

NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLEGE
EDUCATION COUNCIL
Meeting November 24, 2010, in Dawson Creek Regional Board Room

Participants:	Janet Beavers Anna Hughes Patricia McClelland Donna Merry Gloria Rounds	Eugene Hasiuk Greg Lainsbury Denise Menard Elvis Nwankwo Eric Sehn Judy Seidl (Recording)
Absent:	Michael French Dave Owens Kristina VandeWalle	Craig Herbert Geordie Smith Jean Valgardson
Guest(s):	Dorothy Eiserman Lisa Verbisky	Lee Morden Stacy Smith

1. Adoption of Agenda – 1:15 pm

ADD – as discussion item to Agenda item number 3, Practical Nursing, admission criteria – life of Biology and Chemistry courses, or acceptable length of time between when a student took these courses to when they apply for the Practical Nursing Program.

Agenda was adopted as amended.

2. Adoption of Minutes, October 27, 2010

10.11.01 M/S – MENARD/McCLELLAND

THAT the minutes of October 27, 2010 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

Decision Items

3. Practical Nursing

Discussion as to “life of courses”

Revised Course Outlines

- a) **PNUR 101 Introduction to Professional Nursing**
- b) **PNUR 102 Family as Client**
- c) **PNUR 103 Introduction to Health Assessment**
- d) **PNUR 104 Nursing in Rural and Remote Settings**
- e) **PNUR 105 Nursing in Acute Care Settings**
- f) **PNUR 106 Senior Practicum**

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the life or “stale dates” of courses that are listed in the Admission Requirements of our Practical Nursing Program Information and Completion Guide. The inclusion of such windows of validity would not be considered a major change to the Program Guide as the understanding is that these types of dates are an acceptable addition to admission requirements. D. Eiserman proposed a stale date of 10 years for Biology 12 and 5 years for Chemistry 12; the rationale being that Biology as discipline is less dynamic than Chemistry, and that most students have difficulty with the Biochemical components of the nursing program and would be more successful if their knowledge base of Chemistry was more current. Some council members argued that the fundamental subject matter of both courses is equally “stable,” that using a 5 year validity date might adversely affect some students who wish to apply to the program and in any case a rational basis is needed to justify the disparity in the two stale dates. G. Lainsbury inquired as to whether some type of investigation had been conducted into whether or not this requirement was in effect at other institutions and if this is a typical requirement for courses at a university level. D. Eiserman agreed that it would be interesting to find out. A. Hughes pointed out that validity dates are up to each institution and that she has seen the “shelf life” of a course as low as three years. She also emphasized the importance of having validity dates in determining the transfer of courses between institutions and would also like to see a validity date included in the Nursing courses as well. D. Eiserman agreed that a validity date of five years maximum for the specific Nursing courses could be added as well and suggested this could also be used as a determinate for re-admission into the Practical Nursing Program. No overall consensus was reached.

When the Practical Nursing program was initially developed, there was no consideration given to the fact that some students may only be able to pursue this career on a part-time basis. Changing the Prerequisites and Corequisites for all the Nursing course outlines will allow for this.

The learning outcomes for all of the Nursing courses were derived from documentation provided by the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of British Columbia; however, they are too cumbersome in detail when preparing learning materials and evaluating students. The much shorter and concise revised learning outcomes focus on competencies specific to each particular course outline. The larger documents will be kept within the Department as curricular reference information. PNUR 101 Introduction to Professional Nursing and PNUR 102 Family as Client have both been changed at this submission. The other four outlines will be submitted again at a later date with revisions to their learning outcomes.

10.11.02 M/S – BEAVERS/HUGHES

THAT the Education Council recommends approval of the revised course outlines for PNUR 101 Introduction to Professional Nursing, PNUR 102 Family as Client, PNUR 103 Introduction to Health Assessment, PNUR 104 Nursing in Rural and Remote Settings, PNUR 105 Nursing in Acute Care Settings for the Practical Nursing Program as amended and PNUR 106 Senior Practicum as presented.

CARRIED

D. Eiserman and E. Sehn left the meeting.

- 4. Environmental Practice**
Revised Program Information and Completion Guide
New Course Outlines
- a) **ENVP 110 Human Relations and Communications**
 - b) **ENVP 120 Introduction to Botany**
 - c) **ENVP 125 Weeds and Weed Control**
 - d) **ENVP 130 Petroleum Fundamentals**
 - e) **ENVP 140 Introduction to Ecology,**
 - f) **ENVP 150 Soil Investigations**
 - g) **ENVP 155 Soil Classification**
 - h) **ENVP 160 Experimental Design and Field Inventory Methods**
 - i) **ENVP 165 Introduction to Cartography**
 - j) **ENVP 170 Introduction to Agriculture and Field Crops**
 - k) **ENVP 180 Land Reclamation**
 - l) **ENVP 185 Introduction to Contaminated Sites**
 - m) **ENVP 190 Work Practicum**

- L. Morden joined the meeting.
- J. Beavers left the meeting.

The decision to discontinue the Land Reclamation Diploma Program and develop a new Environmental Practice Certificate program has resulted in many revisions being made to existing Land courses to make them suitable for the purpose and time frame of the new program. Course content, course hours, and learning outcomes have all been changed to better meet the skill requirements of an Environmental Practice graduate. Changes were made to the admission requirements of the Program Information and Completion Guide to remove the reference to an orientation interview with an instructor as this is no longer an instructor function. Grammatical errors were corrected.

10.11.03 M/S – McCLELLAND/MERRY

THAT the Education Council recommends approval of the new course outlines; ENVP 110 Human Relations and Communications, ENVP 120 Introduction to Botany, ENVP 125 Weeds and Weed Control, ENVP 130 Petroleum Fundamentals, ENVP 140 Introduction to Ecology, ENVP 150 Soil Investigations, ENVP 155 Soil Classification, ENVP 160 Experimental Design and Field Inventory Methods, ENVP 165 Introduction to Cartography, ENVP 170 Introduction to Agriculture and Field Crops, ENVP 180 Land Reclamation, ENVP 185 Introduction to Contaminated Sites, and ENVP 190 Work Practicum and the revised Program Information and Completion Guide for the Environmental Practice Certificate program as amended.

CARRIED

- L. Verbisky and L. Morden left the meeting.

Information/Discussion

5. Education Calendar for 2011-2012

A. Hughes presented the Education Calendar for the upcoming 2011- 2012 school year. The inclusion of a list of programs that are affected for each significant date was noted as a welcome addition by all in attendance. The Education Calendar will be in the College Calendar as well as posted on the Website under News and Events.

6. 2011 Education Council Meeting Schedule

The Education Council Meeting Schedule for 2011 is confirmed. Meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesday of every month with the exception of December, July and August. The only notable difference is the February meeting which is scheduled for one week earlier, this year only.

Next Meeting – January 26, 2011

Adjournment – 3:15 pm

These notes are not officially approved until initialed by the Chairperson. They could be subject to amendment. _____