

January 24, 2022

Institutional Summary and Response for Fall 2021 DQAB Organization Review of the Associate of Science Degree

Introduction

Alexander College (AC) was pleased to host members of the Degree Quality Assurance Board (DQAB) organization review panel during a virtual visit on Monday December 6, 2021. Like the program review, the organization review was a constructive, informative experience that will further enhance Alexander College's ability to provide excellence in higher education for students from many cultural backgrounds and language abilities through internationally recognized university-transfer courses and degree programs, individual support services, and campus activities that foster local and global community engagement.

Summary of Overall Assessment

The panel "was impressed with how Alexander College is operating and supporting students," noting our "attention to student support," our "focus on standardizing policy, and the engagement of [our] faculty." The panel also observed that Alexander College "conducts annual reviews of each of its operating units, reviews their effectiveness," "makes adjustments as necessary, [and] appears to take continuous quality improvement very seriously."

Among many positive comments on the college's five-year business plan, the panel observed provisions for "new programs and program revisions;" "a five-year enrolment projection;" and plans involving facilities, marketing, and human resources. The panel further noted that the college has the financial resources to support the educational objectives, program delivery, and student supports that currently exist or are outlined in the business plan. The panel commended Alexander College for "putting resources into the new Burnaby campus," and for the "considerable emphasis and resources" directed "towards maintaining and improving support services for students."

Institutional Response

True to its purpose, the organization review panel sought to facilitate the growth and development of Alexander College as a post-secondary institution. Below, we present action items that comprise our institutional response to the most important aspects of panel's commentary:

1. Our website will present added features such as plans for future growth, academic structure, and the academic credentials of senior administration. We will also be updating the educational credentials of all faculty.
2. Our program review policy will be amended to acknowledge the necessity of posting summaries of and responses to DQAB panel reviews.
3. The role of Alexander College's owners will be acknowledged in publicly available policy.
4. We will expand on the duties and obligations of Alexander College's Board of Governors.
5. We are setting a time frame for the creation, review, and adoption of formal research policies and processes, including a policy on the intellectual property rights of students.

6. Current, official version of all policies in our college policy manual will become available on our institutional homepage.
7. All college documents that present policy content will refer to the official, publicly available policy or process statement.

Conclusion

At Alexander College, we remain committed to excellence and continuous improvement in all aspects of our operations. We are proud to be part of the BC post-secondary system and welcome students from around the world.