

Minutes

Chair: Maureen Wideman

Present: Rilla Apostolakis, Seanna Takacs, Cheryl Van Nes, Deirdre Miles, Jodi Noble, Mark Goudsblom, Korina Gratton, Kulwant Gill, Nancy Norman, Barbara Salingre, Kirsten Trustham, Ted Zak, Chris Leach, Patti Wilson.

Regrets: Eddie Campbell, Alyson Seale

1. Welcome and approve agenda

- a. Add business arising from the previous minutes

All approved.

2. Approve minutes – May 18, 2016

Deirdre Miles reported on agenda item 4.1 concerning the letter from a high school student who will be attending UFV in the Fall 2016. Deirdre has been working very hard with facilities and others to make sure all the needs for this student are covered and things are going very well.

All approved

3. Membership: Co-chair

Maureen Wideman reported that Seanna Takacs has accepted to sit as co-chair for the AAC. If anyone else is willing to sit as co-chair, please email Maureen Wideman. Maureen thanked Seanna for stepping forward to help out.

4. Abstract Thinking – Seanna Takacs

Seanna gave a presentation on Cognition and Concepts. (pgs. 4-19) She reported that it helps the “why” when we are teaching and providing services to students. If you have questions or comments, please email Seanna seanna.takacs@ufv.ca

5. UFV’s Accommodations Policy (pgs. 20-23) – Seanna Takacs

Seanna reported that she is making some changes to the policy because of the shift in the field of diagnostic markers. She acknowledges that disability is a part of diversity and the disabilities need to be embraced. The main focus she would like to bring out in the policy is that faculty, DRC and the students are all involved in creating an appropriate and rewarding experience for the student. Included in the changes will be a section on the responsibilities of the DRC and the students. Students need to be clear on what they are supposed to do in the areas of self-disclosure and self-advocacy.

6. Teaching & Learning Accessibility Resources – Maureen Wideman
Maureen reported that Teaching & Learning hired a couple students last summer who created accessibility resources for the TLC website. Suvneet Bains built the Teaching & Learning Toolkit, see link here , and Carl Bols created short tutorials, see link here <http://www.ufv.ca/tlc/resources-for-teaching-and-learning/universal-design/>

7. Goals for Upcoming Year – Maureen Wideman
Maureen suggested that the committee establish goals over the next year. There is money available to Post Secondary Institutions from the Provincial Government to make improvements towards physical environments.

The committee came up with the following two goals:

Goal 1 – Find out how accessible our environment is by taking a walk through of all spaces on UFV campuses. Make sure to take notes while walking and report back to the committee.

Action item: Ted Zak and Mark Goudsblom will do the walkthrough on the CEP campus.

Goal 2 – Offer a two-day mental health 1st aid course. This can be done on two consecutive days or on two Saturdays.

Action Item: Ruby Ord will send out an email to all departments to see who is interested in this.

8. Other Business

Safety Measures Around Campus – it was brought to our attention during the last meeting that there is no bylaw in Abbotsford for refuge areas in buildings. Currently, UFV does not have a plan for students with mobility issues in an emergency.

Maureen Wideman drafted up a letter asking for clarification around plans for areas of refuge and asked the committee for their feedback. With the input from the committee, she will finalize the letter and send it to Mark Goudsblom. Ted Zak has offered to be available to help once the letter is submitted and he will act as the go-to person.

The meeting adjourned 4:37 pm