

## BCCAT Activities and Highlights

### **Enabling the BC Transfer System**

BCCAT is moving ahead with plans to enable all institutions to perform sending and receiving functions within the BC Transfer System. Recommendations to implement these changes were approved by Council in March and the first phase will be operational in Sept 2012. BCCAT will provide the system with the information required to manage any changes in processing at the institutional level. More information can be found at: [bccat.ca/enabling](http://bccat.ca/enabling).

### **Transfer Innovation Projects**

#### Flexible Pre-Majors

- Current status: Psychology—sign-off complete, Sociology/Anthropology—in signing, Economics—planning implementation, Computing Education—in implementation phase; Biology—starting analysis phase, History—analysis phase.
- *FPM Working Group Final Report* approved by Council and on BCCAT website at: [bccat.ca/pubs/FPMFinalReport.pdf](http://bccat.ca/pubs/FPMFinalReport.pdf)

#### Other Transfer Innovation Projects

1. **ABT/OA (Medical Office Assistant Transfer Grid)**  
A Descriptive Pathways transfer grid for the Medical Office Assistant program, both on-line and on-site, at BC public institutions completed.
2. **Early Childhood Education (Transfer Matrix Incorporating Privates)**  
Review and expansion of the ECE course transfer matrix to include private institutions that are accredited, registered and approved by the BC Early Childhood Educator Registry in progress.

### **Transfer and Articulation Projects 2011/12**

- 2011 JAM: Was held at River Rock Casino Resort, Friday November 4, 2011. This year's JAM will be November 2, 2012.
- Qualitative Research on Block Transfer Students: Focus groups of transfer students in Business programs at Selkirk and Okanagan Colleges will be conducted over the coming year.
- Preliminary Review of Associate Degrees: This project will start a provincial review of the purpose, current usage, and requirements for Associate Degrees in light of the changes in institutional designations, the growth of degree options, and the general decline in their use.
- Examination of Trades and Vocational Transfer Credit to Academic Programs: This project examines current BC, national, and international practice, and identifies considerations in creating or administering such transfer arrangements. A research paper was prepared by Dr. Fiona McQuarrie and is currently being circulated for feedback.
- Case-by-Case Articulation Research: This research will examine the processes used for case-by-case articulations by institutions including the way these transfer credit assessments are conducted, collected, and stored. Eight universities are participating.
- Student Services for Transfer Students: BCCAT is examining services that could be provided to transfer students including such activities as transfer days, student service units, and counselling. The project examines practices in BC, Canada, and the US and a report is being prepared by Mike Winsemann.
- Block Transfer, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate Transfer Guides: The Transfer Credit Evaluation System (TCES) now allows for the creation and maintenance of Block Transfer agreements and AP and IB equivalencies electronically and users of the BC Transfer Guide can review Block, AP, and IB guides by institution and program.
- Articulation Committee Resources: A major review and update of BCCAT information for articulation and transfer personnel will start later this year and will include a revision of the *How to Articulate Handbook*.

**Student Transitions Projects 2011/12**

- Report on International Students in the Post-Secondary System.  
Key Finding: There are approximately 28,000 international students in public post-secondary institutions with 12,000 new students each year.
- Applicant Research (Nursing)  
Key Finding: Applicant research has enormous potential to answer important research questions at the system and institutional level although data consistency issues remain a stumbling block.

**BCCAT Research Projects 2011/12**

- 2011 Admissions and Transfer Experiences of Students Continuing their Studies in BC.  
[bccat.ca/pubs/bcstats11.pdf](http://bccat.ca/pubs/bcstats11.pdf) (full study), [bccat.ca/pubs/rr\\_mar12.pdf](http://bccat.ca/pubs/rr_mar12.pdf) (newsletter)  
This study profiles the admission and transfer experiences of about 5,500 students who continued their studies in BC's public post-secondary system after having participated in either an Arts and Science or an Applied program in a college, teaching-intensive university, or institute and includes comparisons with findings from the 2002, 2005 and 2008 surveys.  
Key Findings: Of those continuing their studies and transferring to another institution (not including the research intensive universities), 86% received all the transfer credits they expected and 79% were satisfied with their transfer experience. A survey will explore those students not satisfied in more detail.
- Degree Partnership Database
- Central Repository for Institutional and Program English Proficiency Requirements
- Survey of all Movers in the Public Post-Secondary System
- Pan Canadian Consortium on Admissions and Transfer (PCCAT): National Survey of Transfer and Mobility.
- Adding Transfer Data to the Central Data Warehouse (CDW)

**Education Planner Website**

BCCAT is currently re-designing the Education Planner website to introduce a number of features aimed at increasing engagement with users. New features include a simplified search mechanism, an Explore feature that will allow users to search for programs based on keywords, and a canvass that will allow users to save and share their education plans.

**BCCAT Marketing**

BCCAT has seen a 35% increase in its overall user traffic for both the BC Transfer Guide and Education Planner websites. BCCAT's websites combine for over 150,000 unique visitors per month. BCCAT is launching a revising transit ad campaign in the spring and is available to give presentations and workshops upon request. Recent publications include:

Engage - Fall/Winter 2011 [bccat.ca/pubs/engagefall11.pdf](http://bccat.ca/pubs/engagefall11.pdf)

BCCAT: Then and Now [bccat.ca/pubs/thenandnow.pdf](http://bccat.ca/pubs/thenandnow.pdf)

**New Articulation Coordinator**

Ms. Christi Garneau began work at BCCAT on January 4, 2012. She is the main contact for questions related to articulation committees, SLPs, and JAM. She can be reached at [cgarneau@bccat.ca](mailto:cgarneau@bccat.ca) or 604 412-7791.

**New Special Projects Coordinator**

Dr. Fiona McQuarrie began work at BCCAT in September 2011, replacing Jennifer Orum who retired in June 2011. She is the main contact for Transfer Innovation projects. She can be reached at [fmcquarrie@bccat.ca](mailto:fmcquarrie@bccat.ca) or 604 412-7679.

**New Associate Director, Research and Admissions**

Dr. Robert Adamoski, previously Dean of Social Sciences at Kwantlen Polytechnic University, will replace Dr. Devron Gaber who is retiring as Associate Director, Research and Admissions as of May 1, 2012. He can be reached at [radamoski@bccat.ca](mailto:radamoski@bccat.ca) or 604-412-7790.

**For more information, contact John FitzGibbon, Associate Director, at [jfitzgibbon@bccat.ca](mailto:jfitzgibbon@bccat.ca) or 604-412-7682.**