



NORTHERN ALBERTA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Board of Governors

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 15, 2016
11:20 a.m. to 12:53 p.m.
O102P Governors' Boardroom

MINUTES

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

1. Opening

1.1 Call to order and approval of the Agenda

Glenn welcomed all and called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m. Glenn welcomed the newly elected members of NAITSA – Tamara Russell, Katie Spencer and John Perozok.

Glenn advised that today we will review topics for discussion for future Academic Council meetings.

Moved by Dr. Alex Ondrus that the agenda be approved as presented.

Carried

1.2 President's Update

Glenn reported that NAIT is taking the lead on a number of topics that are of importance in post-secondary institutes in Alberta. He advised that Neil's Edmonton Coalition of PSIs is working hard to attract future students to come to Edmonton as a learning destination. Today, the Coalition met with the Mayor to discuss matters of educational importance for the City. Glenn noted that he hasn't seen this type of post-secondary collaboration in any other provinces.

Glenn briefly discussed the Board's Strategic Planning Retreat that took place March 11 and 12th. On the 11th, board members had an opportunity to experience three different skills being taught at NAIT, and to discuss how to advocate with our provincial government. On the 12th the Board discussed governance, and how external influences – including government and the economy – will affect us. As well, the three Vice Presidents spoke on their challenges to meet NAIT 2021 given these external changes.

Glenn reported that he recently was at a meeting in Vancouver with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the Premier of BC presented. It was an informative meeting to hear how British Columbia is looking to develop different skills in the new energy sectors.

The Skills Centre remains an important focus for the institute, and appears to align with the new provincial government's priorities.

There were no questions for the Chair.

1.3 Review of the Minutes of February 9, 2016

Moved by Anna Foshay that the minutes of February 9, 2016 be approved as presented.

Carried

2. Business Arising

Glenn advised that he continues to work with the Chair of the Governance Committee to respond to questions raised.

3. Administration

3.1 Nominations to receive the Faculty Emeritus Award as recommended by the Faculty Emeritus Sub-Committee

Neil provided a brief review of the sub-committees of Academic Council and the roles each play. The Faculty Emeritus Committee identifies nominees to receive this award and it is a significant achievement to receive this award. Neil discussed the nomination process.

Neil thanked the Faculty Emeritus Committee for their work to narrow down and determine the nominees. Once the nominees are approved by Academic Council, Neil will notify the nominees. They will receive these awards at the Convocation Dinner in May.

The nominees to receive the Faculty Emeritus Awards are:

- Dr. Nima Fatemi
- Mr. Bob Wishloff
- Dr. George Hardy (*posthumously*)

There were no objections to the nominees.

Moved by Arlana Moskalyk that Dr. Nima Fatemi receive a Faculty Emeritus Award for 2016.

Carried

Moved by Justin Nand that Mr. Bob Wishloff receive a Faculty Emeritus Award for 2016.

Carried

Moved by Dr. Alex Ondrus that Dr. George Hardy receive a Faculty Emeritus Award for 2016 (posthumously).

Carried

3.2 Program Excellence Committee

Neil discussed the Program Excellence Committee and that with the Programming Mix and Quality Assurance (PMQA) sub-committee's broader scope and membership under the Provost Council, it is not necessary to continue with the Program Excellence Committee. The Program Excellence Committee would have the same discussions as the PMQA.

A question was raised if there would still be a student sub-committee and Neil advised there would be under the PMQA. The sub-committee would be balanced but small and it would be up to the PMQA to build it.

It was suggested that the Terms of Reference for the PMQA be provided for the next Academic Council meeting.

Moved by Nicolas Brown that the Program Excellence Committee be dissolved effective immediately.

Carried

4. Presentation

4.1 Group brainstorming for potential topics for Academic Council in 2016/2017

Glenn advised that there was value in Academic Council discussing potential agenda items for next year. He asked for roundtable suggestions of topics we can look at for 2016/17.

Topics raised by Council:

- What do we expect our programs to look like next year?
- The changing role of technology, including 3D printing technology and CNC machines – and their impact on our academic mission
- Pathways
- The role of staff and students in applied research
- Our internationalization strategy
- Budget impacts on NAIT's academic mission
- The role of professional accreditation, and professional designations
- A review of our Academic Mission (including what this means)
- The place of climate change and broader environment considerations in our programs
- Annual orientation review for Academic Council, and the on-boarding process for new members

Glenn thanked everyone for their valuable suggestions and all will be taken into consideration. Suggested topics for next meeting: Internationalization.

5. Open Questions to the Chair

No questions were raised for the Chair.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for **April 19, 2016** from **11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.** in Ernest's Dining Room (small side).

7. Adjournment

Moved by Neil Fassina that the meeting be adjourned at 12:53 pm.

Carried