



CCDI PROVINCIAL MEETING

February 12, 2014

Colleges Ontario

20 Bay Street, #1600

Toronto, ON M5J 2N8

Minutes

1. Approval of Agenda

Approved by All

2. Approval of November 6, 2013 Minutes

Approved Anne Moore; Seconded by Carla Grey

3. Updates/Reports

a) **Treasurer's Report – Jim Chalmers**

- We are in good standing

b) **CCDI's Strategic Priorities (3)**

Engagement/Recruitment – Trina Washington and Carla Grey

- Carla spoke to mentorship; new positions on CCDI executive; asked for volunteers for LS and AT's, Chair, Vice Chair, Central Regional Rep and PD rep.

AGM Conference – May 13-15, 2014 – Jim Chalmers and Barbara Pontes

- Theme of Conference is *Facing the Future Together*
- Topics to include Learning Disability Specialists certification offered in Cambrian; Motivational Interviewing Certification; Cognitive Behavioral Certification; and much more.

CCDI website Update – Megan Houghton

- Megan is heading up a group to discuss what the website should look like. New policies and procedures proposed spending time working on this through teleconferences and Meg has asked for volunteers and to email her at meg.houghton@humber.ca. would like to have a skeleton plan from a college perspective;
- Building a *Intraweb- choosing 5 things for discussion topics*

c) **Ministry Report – Taras Myhal/Michael Callaghan – See attached**

d) **Heads of Student Services (HOSA) Report – Jim Chalmers for Christine Bender, HOSA Rep**

- *Terms of Reference* – HOSA Executive Committee continues to work on the development of a tool that will provide consistency to the Terms of Reference for all Operating Groups that report through HOSA. A request to make changes to the make-up of the CCDI Executive that would alleviate the necessity to have a manager sit as Vice-Chair has been made and we are waiting a response.
- *Communication Plan* – HOSA is in the process of developing a communication strategy that would more clearly outline the role of the liaisons for all operating groups. The plan will support a more expedient response to requests and will provide better opportunities for information exchange.
- *Grad Survey* – Thank you to everyone who participated.
- No concerns were brought forward on KPI steering group; Suggested to have a rep from CCDI on the KPI steering group;

e) **Alternative Education Resources for Ontario (AERO) Update – Karen Coffey**

- Karen provided a brief update on Algonquin College and their move into e-text accessible copies available to all students. Pearson has sent those files to the depository and were sent to AERO. All e-text being used at Algonquin were preloaded into AREO. So if you are using the same textbook

you can request it from AREO. 100% of students have 100% of accessible information to all students at the same time. Costs were embedded into the tuition fees.

- Karen recommended Larry Weatherdon from our college who was instrumental to move this forward.
- If you're using AREO those e-text will be there.

Updates

- **New communication video and brochures for PSE and publishers**
- Looking for feedback on AERO, two surveys will be circulated via email to manager responsible for alternative format and current AERO users

AERO New Development

- Institutions can request institution custom publisher publications from AERO now, to do this select custom publisher name from the drop down list, these titles will be added to your cloud, but not visible on the general catalogue.
- New publisher mass upload tool which allows publishers to upload pre-requested files to AERO faster

Bill Somers - Update on KPI/Grad Survey

- Adding information on students with disabilities on the file;
- Short term strategy – Ministry has backed away from requesting information; when they do the follow grad survey, they will add two questions to the interview do you have a disability do you consider yourself to a learning/physical disability and did you register with DSO.
- Putting off adding this to the graduation record
- Will speak to chair of VP student services ; suggested a task group including colleges; registrars' privacy offices and legal council; legal opinions have been obtained at some of the colleges;
- Invasion of privacy or have students deter from registering;
- Toni: clarification - KPI voluntary survey; graduate record file – how are KPI results connected to graduate file; they link up the two together at the Ministry; report back to Feds about labour market outcomes;
- Get the files from the college; strip the personal identifiers
- Looking for employment results for general population and disabled students aboriginal students;
- Ann – has seen the stats and they have had figures in the past; what personal identifiers are going on the KPI;
- Advised they will depersonalize the KPI – not sure exactly how much;
- For the grad survey the caller has the information;
- Both are voluntary;
- Will the students be informed that their files be reported and results will be reported on;
- Concern is that their information is confidential but yet now we're telling them that the Ministry will have information; students with disabilities sometimes take a bit longer to graduate;
- Nursing students for example College of Nurses are already being asked to identify their disability. Asking our students for additional requirements and additional exams because they have a disability. MH students have to have letter of reference as well.
- Licensing exam students are sent a letter to prove they are fit to practice – detailed letter – placement coordinators to show they are competent;
- Can we look at that preliminary approach – asked to see the analysis after the interviews
- KPI steering committee – issues in consulting internally.
- Labor Market Funding – federal provincial agreement is up for negotiation with regards to the accessibility fund; potentially there could be some risks to this funding; can't get any clarity from either provincial or federal government; timeline is theoretically April 1, 2014 and could get dragged out;
- Ministry started a review 6 months ago of the funding of the 3 envelopes of our funding; move it into 1 stream and make it simpler. This will be reviewed; funding equity on a per student basis; ministry analysis showed that our funding per student is slightly higher than the universities;
- Models may change from 3 envelopes, but may be combined and may include KPI information. Total population will drive the funding.
- Ministry has created a steering committee to review – universities feel it should be equitable; they've been fighting this; working group is trying to come up with a model to use;

- Phase this in over a three year period; formula based instead of history
- Concern if the KPI is included as it is difficult to get the students to complete the KPI information;
- Asked if we could be considered to be part of the working group.

f) **College Updates – College Representatives**

George Brown – Mike Beganyi – There are approximately 19,420 full time students and 2029 registered. GBC would also like to do an employment transition session. Susan Toews is the new Director of Student Affairs, whom some of you have met. DSO has facilitated workshops for faculty during Intersession/Reading week around Universal Design for Learning and DSO overview. There has been much effort in promoting integration to unify service delivery across the College in Student Affairs, including Career Services, the Library, and Counselling.

Cambrian – Barbara Pontes – Currently have 4600 students and 950 – 1000 CSD students; they have a new interim director; new counsellor and two support staff ; higher number of students with aspergers; trying to do more advertising of their services; one of the four northern colleges involved Red Sofa – engaging students to speak to mental health; NOARC is on their campus and referrals are up; engaged in a number of research projects;

Humber College – Sonia Thakur – changes in staff and management; developing a placement phase; Meg Houghton is the new Director; continuing with mental health and first aid training; Humber has a new strategic plan;

Irene - Centennial College - They have approximately 14,000 students and 2100 registered in the CSD. MH and ASD numbers are up. Currently recruiting for a new Dean of Students as well as a Case Manager, Mental Health Innovation project. Summer Transition Program called SmartStart is running this August and OutSmart, a transition to employment conference will run in May, 2014. Hired a new full time adaptive technologist; engaged in mental health first aid training; received funding partnering with Georgian College. Lorene is leaving; starring in her play opening February 28, 2014 at the Village Playhouse called Marian Bridge.

Niagara College – Jennifer Babin – 11,000 students at Niagara – 2nd year as a CCDI representative. They're hosting the CCDI conference; there are 2 EA's doing their placement at her office; they have a first nations person; starting an autism support group; trying to create *memory club* – change how they do workshops; Fireside Chats – advertise everywhere – free hot chocolate – set up for students to come and chat about stress management, balance; helping all students; looking for a chance in delivery for the summer transition program and looking for ideas. Two new counsellors this year counselling for both CSD and counselling services.

Canadore College - Kim Lapierre – 4000 students at Canadore with 750-800 accessing student success services new programs – peer support group started partnering with mental health advisor; advisor in residence now in January 2014 (part of safety plan) and they are capturing students who may not come in to the office otherwise. Part of *Bridging the Distance* - website – training for staff module will be rolled out soon. They have intake and forward on to outside consultants after 4 – 6 sessions but is reviewed case by case.

Sheridan College–Matt Rempel– Sheridan College–Theresa Siu & Matt Rempel– moving towards a university by 2017. She has been tasked to go over operations and may be calling to see how other offices are set up to see if they need to change their model. Working on phase 2 of the Mississauga campus –there is one advisor there. Trying to streamline and how the referral is made to counsellors as currently counsellors deal with mental health and Advisors deal with all other disabilities. There are 18000 students 2000 registered with DSO. New initiatives include new Asperger's group called Face it "Friends accepting changes, endeavoring to improve themselves" – runs on 2 of their campus - support group 15- 20 students attend. initiative called Employability Session - employment transition program – partnered with Career Services group. Twenty students attended their first session – when do you disclose you have a disability concern was discussed;

Durham College – Carol Ferguson– experienced a lot of staff changes; student increase in MH; now have a counsellor in their office who has also been doing MH workshops. Last 2 years they have had peer mentors which have been successful and they started a social group. Going through a split – UIT will be opening up their own disability services.

Flemming College – Susan Weaver - Parental interference has increased wanting computers for their students. Hiring an accessibility facilitator; centre for learning and teaching working towards universal design. Started a newsletter for faculty which includes stats, procedures, UID etc. Changing Summer Transition Program and struggling with students “not identified”. They have 6500 fulltime students 850 with disabilities. Susan is retiring in June, 2014.

Fanshawe College – Ncole Ross - Biggest change will be when long term disability counsellor Lois Wey retires. There are 17000 students, 2300 registered with DSO. New Test Centre up and running; changeover in staff; MH first aid initiatives – *Good 2 Talk* and *Yellow Umbrella* which are groups running for stress and anxiety management for students and meditation groups, talking about refining the process of educational aids and who are the appropriate people to be EA's; working on updating assessments;

Seneca College - Kevin Reinhardt – They have 24,000 ft students 4000 DSO students; doing a lot of recruitment work with grade 9's and faculty awareness on universal design. Two staff members retiring. Looking at “*accommodate* database” – not clockworks; reorganizing into personal counsellors; AT support has increased; they have a faculty person representing counselling; Philippine relief monies sent; MH awareness day where 8000 signatures; tips for physical and mental health awareness on their website; Preparing for World Autism Day. First ASD summer transition program working with Cary's place - starting Life Academy with high functioning ASD teaching them life skills and how they can be successful at college;

Loyalist College- Jennifer Vincent – (new staff changes – please delete); working more with Teaching and Learning and UID; all student services (Counselling, Mind & Wellness, Tutoring, Test Centre, Student Success Mentors, Aboriginal Resource Centre, International Resource Centre) are in The Student Success Hub except for AccessAbility Centre due to space; MH initiatives – Dog Therapy – huge hit; yoga, yoga for men only, fitness night for women only; Good 2 Talk initiative; Just finished five components of Solution Focused Counselling. Bev is facilitating a social group for ASD students through Kerry's Place for the 2nd year. Bev and Jennifer met with Autism Ontario regarding funding.

g) **Martha McGuire**, Cathexis Consulting, Evaluation Consultant for Evaluation of Accessibility Fund for People with Disabilities Evaluation and **Hema Vyas**, Coordinator Program Evaluation, Ministry of Training Colleges And Universities - *See Attached*

h) **Round Table Discussions - Algonquin College's new ASD Transition Program. ASD Support – Toni Connolly – See Attached**

- Toni presented her ASD Transition program to the group and was looking for feedback. She explained that you need a good relationship with School Boards
- This was a research based pilot project with one school board only as directed by MTCU.
- There was no insight on source of funding; No insight as to what the precise info MTCU is looking for; not sure if the number of hours be included in the outcomes?
- It was suggested to have students have work experience before they come to college.
- Suggested students Take Level 1 communications before they start college;

Action: Please email Toni Connolly at: connolt@algonquincollege.com with your suggestions

i) **Round Table Discussions**

➤ *Mild Intellectual Disabilities* – **Dr. Karima Lacene**

Round table discussion on how colleges are supporting this group of students. This session is intended to start the conversation on how colleges are, or are not, supporting these students. This discussion will continue with a longer session at the annual conference in May. It is hoped that following these in-depth discussions, CCDI can put forth a position statement which will guide our practices.