

## INSTITUTIONAL REPORT

BRITISH COLUMBIA COUNCIL on ADMISSIONS AND TRANSFER (BCCAT)

Meeting Date(s): 05/04/2017

University of the Fraser Valley

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### 1. Departmental Changes/Updates

- Students/Enrollments & Section Allocations: In the past year, we offered 121 sections ( 56 first year courses and 65 - 2nd 3rd/4th year combined) courses in total over three semesters, a slight decrease from 123.5 last year. The total number of seats over 2016-2017 was 3673, an decrease of 89 students,. In the past year, we have offered 15 fully online courses. In addition, 34 of our courses were offered using the hybrid model.
- Department Staffing Changes: We are currently in the process of hiring a new permanent faculty member, but have not yet completed the process. We are also hiring one or two Limited Term Appointments (LTAs) for the coming year.
- Issues: Our biggest problem continues to be reduced number of department members. With two retirements and a long term medical leave that have not yet been replaced, in addition to the expected numbers of sabbaticals, we have fewer regular faculty members to complete the required department tasks.

### 2. Program/Course Update

- Curriculum Developments: Nothing to report this year.

### 3. Other Items of Interest

- **Improved access of introductory students to research participation**: Our introductory students are required to participate in research studies (or an alternate assignment) for 4% of their final grade. We recently made an online option available for students taking introductory psychology online or on the Chilliwack campus, and are expanding those options for next year.
- **Introductory textbook change**: In the past we have all agreed to use the same introductory textbook, but this year we allowing introductory instructors to choose from two 'traditional' textbooks or the free online resources provided by the Noba project.
- **Standardized forms**: For years, we have used a standard prerequisite request process and form for all courses, to ensure students with prerequisites have access to seats before students without them, reduce workload for faculty, and increase consistency of process. This year, we have added a standard exam excuse form, including a form that needs to be filled out by the medical professional.
- **Our Student Psychology Association (SPA)** continues to be very active. This past year they co-hosted (with the department) a sheep brain dissection workshop, held a number of social events including a professor appreciation dinner, and organized career and grad school information sessions.