



## NORTHERN ALBERTA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

### ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Monday, February 10, 2025  
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
via Microsoft Teams

### MINUTES

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#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Peter Leclaire (Chair)	Jen Crothers	Patti Hergott	Matt Lindberg
Dennis Sheppard	Stephen McMillan	Agatha Ojimelukwe	Shauna MacDonald
Tami Cogger	Irene Kirby-Frith	Max Varela Arevalo	Gilles Prefontaine
Steve Chattaroon	Jenna Luczak	Marina Bruno	Brayden Shopland
Nicolas Constantin	Ajoke Akinmade	Bianca Hamtig	Salinderjit Kaur

#### REGRETS:

Jen Crothers	Irene Kirby Frith	Bianca Hamtig
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#### RESOURCE:

Lynda Robertson

#### GUESTS:

Stacy Oslund	Cori Foged
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### 1. OPENING

#### 1.1. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda

Peter Leclaire welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Observers were kindly reminded to keep their microphones muted and cameras off.

There were no additions to the agenda.

Peter introduced Patti Hergott as the newest member of Academic Council who will be attending on behalf of the President.

Matt Lindberg declared a conflict of interest and will not vote in relation to the name change proposal for Radio and Media in 5.2 of the agenda.

***Moved by Gilles Prefontaine that the agenda be approved as presented.***

***Seconded, Carried***

## **2. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **2.1. Approval of the Minutes of Academic Council for the meeting held November 18, 2024**

***Moved by Jenna Luczak that the Consent Agenda be moved to new business for further discussion.***

## **3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

### **3.1. Process on Paused Admission**

Stacy Oslund joined Academic Council to present the Process on Paused Admission and opened the floor up for comments and questions.

It was emphasized that a decision to pause a program is made on number of reasons, not any one single metric.

While this process is a documented process with guidelines that hold us accountable, a suggestion was made to consider turning this into Policy in the future.

### **3.2. Policy on Suspension and Termination**

The drafts presented to Academic Council are not final and discussion with Academic Council is an important part of the engagement process to collect information, insight and feedback before completing the final document.

Once the document is complete, it will then be presented to the Policy committee for review before moving forward for final approvals.

There was some confusion on the next steps this Policy and Procedure will follow once it receives recommendation from the Policy Committee. Academic Council has requested that it comes back as a final version with the metrics document for approval and recommendation to the board. Stacy will confirm.

### **3.3. Academic Council Bylaws**

Marina, Shauna and Peter have continue updating the bylaws and have brought forward today, the work completed so far for Council review. Further revisions will be completed, and a final version will be brought forward for approval in April.

### **3.4. Co-ops Presentation**

Cori Foged presented a review of the guiding documents, controls and safeguards NAIT has in place to ensure students have a safe experience while working in WIL (Work Integrated Learning) experiences. (mandatory WIL or optional Co-op.)

## **4. ACADEMIC UPDATE**

The written Academic Update provided in the meeting package provided Academic Council with an update on the Academic Portfolio Design project as it continues to move forward with the execution side of the project. Working on creating efficiencies and consistency across the organization to support the student experience.

## **5. ADMINISTRATION**

### **5.1. Proposal for reactivation of Power Engineering 4<sup>th</sup> Class Certificate**

Agatha provided a brief overview of the proposal and opened the floor for questions

A discrepancy in the numbers was noted and Agatha will review the costing breakdown before proceeding and update where necessary.

***Moved by Agatha Ojmelukwe that the proposal to reactivate the Power Engineering 4<sup>th</sup> Class Certificate Program be recommended to the Board of Governors for approval.***

***Seconded, Carried***

### **5.2. Proposal to change the name of Radio and Television to Media Communications and Production**

Dennis Sheppard led a presentation to provide background and support for the proposal to change the name of Radio and Television to Media Communications and

Production. Patrick Galenza, the program chair was also in attendance to provide his input and support.

***Moved by Dennis Sheppard that the proposal to rename Radio and Television to Media Communications and Production along with renaming of the specializations be recommended to the Board of Governors for approval.***

***Seconded, Carried  
1 abstained***

### **5.3. Honorary Degree Nominees**

***Moved by Shauna MacDonald that Academic Council move to in-camera.***

As Chair of the Honorary Degree Committee, Max Varela Arevalo brought forward a PowerPoint presentation, sharing the names and a brief bio of each of the four candidates chosen to receive NAIT's 2024 – 2025 Honorary Degree.

**\*All names are to be kept confidential until announced.**

***Moved by Max Varela Arevalo that Academic Council supports the recommended nominees for Honorary Degrees and recommends approval by the Board of Governors.***

***Seconded, Carried***

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **6.1 Minutes of the Academic Council meeting held November 18, 2024**

As requested by Jenna Luczak, the Minutes of the Academic Council meeting held November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, were moved from the consent agenda to new business for further discussion. Jenna requested it be added to the minutes, that Laura Jo Gunter be marked as absent from the November meeting.

Note that Laura Jo is not a standing member of Academic Council and as of the November meeting, a designate had not been identified to fill the vacancy left by the departure of the former designate.

***Moved by Matt Lindberg that the minutes be approved.***

***Seconded, Carried***

## **7. NEXT MEETING**

Monday, April 14, 2025, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

***Moved by Shauna MacDonald that the meeting be adjourned at 3:42 pm.***

***Seconded, Carried***