

Attendance**Members**

Program Faculty:

- Brenda Ridgeley (Business)
- Morgan Martin, Acting Chair (Science and Technology)
- Kelly Brochu (Trades and Apprenticeship)

Regional Faculty:

- Leanne Mallory (North Okanagan)
- Claude Hurtubise (Central Okanagan)
- Bryan White (Shuswap Revelstoke)
- Wendy Wheeler (South Okanagan Similkameen)

Support Staff:

- Michelle Somerville

Students:

- Chelsey Simmons (Central Okanagan)
- Shirelle Nickoli (North Okanagan)
- Malachi Goosen (South Okanagan Similkameen)

Regrets

- Neil Fassina, President
- Jillian Garrett, Education Council Chair (Arts)
- Vivian Moretti (Support Staff)
- Sara Delgado Soto (Student Representative, South Okanagan)
- Rhea Dupuis, Indigenous Advisor
- Cindy Battersby (Board of Governors)

Educational Administrators:

- Samantha Lenci, Provost and Vice President, Academic
- Paul Martin, Dean, Teaching & Learning Innovations
- Chris Newitt, Associate Dean, Arts and Foundational
- Joan Ragsdale, Special Advisor, In-community Program Design

Non-voting:

- Inga Wheeler, Registrar

Recording:

- Elaine Booi, Governance Administrator

Guests

Presenting:

- Melissa Gardner, Instructor, Department of Pharmacy Technician
- Kyla Ashman, Vocational Instructor
- Anne-Marie Brennan, Program Administrator, Continuing Studies
- Amanda Langhorn, Associate Director, Continuing Studies
- Youry Khmelevsky, Chair, Computer Science
- Steve Crema, Associate Dean, Science & Technology

Topic**Action****1. CALL TO ORDER**

Quorum was established and the meeting called to order at 3:01p.m. The Acting Chair noted that they are covering for the Chair as they are away.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

W. Wheeler provided a land acknowledgement.
K. Brochu joined the meeting at 3:04p.m.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT

The Acting Chair asked members if they had any declarations of conflict and no members declared.

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4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA The Acting Chair asked members if they had any amendments to the agenda or would like to move any items out of the consent agenda. The Acting Chair requested to remove item 5.4 MOU between Okanagan College and Universite Paris-Est Creteil (UPEC) from the agenda because the Provost will speak to the MOU in their report. Members did not have any objections to the amendment. A member requested that item 4.1.ii. for PHTE 203 Phytopharmaceuticals and OTC was removed from the consent agenda and discussed in Section 8. Other Business & Business Arising from Consent Agenda. The Acting Chair proposed moving Section 8 ahead of Section 5 because the proposer is currently at the meeting to speak to PHTE 203. Members agreed and the Acting Chair proceeded with reading the motion. <i>Recommended Motion: THAT the Education Council approves the January 22, 2026 agenda and thereby approves the consent agenda as amended.</i> K. Brochu 4.1 Consent Agenda i. Education Council Professional Development Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2025	CARRIED
5. OTHER BUSINESS & BUSINESS ARISING FROM CONSENT AGENDA 5.1 PHTE 203 Phytopharmaceuticals and OTC M. Gardner outlined revisions to PHTE 203, noting that the course name was updated to better reflect existing content and the scope of practice. A member asked for clarification on when course revisions become substantial enough to be classified as a new course. The Provost noted that many programs differentiate between degree-level content and technician-level content, and that this revision aligns the course more with the competencies required of a pharmacy technician rather than a pharmacist. The intent of the revision is to ensure the course reflects the duties of the job it prepares students for rather than classifying a new course. Members discussed the extent of the revisions and agreed that the changes constitute a course revision rather than the creation of a new course. The Acting Chair proceeded with reading the motion. <i>Motion: THAT the Education Council approves the course revision for PHTE 203 Phytopharmaceuticals and OTC as presented.</i> M. Gossen	CARRIED
6. NEW BUSINESS Arts & Foundational 6.1 New Courses i. LSIN 040 Global Awareness & LSIN 041 World History K. Ashman provided an overview of the new courses LSIN 040 and 041. A member asked whether students enrolled in the Supported Access to Modified Education (SAME) program are permitted to take classes outside of their program, and whether the Arts portfolio had been consulted about this. K. Ashman responded that the Arts portfolio was	

Topic	Action
consulted and confirmed that SAME students can take additional courses outside their program. <i>Motion: THAT the Education Council approves and recommends to the Board of Governors the new course: LSIN 040 Global Awareness LSIN 041 World History as presented.</i> C. Newitt	CARRIED
Continuing Studies	
6.2 Revised Program and Courses	
i. Program Revision: Occupational Health and Safety Certificate (ZOHS) Course Revisions: a) OHS 111 Introduction to Health and Safety Systems b) OHS 112 Management of Health and Safety Systems c) OHS 113 Health and Safety Legislation d) OHS 114 Ability Management e) OHS 115 Human Factors f) OHS 116 Training, Development and Facilitation g) OHS 117 Risk Management h) OHS 118 Investigation and Auditing A. Brennan noted that the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) courses were updated only to include existing learning outcomes. A. Brennan also explained that the math requirements for the OHS were revised to reduce access barriers for applicants. Members did not have any questions about the proposal and the Acting Chair proceeded with reading the motion. <i>Recommended Motion: THAT the Education Council approves and recommends to the Board of Governors the program revision for: Occupational Health and Safety Certificate (ZOHS) and thereby approves the following course revisions as presented:</i> • OHS 111 Introduction to Health and Safety Systems • OHS 112 Management of Health and Safety Systems • OHS 113 Health and Safety Legislation • OHS 114 Ability Management • OHS 115 Human Factors • OHS 116 Training, Development and Facilitation • OHS 117 Risk Management • OHS 118 Investigation and Auditing B. Ridgely	
Science & Technology	
6.3 Program Revision, New Options & New Courses	
i. Program Revision & New Options: Bachelor of Computer Information Systems Degree (BCIS) Revised Option: a) Data Engineering and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Option	

Topic	Action
New Options: a) Cybersecurity Option b) Honours Degree Option New Courses: a) COSC 491 Research Methods b) COSC 492 Computer Information Systems Research Project The Associate Dean, Science and Technology outlined revisions to the Bachelor of Computer Information Systems Degree (BCIS) program, including the addition of an Honours Degree Option with two new courses and the addition of a Cybersecurity Option. They noted that cybersecurity is a rapidly growing field, and the Cybersecurity Option uses existing courses to create a new pathway for students. The Provost thanked the Associate Dean, Science and Technology for their work and asked about how increasing course options will impact the overall course enrollment. The Provost also asked whether approval from (Degree Quality Assessment Board) DQAB would be required for the new Cybersecurity Option. The Associate Dean, Science and Technology clarified that the courses used in the Cybersecurity Option already exist and are being organized into a clearer path for students entering the industry. They noted that only two new courses are needed to support the honours pathway. They also confirmed that the revisions do not trigger the criteria for external DQAB review. The Registrar noted that the courses included in the Data Engineering and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Option do not explicitly include "AI" in the course title and asked whether the options are distinct enough for the option. The Registrar also noted that students could earn multiple options within the allocated 120 credits. The Associate Dean, Science and Technology explained that AI concepts are embedded throughout the courses. Y. Khmelevsky added that students who pursue multiple options could increase enrollment in the program and emphasized that cybersecurity is in high demand. A member raised concerns about the notes sections specifically where it states that COSC 115, COSC 122, and COSC 180 may not be used as electives had been removed. After discussion, members agreed that the note should remain in the proposal, and Y. Khmelevsky supported this and agreed to update the proposal. <i>L. Mallory joined the meeting at 3:52p.m.</i> Members continued their discussion on the name of the Data Engineering and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Option. The Registrar noted that students who have already graduated under the current option may request that their credential be renamed to include AI. The Registrar asked how far back name changes might apply and clarified that students who entered the program two years ago would not graduate under the new option name. Only new students would receive the updated credential. A member questioned whether one option with AI in its title might lead students to assume that AI is not addressed in the other options. They suggested that this distinction may require further review to ensure meaningful differentiation. The Provost asked whether the use of "options" is a function of the provincial degree system or something developed internally by the College. A member clarified that the structure of program options is a College-created approach to increase flexibility for students. Another member suggested renaming the option to Data Engineering Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to emphasize that data engineering is the primary focus. The Associate Dean, Science and	

Topic	Action
Technology responded that linking the two could imply that AI is relevant only to data engineering, which is not the case. The name had already been widely discussed with the Program Advisory Committee, and they expressed hesitation about making a last-minute change. Members did not have any further questions or comments and the Acting Chair proceeded with reading the motion. <i>Recommended Motion: THAT the Education Council approves and recommends to the Board of Governors the program revision for: Bachelor of Computer Information Systems Degree (BCIS) including the revised option: Data Engineering and Artificial Intelligence (AI), two new options: Cybersecurity and Honours Degree and thereby approves the following new courses as presented:</i> • COSC 491 Research Methods • COSC 492 Computer Information Systems Research Project M. Gossen	CARRIED

Teaching & Learning Innovations

6.4 Professional Development Follow-up Questions: Teaching & Learning Innovations

The Acting Chair noted that at the December meeting, Council received a presentation from the Dean, Teaching and Learning Innovations, but time ran out for questions. It was agreed that additional time for questions would be provided at this meeting. The Acting Chair invited Council members to ask any remaining questions.

Council did not have further questions and the Dean, Teaching and Learning Innovations added that they are happy to respond to questions outside of the meeting.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Education Council Chair

No report was given.

7.2 Academic Governance Committee

The Acting Chair noted that the Committee met on January 15, 2026 to review an MOU and an Education Council Evaluation Survey. The next Committee meeting is on February 12, 2026.

7.3 Integrated Curriculum Committee

The Acting Chair noted that the Committee reviewed curriculum proposals included on today's agenda at their January meeting and the next meeting is on February 5, 2026.

7.4 Provost and Vice President Academic

The Provost reported on an MOU between Okanagan College and Universite Paris-Est Creteil (UPEC) noting that the Science and Technology portfolio is at the early stages with the partner.

The Provost reported that a Redundancy Notification had been issued for the Sustainable Building Technology Diploma which has been replaced by a newly designed Sustainable Design & Construction Management Technology Diploma and Sustainable Construction Management Certificate. The Provost noted the intention to form a Redundancy Committee under section 33.3 of the Faculty Agreement. The Provost provided an overview of the process and Education Council's role within the process.

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	The Provost also provided an update on the provincial review of post-secondary institutions. The review deadline has been extended by two weeks and is now expected at the end of March, 2026. The provincial budget will be released on February 12, and the review will not be completed before decisions for next year’s budget are made. The Provost added that information about new funding related to trades programming is still forthcoming. The Provost added that convocation is occurring in Kelowna on Saturday. The Acting Chair opened the floor for questions about the Provost’s report and members did not have any.
7.5 Registrar	The Registrar reported that two faculty seats on Council, the Health and Social Development and Foundational are vacant. These positions will be posted soon. The Registrar encouraged members to reach out if they know of any faculty who may be interested in joining Council. A member asked for clarification regarding eligibility for the Foundational seat, and the Registrar provided the requested clarification.
8. OTHER BUSINESS & BUSINESS ARISING FROM CONSENT AGENDA	No other business was raised.
9. ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 4:25p.m.
