



*Focused on academic excellence, Brescia University College creates an actively engaged student experience educating women to think critically and to participate actively in society. A Catholic university college in the Ursuline tradition, we prepare our graduates to lead with wisdom, justice and compassion in a changing world.*

**BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
BRESCIA COUNCIL**

**October 14, 2016  
1:00pm  
Room 136, St. James Building**

**MINUTES**

- Present:** C. Aguilar, L. Ahmadi, N. Allossery-Walsh, A. Barnfield, D. Battram, C. Bell, H. Campbell, P. Chimbos, J. Coghlin, W. Da, N. de Moras, T. D'Souza, L. Descartes, B. Diemert, J. Doelman, M. Dorschell, P. Dworatzek, K. Farren, T. Francolini, C. George, D. Grace, H. Hallett, S. Hajpel, S. Hekmat, D. Hudecki, L. Jakubowski, L. Janes, M. Jean, R. Johnson, S. Kleinknecht, M. Le Ber, M. Lee, T. Mahoney, J. Matthews, C. McCarron, K. Milani, J. Mitchell, S. Mumm, P. O'Neil, L. Piche, K. Pittao, J. Seabrook, C. Sharen, M. Simm, L. Sunseri, C. Temple, C. Tenk, J. Twynstra, D. Vezina, K. Vezina, C. Vitkauskas, A. Walby, G. Warecki, C. Whippey, M. Yohannes
- Regrets:** P. Barker, B. Biasone, M. Botten, G. Craigie, H. Cummins, B. Hartman, N. Keen, C. Lord, J. Madill, C. O'Connor, R. Ogilvie, D. Rogers, J. Sutton, E. Rose West, E. Whelan
- Recorders:** L. Davison, M. Lace

- 1. Confirmation of Quorum** (50% plus one of the Voting members = 31)  
Quorum confirmed.
- 2. Acknowledgement of the Traditional First Nations' Lands**
- 3. Opening Reflection**  
C. George provided the Reflection.
- 4. Approval of Agenda**  
M. J. Le Ber reminded everyone that consistent with the decision made at the last Council meeting, items under "For Information" will not be discussed at our Council meetings unless a request is received to move an item to "For Discussion." Some questions for clarification were asked. Ideally

the request should be received prior to the meeting, but requests will also be received at the meeting itself. Given that the reports were posted late, requests from the October 14 meeting will be received for discussion at the November meeting.

5. Consent Agenda:
  - i. Approval of Draft Minutes, September 16, 2016

**Approved on consensus with reported changes.**

6. Business Arising
  - i. Decision Making Processes

M. J. Le Ber reviewed the report provided as Exhibit 18. The Executive Committee in its discussion was more concerned about individuals not feeling comfortable with speaking their minds than with decision making processes. The questions from the Executive Committee included: 1) How do we create a safe environment for individuals to respectfully disagree? And 2) How do we then take discordant ideas to develop a better decision? There was much discussion that followed with some of the salient points being:

- Spirit of consensus model requires a community of inclusion; the culture at that time was such that people felt heard and included.
- Quite a few people in the past few years no longer felt that community of inclusion.
- The impact was that people were consulted but not heard; decisions were made anyways without consensus.
- Some felt ostracized and perceived retaliation for their expressions of alternate views.
- For others, it is not the absence of a “safe” environment; they just do not want to hold up decision making so let the decision go ahead.
- Perhaps it is time for a new beginning and maybe we can rebuild the sense of community where individuals feel safe speaking against the norm.

7. **For Approval:**
  - i. Report of the Executive Committee

**Proposal #1: That Brescia Council accept and approve the proposed nominations of School and Staff Representatives as members of the Budget Advisory Committee**

Given the understanding that there was some urgency for the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) to commence with their meetings, the Chairs from each of the Schools were asked to recommend a faculty representative to the BAC and the Executive Committee nominated a Staff Councillor representative. Questions were asked about whether the other Staff Councillors were asked if they were interested in sitting on the BAC; and whether contract faculty had been included by the Chairs. They were not. The process as outlined in Appendix A, B2d, in the *Constitution* reads: “When positions become vacant on Standing Committees of the Council, the Executive Committee will nominate individuals to fill the vacancies or, time permitting will solicit nominations from the

constituencies in which the vacancy has occurred. The Chair of the Executive Committee will seek input from Committee Chairs when appropriate. Such nominations will be taken to the Council for approval.” K. Pittao and A. Walby indicated that there was no urgency for the BAC to meet.

Upon S. Mumm’s suggestion, M. J. Le Ber withdrew the proposal. Population of members for the BAC will follow the same process as the rest of the Standing Committees.

ii. Report of the Educational Policy Committee

**Proposal #2: That Brescia Council review, discuss and approve the proposed Diploma in Management Studies**

J. Mitchell presented the proposed Diploma in Management Studies which is targeted to students that have graduated with limited business studies. Eight months of classes in predominantly MOS courses are followed, for those students that qualify, by a four month paid work placement. The intent is to be ready to offer the diploma in September 2017.

**Consensus not reached. Approved by majority.**

**8. For Discussion:**

i. Call for Nominations to Standing Committees

Since the *Constitution of the Brescia Council* indicates a variety of representatives on the different Standing Committees, the Principal’s Office will manage the call for nominations or if required election processes unless a specific association is named. Contract faculty will be considered when faculty representation is generic and not specified as fulltime.

**9. New and Other Business**

There was no new or other business.

Adjourned at 2:50pm