



NORTHERN ALBERTA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Board of Governors

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 19, 2016
11:20 a.m. to 12:53 p.m.
Ernest's Dining Room

MINUTES

PRESENT:	Dr. Glenn Feltham George Andrews Anna Foshay Jeff Mason Norm Hill Darrell Cruz	Dr. Neil Fassina Nicolas Brown Malcolm Haines Kim Watamaniuk Dr. Alexander Ondrus	Keith Meagher Allannah Wrobel Arlana Moskalyk Justin Nand Max Arevalo
RESOURCES:	Dr. Ray Block	Sandy Timmer (recorder)	
GUESTS:	Tamara Russell	John Perozok	Katie Spencer
REGRETS:	Yang Yu	Michael MacComb	Coleten Leblanc

1. Opening

1.1 Call to order and approval of the Agenda

Glenn welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

Moved by Nicolas Brown that the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

1.2 President's Update

Glenn discussed capital projects at NAIT and how we are supporting the academic mission through our capital projects.

In 2014, the Campus Development Committee and Executive Committee developed a list of priorities for the institute that met the needs of our academic mission, pathways and access, and supporting infrastructure to enhance the student experience.

One of the top priorities then and now, continues to be the Skills Centre. This would be on the bus barn lands and this would be North America's leading skills centre for trades. It would combine all the satellite campuses for all the suitable trades that can be done in the City (which is why Crane and Hoist is outside of Spruce Grove). The Skills Centre would still tie into polytechnic education.

A second top priority is the Productivity and Innovation Centre, the third top priority is Crane and

Hoist.

Student Housing is also still high on the list. From the recent Provincial Budget, it appears that the Collegiate may be moving ahead. The L and T Buildings are getting set for renovation and we continue to expand in Continuing Education.

Glenn and Dr. Ray Block met with the City Manager and have tabled a proposal with them to move the Blatchford lands forward. The bus barn land negotiations continue to move forward with the City. They also discussed the LRT issues with the City and invited them to see first-hand the challenges that happen around the area with the train and traffic signals. Other issues such as underground or overhead tracks for the LRT are being considered by the City but that is a long way from being done.

Recently, the Federal Government announced funding for post-secondary infrastructure projects related to science and innovation. This funding initiative is called the Post-Secondary Institutes Strategic Investment Fund (SIF). However, the projects must be shovel-ready and be completed in two years. This brings us to the Productivity and Innovation Centre (PIC). This project meets the guidelines and parameters set out in this new funding grant. The proposal to government must be submitted by May 9th. We have assembled a team of experts to put this proposal together so that it can be submitted by the deadline. The Skills Centre is too large a project to fit into the parameters of the SIF.

The new PIC would become the new Shell Manufacturing Centre to better meet the needs of industry. The Shell Centre is almost at capacity. For NAIT to be responsive and relevant, this new PIC complex would meet the criteria.

Once we know if the proposal and funding have been approved, an announcement will be made.

A question was raised on the difficulty securing the Blatchford lands and how this affects NAIT. Glenn indicated that the City did not realize the magnitude of the development and sustainability of the lands and have to reconsider their initial plans. At this time, we will continue to focus on securing the bus barn lands for the Skills Centre. The PIC complex would be situated on the east side of the campus (east of HP Centre). As this project has to be completed within two years, it was not feasible to put it on Blatchford given the delay by the City.

No other questions were raised for the Chair.

1.3 Review of the Minutes of March 15, 2016

Moved by Justin Nand that the minutes of March 15, 2016 be approved as presented.
Carried

1.3(a) Programming Mix and Quality Assurance (PMQA) Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the PMQA were provided for Council's information. This is a subcommittee of Provost's Council.

2. Business Arising

2.1 Confirmation of Volunteers for Orientation 2016

Dr. Neil Fassina thanked Kim Watamaniuk and Justin Nand for all their work preparing the

orientation materials. Neil asked for volunteers to do the orientation in September for the new Council.

- Allannah Wrobel and Dr. Alex Ondrus volunteered to lead orientation for the new members in September.

3 Administration

3.1 Admissions Policy

Neil provided a brief overview of the Admissions Policy that NAIT currently has and the proposed new policy and procedure. Once the Policy Committee reviews a Policy it goes up to Provost's Council, to Executive Committee, to Academic Council, the Governance Committee of the Board, and then to the Board for final approval. The Procedures is just for internal use.

Moved by Anna Foshay that the Admissions Policy be accepted as presented and recommended to the Board of Governors for approval.

Carried

4. Presentation

4.1 Internationalization

Terri Flanagan, Director, NAIT International, provided a presentation on NAIT's internationalization strategy. Internationalization is a field within the educational system. It is defined as:

“The intentional process of integrating an international, intercultural or global dimension into the purpose, functions and delivery of post-secondary education, in order to enhance the quality of education..., and to make a meaningful contribution to society”.

Terri indicated that we are continuing to work on expanding that definition to include research to align with NAIT's priorities.

There are four goals to be achieved through the internationalization strategy:

1. International engagement and intercultural competence
2. International Student Enrolments and Pathways
3. Knowledge Mobility and Human Capital
4. Sustainable Stewardship of our Resources

NAIT's brand is strong and we have an excellent history of working internationally. It is interesting to note that JRSSB has the highest international student population. Overall, NAIT is developing a culture of internationalization.

We continue to work on international partnerships in pathways – internally- and externally-focussed working groups where we can make a strong impact. An internationalization Advisory Council has been struck with representatives from DCICE, Campus Life, Applied Research & Innovation, JRSSB and NAIT International. The Council works to ensure a collaborative

implementation of the Internationalization Strategy and develop a culture of internationalization at NAIT.

Internationalization programs and services include immigration advising, peer mentoring and increasing retention of the permanent resident population.

There have been 15 bursaries provided to international students.

Terri concluded her presentation and some questions were asked. It was noted that our world is so globally-connected now that this type of program is essential for NAIT. Comments on risks with the challenges were raised for the strategy. The Dean of JRSSB is looking to build a two-year program for international students to then join the mainstream in their third year. The impact of this internationalization program is strong and we need to be purposeful. We will continue to create pathways for international students but our foundation is strong.

Glenn thanked Terri for her informative presentation.

5. Open Questions to the Chair

No questions were raised for the Chair. Glenn wished to thank all members of Academic Council for their commitment and contribution to NAIT. There will be strong topics for the meetings next year.

It was asked if Academic Council should have a later start in the day so as to not disrupt teaching schedules. It was suggested to send comments to Sandy for compilation for Executive.

With regard to the letters from the Governance Committee Chair, the Chair has been away but the letters will be sent to Council in due course.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting date will be advised.

7. Adjournment

Moved by Neil Fassina that the meeting be adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Carried