



Special meeting of the Commission of Studies
held on April 14, 2021, at 2:00 pm
by videoconference

Minutes, April 14, 2021

MINUTES of a regular meeting of the CEGEP Champlain – St. Lawrence Commission of Studies held by videoconference on April 14, 2021

Members present

C. Andrew, Professional Union Member representative
E. Berryman, Director of the Constituent College, President of the Commission
P. Bleau, Business Program representative
T. Connolly, General Education representative
T. Delisle, Student representative
G. Dröge-Grondin, General Education representative
C-A. Gauthier, Social Science Program representative
A-A. Giguère, ALC Program representative
M. Huard, Math Department representative
C. Nadeau, Support Staff representative
A. Roussel, Professional Union Member representative
F. Séguin, General Education representative
A. Stevens, Dean of Faculty
C. St-Laurent-Pedneault, Science Program representative
C. Talbot, Coordinator of Pedagogical and Institutional Development
M. Thériault, Tourism Program representative
I. Zhang, Student representative

Persons other than members in attendance

T. Mills, Support Staff
F. Sevigny, Management Staff

Quorum attained with 17 of 17 sitting members present.



Special meeting of the Commission of Studies

April 14, 2021
by videoconference
2 to 4 pm

Agenda

1. Opening remarks and confirmation of the quorum
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Recommendation on the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar
4. Varia

1. Opening remarks and confirmation of the quorum

At 2:00 pm quorum was reached.

E. Berryman welcomed P. Bleau, the new Business Program representative, and C. Nadeau, the new Support Staff representative, to the Commission. He also explained that F. Sevigny is attending the meeting to respond to any questions about the Academic Calendar.

2. Adoption of the agenda

It was moved that the April 14, 2021, agenda be adopted.

MOVED BY G. Dröge-Grondin

SECONDED BY A. Roussel

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Recommendation on the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar

E Berryman provided a brief explanation of the situation, i.e. following the March 31, 2021, meeting no clear consensus had been reached and no recommendation had been made so today 2021-2022 Academic Calendar version 1 and version 3 are being presented to the Commission. He explained further that management recommends version 1 which is seen as a compromise between the originally proposed Aug. 16 start date and the Aug. 23 proposed start date.

E. Berryman asked for questions, remarks, or observations from the group.

There was then a discussion.

Some of the main points stemming from the discussion:

- P. Bleau said the preference of the Business Department is an Aug. 23 start date. He also suggested a late start date would be better to allow for as many people to be vaccinated as possible - to "get COVID as far behind us as possible".
- G. Dröge-Grondin pointed to the end of the fall semester and said that 5 days to mark exams is not enough. It was however clarified by E. Berryman that 5 days to mark exams respects the Collective Agreement.
- A-A. Giguère requested that the calendar creation process begin earlier next year to allow for consultation with teachers. She suggests we move to a calendar resembling more the calendars of the other CEGEPS in the area.
- C. St-Laurent-Pedneault commented: some stress in terms of the prep for the winter semester is due to the deadlines for the submission of course outlines. Delaying the submission of course outlines would take some of the pressure off teachers.
- P. Bleau pointed to the example of Cégep Beauce-Appalaches.
- M. Thériault questioned comparing ourselves to other CEGEPS.
- I. Zhang, regarding version 3, didn't think it was wise to hold the final day of class on a Monday. She also explained that students don't like finishing too close to Christmas and asked if it were possible to have 7 evaluation days during the fall. E. Berryman explained that the number of evaluation days are based on demand, i.e. the number of courses and the number of exams. There are more courses during the fall and this is reflected in the longer evaluation period (8 days).
- T. Connolly commented that in the English department, they did not hold exams in the fall semester but saw no reflection of this in the number of exam days. She asked why. F. Sevigny explained: the schedule is built to accommodate the students to give them time to study between exams.

- C. St-Laurent-Pedneault sees a disadvantage to beginning on a Thursday. He points out that a lot of students will not attend on that day. For teachers, this means that they have to adjust and manage this absence. For him, this is important.
- P. Bleau pointed to the example of CEGEP St. Foy and suggested that a late start date would reduce absenteeism.
- E. Berryman made the point that if we start later we run the risk of the semester extending into the holiday period if something unexpected happens.

Because the discussion seemed to have run its course, E. Berryman proposed the question be called and that the vote take place by anonymous ballot. It was asked whether the Chairman could vote. It was clarified that according to the regulations in place the Chairman can vote.

It was moved that version 1 of the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar be recommended by the St. Lawrence Governing Board to the St. Lawrence Commission of Studies. It was moved that the vote by conducted by anonymous ballot.

MOVED BY E. Berryman

SECONDED BY *Nobody seconded the motion

The question was called. The vote was held by anonymous ballot vote.

These were the results:

(6) 35% voted in support of the motion

(10) 59% voted against the motion

(1) 6% abstained

THE MOTION WAS NOT CARRIED.

It was moved that version 3 of the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar be recommended by the St. Lawrence Governing Board to the St. Lawrence Commission of Studies. It was moved that the vote by conducted by anonymous ballot.

MOVED BY E. Berryman

SECONDED BY *Nobody seconded the motion

The question was called. The vote was held by anonymous ballot vote.

These were the results

(12) 71% voted in support of the motion

(4) 23% voted against the motion

(1) 6% abstained

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

The St. Lawrence Commission of Studies recommended version 3 of the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar to the St. Lawrence Governing Board.

4. Varia

4. a. Adjournment

Since there were no more items on the agenda. E. Berryman suggested the meeting be adjourned.

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T. Connolly moved for the meeting to adjourn.

MOVED BY T. Connolly
SECONDED BY P. Bleau
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 pm.