEMS</p>		
5:05	<p>1. Approval of the Agenda</p> <p><i>Motion to approve the agenda. Moved by Japleen Punia; Seconded by Manna Liu</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried</p>	<p>Decision</p>	<p>Dr. Leonce Rushubirwa, Chair</p>
5:07	<p>2. Approval of the Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 8, 2022 <p><i>Motion to approve the minutes of February 8, 2022. Moved by Nicole Cossette; Seconded by Manna Liu</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Motion Carried</p>	<p>Decision</p>	<p>Dr. Leonce Rushubirwa, Chair</p>
5:10	<p>3. Update from the Board of Governors meeting on March 7 re: Tuition and Fees Proposal 2022-23</p> <p>Dr. Norma Schneider shared that the Board of Governors approved the Tuition and Fees Proposal for 2022-23. The Board commended the proposal and shared that they saw the new strategic plan reflected in the aims to support accessible education and reduce barriers for Indigenous learners and those in foundational programs.</p>	<p>Information</p>	<p>Dr. Norma Schneider, VPA</p>

5:20	<p>4. Provincial Budget 2022 and what it means for NorQuest</p> <p>Mike Reeves shared a presentation on how the Government of Alberta’s Budget 2022 impacts NorQuest. Highlights included that the cut to NorQuest funding through the Campus Alberta Grant was less than expected. There are also new opportunities for funding through the Alberta at Work Initiative.</p>	Information	Mike Reeves, External Relations Consultant, Strategic Communications
5:40	<p>5. Group Discussions:</p> <p><i>Best ways to engage the student population on College-wide initiatives?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emails, newsletters • Ensuring each area of the College has the same information to share with students. Challenges with different areas of the College asking teachers to regularly make class announcements. • Teachers mention initiatives but they don’t always have all the details. • IDEA: digital bulletin board – or centralized hub for student engagement. Faculty need to be plugged into this information as well. <p><i>How can academic council support and drive change on anti-oppressive work/racism?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having sharing circles around anti-oppressive & anti-racism at Academic Council. • Ensuring diverse membership on Academic Council. This year is quite diverse so that need to be intentional in future years as well. • Academic Council could release a statement on our website, as well as a poster. • Importance of continuing the conversation at meetings regularly. • We need to model best practices in a culture of respect. • Need a hub for connecting with students & instructors. <p><i>How do you become a voice for the role you are here to serve: students, faculty, admin?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students showing up for each other. • Having 1-1 discussions with those we serve. • Working together to find solutions. • Providing lots of different opportunities for student input • Programs like RBC Indigenous Student mentorship program helps support students who have been out of school for some time and develops leadership capability. • Faculty physically showing up for students to get to know each other. • We don’t have a clear space on campus where students can participate in associations – need physical spaces to connect with each other and faculty & admin. 	Discussion	Dr. Leonce Rushubirwa, Chair

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDEA: Harry Potter houses - when you come to NorQuest you get assigned to a house which can help with social activities and building community outside of your specific program. • Academic Council can volunteer for the events or host events. <p>Next Steps: Review and plan how to implement some of these initiatives.</p>		
6:10 pm	<p>ADJOURNMENT <i>Motion to adjourn moved by Corey Mushynsky; Seconded by Nikota Krawec-Toutsaint.</i></p>		