



**Council Meeting  
Monday January 13, 2014  
Minutes**

**Executives:** Rebecca Davidson, President  
Mike Hanson, VP External  
Eirene Cloma, VP Student Affairs  
Yasamin Alami, VP Campus Life  
Ramiza Rafeeq, Transportation, Construction & the Environment Chair  
Hung Le, Computing & Academic Studies Chair  
Jay Jung, Business Chair  
Tariq Shobab, Energy Chair  
Alicia Parayno, Health Sciences Chair  
Daniel Sumano, ATC Chair  
Albert Jeong, DTC Chair

**Staff:** Caroline Gagnon, Director

<b>Councillors:</b>	Mark Niehe	Joseph Hou
	Jeremiah Tantongco	Adam Moffat
	Akos Sebestyen	Spencer Oppal
	Laura Stepney	Ross Wamboldt
	Wen Shi	Gilbert Kim
	David Solari	Christine Chen
	Cory Correia	Jenny Chen
	Dominika Pilat	Jin Sandhu
	Trent Stewart	Daniel Yen
	Emily Pawluk	Lindsey Wingerak
	Anya Besharah	

<b>Absent:</b>	Brad Johnson	Philip Kargut
	Aaron Hufsmith	Mikah Fox
	Sean Fuoco	Ema Baksa
	Catherine Pascuas	TJ (Tae Jin) Moon

**Guest:**

**11.1. Meeting Called to Order**

The Chairperson, Rebecca Davidson, calls the meeting to order at 5:48 pm. (29 voting members + 1 member joining).

**11.2 Acceptance of the Agenda**

It was moved that the agenda be accepted with the following change:

11.8.2 Change Brad to Yasamin as presenter

*Moved by: Rebecca Davidson*

*Seconded by: Ross Wamboldt*

**29/0/0 Carried**

**11.3 Approval of the Minutes December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013**

Be it resolved that the Council Meeting Minutes from December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 be accepted as distributed.

*Moved by: Rebecca Davidson*

*Seconded by: Spencer Oppal*

**28/0/1 Carried**

**11.4 Progress Reports and Updates: Executives**

All Student Executives reports are as submitted.

**Albert:**

- Explained his 3 objectives that he will be working on for the rest of the school year which are: Establishing set rep network; ensuring that DTC facilities meet students’ needs; and working with SA marketing to bring posters to DTC.

Rebecca mentioned that at the next Council meeting, objective will be updated by all Executives and then submitted to Council.

**11.5 Question Period**

No question.

**11.6 Councillors’ Forum**

- There are no garbage cans in SW1 room 2060 and 2045. Ramiza will look into it.

**11.7 Old Business**

**11.7.1 Bitcoin Club Sanctioning**

**Motion:**

Be it resolved that the Bitcoin Club be sanctioned as a BCITSA sanctioned club.

*Moved by: Yasamin Alami*

*Seconded by: David Solari*

**16/11/3 Carried**

**Questions / Debate:**

- The club appears to be gambling with students' money.
- Would agree to sanction the club if it is a platform for discussion, but if not, it may not be good to have SA's name associated with the club.
- How would they use their funding? The club funding would be used to advertise their activity, not to buy currency. Since their funding is facilitated by the SA, the club will need to bring documentation of their expenses, which is overseen by our accounting department.
- There was not a lot of interest for such club, therefore may not be sustainable.
- The purpose of the club is discussed how online currency may affect society.
- How much is the club asking for the club? \$200.
- What is the level of sustainability of the club?
- Another problem is that the club does not appear to host events.
- If compared to other clubs, Bitcoin club has limited topic of discussion and possible activities.
- If it is wrong for the Bitcoin club to watch this on-line currency then we should ask the Finance club to ensure that they do not watch the NASDAQ stock market.
- The future of the club is problematic.
- What is the purpose of the club? Discussion or education of the member? The club is about educating students and the implication of this on-line currency in the world.

*One member joins the meeting.*

**Motion:**

Call the question

*Moved by: Ross Wamboldt*

*Seconded by: Spencer Oppal*

**25/3/2**

**Carried**

**11.8 New Business**

**11.8.1 Alliance of British Columbia Students**

**Motion:**

Be it resolved that the BCITSA joins the Alliance of British Columbia Students.

*Moved by: Mike Hanson*

*Seconded by: Hung Le*

**29/0/1**

**Carried**

See attached presentation.

**Questions / Debate:**

- How does representation work for this group and who decide what the group will work on? Each institution has a vote, and one member of the association sits on the board. All decisions are made by the Board. However each institution will decide their financial contribution to each campaign.
- What is the commonality between students? Issues affecting students from most post-secondary institution are financial issues such as interest rate, transit and transportation, access to affordable child care, and deterioration of campuses.
- If no school are funding the campaigns what happen to the campaigns? If the campaigns are not financially supported by the members then they are cancelled. The Directors would

make that decision. In our case the Director representing BCIT would bring the issue to Council.

- Who would lobby? A lobbyist? No the group does not have staff support. It would be the role of the students. It is a grass roots organization.
- If a school is not participating in a campaign, would they be excluded from the representation? No, some issues are related to all students; therefore it is impossible to exclude some schools if they don't support the campaign financial.
- What is the structure of the board? For example, who chairs the meeting? At the AGM, various positions were elected with different duties; the rest of the Director would be voting members.
- How old is ABC's? It is a brand new organization officially. But people have been working on it since 2011.
- Do they have staff? No, however schools like AMS will appoint staff resources on campaigns.
- Are we members of CFS? No.
- Where would we find the funding for these campaigns? In the year 2013-2014, there was no funding allocated towards these initiatives. It is expected that some funds would be allocated next year. It will be reflected in next year's budget.
- Is there any campaigns coming up? If approved, the Board would decide on which campaigns to work on at the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Which campaign would be good for BCIT? Differed maintenance, student loan interest rate, and transit.
- Is there a minimum constituent obligation? No. It would need to be approved by Council, since it is campaign based.

### 11.8.2 Directorship of Alliance of British Columbia Students

**Motion:**

Be it resolved that the BCITSA appoints the Vice President of External as a Director of the Board of Alliance of British Columbia Students.

*Moved by: Brad Johnson*

*Seconded by: Ross Wamboldt*

**29/0/1**

**Carried**

**Questions / Debate:**

- Why would the VP External be the best person for the position? The bylaws are already stating that this position is responsible for external relations; therefore it makes sense to place these new duties under this portfolio.
- What is the workload for this position? It varies according to SA's contribution.

### 11.8.3 Referendum Question

**Motion:**

Be it resolved that the BCITSA accept the following referendum question:

The Student Association of the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCITSA) plans to expand career advancement services for all students. These services will include networking opportunities with potential employers, industry relevant resources, programs and workshops for professional development. To offer these new career services, BCITSA will need to increase the student fees it charges the students of the British Columbia Institute of Technology (starting in Fall 2014) by the amounts set out in the table below.

The following figures are worked out on the maximum possible rate.

Category of Student	Additional fees by year		
	2014	2015 (above 2014 fee amount)	2016 (above 2015 fee amount)
All full time day - Technology	\$12.50 per term	\$5.00 per term	\$5.00 per term
All full time day - Trades, Apprentices & Industry Services	\$0.71 per week	\$0.29 per week	\$0.29 per week
All part time day - Technology	\$0.42 per credit	\$0.17 per credit	\$0.17 per credit
All part time evening (CE courses)	\$1.79 per course	\$0.71 per course	\$0.71 per course
All Coop Technology Students	\$6.25 per term	\$2.50 per term	\$2.50 per term
Trades	\$0.36 per week	\$0.14 per week	\$0.14 per week
Distance Education	\$0.89 per course	\$0.36 per course	\$0.36 per course

**As a binding referendum, are you in favour of the BCITSA collecting the above additional student fees from the students of BCIT?**

YES ..  
NO ..

*Moved by: Mike Hanson*

*Seconded by: Lindsay Wingerak*

**24/5/0 Carried**

**Questions / Debate:**

- What is proposed is a total increase of \$22.50, correct? Yes.
- It feels like we are not informing students. The question may not be clear enough.
- We may want to demonstrate the percentage increase.
- Marketing material needs to be used to inform students clearly.
- Should include that this proposal will include a centre vs services.

**Motion:**

Call the question

*Moved by: David Solari*

*Seconded by: Spencer Oppal*

**6/16/7 Defeated**

**Questions / Debate (con't):**

- Is this the question that the students will see? Yes, and we have already asked legal advice on this version of the question.
- The question has to state that this increase is permanent.
- We are losing sight of what the question reflects.

**Motion:**

Call the question

*Moved by: Adam Moffat*

*Seconded by: Mark Niehe*

**20/8/1**      **Carried**

**Amendment to the motion:**

Be it resolved that BCITSA adds the following words “will include a career centre offering networking”.

*Moved by: Rebecca Davidson*

*Seconded by: Ramiza Rafeeq*

**30/0/0**      **Carried**

**Motion:**

Call the question

*Moved by: Jeremiah Tandongco*

*Seconded by: David Solari*

**30/0/0**      **Carried**

**Amendment to motion:**

Be it resolved that BCITSA adds to the motion “starting in Fall 2014, the subsequent increases ending in Fall 2016”.

*Moved by: Adam Moffat*

*Seconded by: Yasamin Alami*

**24/3/3**      **Carried**

**Questions / Debate (con't):**

- If we don't say that the increase is permanent, students may think that it will stop in 2017.
- Is there a possible to add the word permanency of the fee in the question?

*One member absent herself*

**Motion:**

Call the question

*Moved by: Tariq Shobab*

*Seconded by: Lindsay Wingerak*

**25/2/2**      **Carried**

**Amendment to the motion:**

Be it resolved that BCITSA amends the motion by adding “permanently between need to and increase”.

*Moved by: Anya Besharah*

*Seconded by: Spencer Oppal*

**26/1/3**      **Carried**

**Motion:**

Call the question

*Moved by: Adam Moffat**Seconded by: Ross Wamboldt***26/1/2****Carried**

Member returns to meeting

**New question in its entirety:**

The Student Association of the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCITSA) plans to expand career advancement services for all students. These services will include a career centre offering networking opportunities with potential employers, industry relevant resources, and programs and workshops for professional development. To offer these new career services, BCITSA will need to permanently increase the student fees it charges the students of the British Columbia Institute of Technology (starting in Fall 2014, subsequent increases ending in Fall 2016) by the amounts set out in the table below.

The following figures are worked out on the maximum possible rate.

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All Coop Technology Students	\$6.25 per term	\$2.50 per term	\$2.50 per term
Trades	\$0.36 per week	\$0.14 per week	\$0.14 per week
Distance Education	\$0.89 per course	\$0.36 per course	\$0.36 per course

**As a binding referendum, are you in favour of the BCITSA collecting the above additional student fees from the students of BCIT?**

YES ..

NO ..

**11.9 Next Meeting: Monday January 27, 2014**

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday January 27, 2014, in the Council Chamber (SE2 – 283).

**11.10 Meeting Adjournment**

It was moved by Rebecca Davidson and seconded by Tariq Shobab that the meeting be adjourned at 7:16 pm. **Carried**



Council Meeting  
Agenda  
Monday, January 13<sup>nd</sup>, 2014  
5:45-8:30pm

- 11.1 Meeting called to order
- 11.2 Acceptance of Agenda
- 11.3 Acceptance of the Minutes: December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013
- 11.4 Progress Reports (5min)
- 11.5 Question Period (5 min)
- 11.6 Councillors' Forum (5 min)
- 11.7 Old Business
  - 11.7.1 Bitcoin Club Sanctioning-Yasamin (5 min) *"Be it resolved that the Bitcoin Club be sanctioned as a BCITSA sanctioned club"*
- 11.8 New Business
  - 11.8.1 Alliance of British Columbia Students- Mike (20min) *"Be it resolved that the BCITSA joins the Alliance of British Columbia Students."*
  - 11.8.2 Directorship of Alliance of British Columbia Students-Brad (5min) *"Be it resolved that the BCITSA appoints the Vice President of External as a director on the board of Alliance of British Columbia Students."*
  - 11.8.3 Referendum Question - Mike (15 min) *"Be it resolved that the BCITSA accept the following referendum question: "TBD"*
- 11.9 Next Meeting: Monday January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014
  - Council Chambers
  - 5:45pm – 8:30pm
- 11.10 Meeting Adjournment



Name & Position	Priority Objective	Objective Description	Objective Status	Position Update
<b>Rebecca Davidson- President</b>	1	Student Advancement Center	Pending approval of the Referendum Question	Met with Caroline to discuss strategic planning and keep up to date from after the break, met with Justin Kohlman to discuss relevant BCIT news from over the break, had an executive meeting with a few tasks that are current being worked on. The BCIT Executives and BCITSA Executives met to discuss recent activities and bring forward any news either party might have.
	2	Election Changes	Waiting for Bylaw Committee	
	3	Part time Studies	Re-evaluating objective	
<b>Brad Johnson- VP of Finance &amp; Admin</b>	1	BCIT Book Store Study	In Progress	Presented PT services fee adjustment to council, which was passed! Organized think tank session for Information Technology session with BCIT's CIO. Dealt with governance issues. Prepared a report for the strategic planning session to Harrison. Attended BCIT Executive meeting. Organized meeting with VP of Student Services and VP of Education.
	2	PT Services	Complete	
	3	Copy and Print Analysis	In Progress	
	4	Club's Credit Card	In Progress	
<b>Eirene Cloma - VP of Student Affairs</b>	1	More resources/support for female students at BCIT		
	2	Continue BCIT Respect Campaign		
	3	White Rose Campaign		
	4	First Nations/Aboriginal		
<b>Yasamin Alami- VP of Campus Life</b>	1	Host final fling around May 30th on for a minimum of 600 people. Ensure the event is cost neutral and fun final event for students to leave with a good relationship with the SA	no progress	Since we are returning from Christmas Break, not much progress has been made on many objectives. I will be turning my focus to the SA Rave Run after getting back from our planning session this week. I will also be looking into finishing the Transition document.
	2	Launch a mobile app for students which include key information about locations, specials, events and	Will be meeting with BCIT's executives to discuss	

		facility hours.		
	3	SA5K rave run [with Alicia] recruit 300 students for a run in March around campus and use funds raised to replenish the emergency food fund	no progress	
	4	Bucket list with SA activities and student life activities	objective abandoned	
	5	Provide a detailed [minimum 12 page] transition document to successor which lists key dates, tips, tricks and contacts to succeed.	1/2 complete document	
<b>Mike Hanson- VP of External</b>	1	Develop relationships with government at all levels especially municipal, all provincial levels, make them aware of issues specific to BCIT	In progress	Progressing on ABCS work. Attended meeting with BCIT executives.
	2	ABC's take responsibility for working with ABC members to bring forward issues to the province	In progress	
	3	Investigate the possibility of expanding career services and developing a business plan	In progress	
<b>Jay Jung - Chair of Business</b>	1	Facilitate inter-disciplinary term projects	N/A	Facilitated the Set Rep Meeting and promoted the counselling and student development services and student advocacy through guest speakers for the School of Business.
	2	Unifying the education platforms such as D2L, my.bcit.ca, and share out	Awaiting for the next meeting with the BCIT executives	
	3	Implement a sustainable systems for extended store hours	N/A	
	4	Electronic Devices Charging Station	N/A	
<b>Tariq Shobab- Chair of Energy</b>	1	Facilitate inter-disciplinary term projects		Coordinating guest speakers for this month's set rep meeting. Preparing for the strategic planning weekend. Coordinating meeting with Alumni Association.
	2	Establish a system to showcase alumni, give insight to current students about post-graduation		
	3	Improve awareness / involvement in extra-curricular activities - SoE		

<b>Hung Le- Chair of Computing &amp; Academics</b>	1	Review the current innovation challenge and explore the possibility of changing its format or creating a new one with different criteria	n/a	Held fourth set rep meeting with the Dean and incoming Associate Dean. The meeting was done as an open discussion between students and the two BCIT executives. I believe that the meeting alerted the BCIT executives of the climate among the students.
	2	Explore different possibilities for students from all the schools to meet and collaborate.	n/a	
	3	Successfully host two LAN parties.	n/a	
<b>Alicia Parayno- Chair of Health Science</b>	1	Promote student health and wellness	Promoted counselling services and other wellness programs and activities at the Business and Computing set rep meetings in November	3rd set rep meeting (November) was in conjunction with the Health Science Holiday Social. Addressed student concerns. Planning January set rep meeting. Researching in preparation for long term strategic planning. Assisting Print and Copy to obtain permission to use the Health Science logo for student business cards.
	2	Increase student communication and sense of community within school and between schools	Had successful social at the end of November in the Great Hall (over 100 students in attendance). Possibilities to make an ongoing tradition, and school wide - writing a plan for future execs. Health science Facebook album continuing. Will be meeting with Connie Evans to discuss inter-professional health science initiatives.	
	3	To help increase the presence of health science clubs	No new progress	
<b>Ramiza Rafeeq- Transportation, Construction &amp; Environment</b>	1	Living Lab, find out what it does for students, how to get students involved with it.		Getting Ready for Feb Set Rep meeting with Trina Price coming from BCIT Alumni Association.
	2	Increasing the space of the NE1 stand.		

	3	See if NE1 parking lot	Wasn't able to get regraded due to weather but it is postponed until Summer Break. The pot holes were able to be filled to help with car damage and water collection.	Finding Students for a BCIT Breakfast Planning Meeting with the VP and President of BCIT.  Start with investigation to expand North Stand and write a Proposal.
<b>Albert Jeong- Chair of Downtown Campus</b>	1	Establishing Set Rep meetings at DTC	In progress	I am in the process of reaching out to Set Reps in DTC. I have contacted the BCIT facility management to fix the light sensor in the room 860 and 880. The sensor has been changed, but still having a minor intermittent problem that if have to keep watching. I've contact the marketing team, and I am working on to bring all the posters of Burnaby campus and creating DTC specific ones.
	2	DTC facility improvement (lighting, card reader, and gym)	In progress	
	3	Work with the SA marketing team to bring the event posters to DTC	In progress	
<b>Daniel Sumano- Chair of Aerospace Technology Campus</b>	1	Work with SA Marketing Communication Strategist in the creation of an Online Fund Raising Auction.	Copy of items with description to be sent to SA Communications Strategist by next week.	A few facility problems have not been fix, inquiring as to reason. ATC Councillor regrettably informed me that he will now longer be able to attend Councillor Meetings. Process of finding a new ATC representative has begun. Volunteers to help host Wright Brothers Competition in February has also begun. BCIT Vice President, Education, Research and International, Paul Dangerfield will be our guest of honor at our next Class Rep Meeting this month
	2	Work with SA Events & Program Manager in creating monthly events at the ATC.	Rock, Paper, Scissor Competition was a success. Over 80% of all classes participated. Gearing up to February's Challenge Cup event	
	3	Work with SA Marketing Communications Manager in the designs and strategy for the creation of Student and Alumni friendly website. In which through photo's & comments, their achievements & life travels can be expressed to inspire new students and individuals in the community.	Met with BCIT Alumni representative, fruitful discussion and planning was achieved. Guided to next individual how can help in the development of this objective. Meeting pending.	

# Expansion of Student Services – focusing on career development

Presented to: BCITSA Council

By: Student Advancement Committee

## Background

This past year, the BCIT Student Association (BCITSA) has worked with BCIT to develop a new student services model which would combine our efforts in the delivery and expansion of the existing student employment centre. Although BCIT has demonstrated the desire to increase services, due to lack of funding, BCIT is unable to increase services. BCITSA is committed not to compete or replicate what BCIT is presently offering, but as a member organization, it is our responsibility to move ahead with this project so that students can receive the support they need to reach their career goals.

Students come to BCIT because they want a career. A survey commissioned by the office of the Vice President of Student Services and BCITSA confirmed this statement. Out of 1415 students who responded to the survey, over 70% of respondents stated that they attend BCIT for the purpose of starting or enhancing their career — 77% of whom reported that they have a clear understanding of their career goals.<sup>1</sup> With such a high proportion of respondents' confidence in why they chose to attend BCIT, the logical next step would be for BCIT to assist their graduates in finding employment in their preferred field.

BCIT has had a good track record of developing students' job-ready skills. However, in a market where post-secondary institutions compete for students' business and while tuition fees are continuously rising, prospective students are increasingly assessing the return on their education investment.<sup>2</sup> Proper career development skills are an essential part of the BCIT experience. It gives students an edge when seeking employment, helps them develop further skills for the workplace, and will ensure a higher level of satisfaction among students. Research has shown that the level of satisfaction with the campus career centre is the second-strongest predictor of overall satisfaction with undergraduate business programs.<sup>3</sup> This predictor could easily be extrapolated to apply to other undergraduate programs and BCIT as a whole. Literature reveals that effective career centres have the following practices: coherent business strategy, relationship management, comprehensive student support, corporate outreach activities and continuous quality improvement.<sup>4</sup> Although a holistic approach of service provision would have

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<sup>1</sup> BCIT Institutional Planning and Analysis Office, *Student Career Support Survey* (Burnaby, BCIT, 2013).

<sup>2</sup> Jeff Selingo, "Liberal-Arts Colleges, of All Places, Think Big About Helping Alumni Find Jobs," *Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 22, 2012, p. 14, via EBSCOhost, accessed May 7, 2013.

<sup>3</sup> Catherine Elliott and Linda M. Manning, "Effective Career Services Practices: The Case of Canadian Business Schools," *Canadian Journal of Career Development / Revue canadienne de développement de carrière*, vol.8, no.1, pp. 4-10, 2009.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 4.

been preferred<sup>5</sup> in delivering such services, it is expected that additional career services will prove beneficial to students.

At BCIT, only 12% of surveyed respondents stated that they had used BCIT's career centre services, which include student employment services, the co-op centre, advisors, counselors, mentors, the learning centre, the writing centre, BCIT's website, and eJobs. Among those who used one or more of these services, only 62% indicated that they felt satisfied with the career support they had received on campus.<sup>6</sup> Instead of using employment services currently offered, a third of the respondents reported that they had turned to instructors, program heads, and coordinators for support on an informal basis.

This decentralization of services may equate to a considerable difference in the consistency between Schools at BCIT. It is highly possible that some Schools provide high levels of services to their students while others do not. As a result, the fragmentation of services among the Schools may equate to inequality of services to students. Some BCIT faculty members have taken upon themselves to create networks for job postings. Further, student clubs and faculty members must organize networking and industry speaker events to fill the gap.

If presented with these opportunities, 87% of part-time student respondents and 93% of technology student respondents reported that they would use employment services; while 87% part-time student respondents and 82% of technology student respondents reported that they would use additional services supporting their pursuit of career goals. 85% of part-time student respondents, 84% of technology student respondents, and 82% of trade's student respondents reported that they would use career advice and mentoring. These statistics demonstrate a high level of interest in the services, while at present only 12% of respondents are using it.

One respondent stated, "The career office needs to be more proactive within the community and set up better recruiting channels with employers... When compared with other schools who have private recruiting sessions with top employers, BCIT has one small career fair that is often well after the main recruiting season. BCIT may offer amazing programs and has awesome students but with such a lacking career office these things are almost a moot point."

Further, BCIT offers limited career services to part-time students or its alumni. 84% of colleges in the United States are now offering some level of career services to their alumni on a fee payer model.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Nancy McDaniel, Julia B James and Grant Davis, "The Student Success Centre at Auburn University," *About Campus*, March-April, pp. 25-28. 2000.

<sup>6</sup> BCIT Institutional Planning and Analysis Office, *Student Career Support Survey* (Burnaby, BCIT, 2013).

<sup>7</sup> Amy Saltzman, "Job Help – for Alumni," *U.S. News & World Report*, vol. 16, no. 22 (June 6, 1994), pp. 77-80, via EBSCOhost, accessed May 7, 2013.

## **Existing Career Services Offered at BCIT**

Based on the preliminary research, BCIT Employment Services offer limited programming options. There are three main areas in which BCIT focuses: eJobs, which provides students and alumni internal and external job postings; an annual career fair; and assistance in job search<sup>8</sup>. Further, BCIT focuses on providing assistance for co-op students. However, this project does not propose to address coop services. According to the Student Career Support Survey, the employment services presently offered by BCIT are not meeting the needs of students.<sup>9</sup>

To complement services offered by BCIT Employment Services, BCITSA developed various student development programs over the years focusing on improving employability and skill enhancement. Services currently offered through the Uconnect Resources Centre are: Peak Leadership; Mentorship (very limited); Student Clubs, and grant for self-improvement (Student Initiative Fund). These services were developed following explicit request from students. Their level of success is limited since no additional resources were added to the Uconnect to offer them. Though the demand is there, BCITSA staff members are not able to grow these services/programs and some could argue even to maintain what has been developed.

## **The Future**

To create a vision of employment services and provide a sample of potential services, Council appointed a student committee as their representative group. To determine the specificity and costs associated with the creation of career services, a focus group was conducted to investigate the possibilities. These findings were added to the data from the Student Career Support Survey. The findings can be categorized into five groups: the physicality of the centre; web based programming; workshops; student development programming; and employers' relations. Described programming will evolve with time to meet students' needs, but the findings become an excellent foundation for creating such vision.

It is important to mention that it is not our intention to compete against what is being offered by BCIT but to complement what is already offered.

## **Proposal**

Based on the findings, the BCITSA is proposing to change the existing Uconnect Resources Centre to a Student Development and Engagement Centre which would include extensive student services and programs, including a significant career development component. The centre would be restructured to address the need of part time students by offering extended

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<sup>8</sup>BCIT Institutional Planning and Analysis Office, Retrieved October 15, 2013, from <http://www.bcit.ca/ses/>.

<sup>9</sup>BCIT Institutional Planning and Analysis Office, *Student Career Support Survey* (Burnaby, BCIT, 2013).

hours. While the new department would continue to offer student support programs such as the Health & Dental, peer tutoring, and harvest box; this proposal has to be analysed as part of the larger restructuring of this department.

To enable the development of career services, BCITSA requires additional revenues through the increase of its Activity Fee. Knowing that a \$5 increase adds approximately \$100,000 of revenues; we propose that Council approves a referendum asking its members for an increase of \$12.50 for the first year and then \$5 for the following 2 years. The progressive increase in fee would allow for the program to grow at a manageable rate for the association. The entirety of these funds would go towards creating new career services and would be mandatory for all students to pay in. By raising the student activity fee, it would enable all part time and full time students to use these services for free. New graduates would also be able to use these services 2 years past their graduation.

### ***Vision***

The BCITSA career centre will provide first rate and relevant career and advancement services to all students while developing long-lasting relationships with employers. These services will be part of the larger BCITSA Student Development and Engagement Centre, where professional staff would provide student centred programs and services in a state of the art facility. Career development will be discussed and promoted amongst students at the beginning of their BCIT careers matching their vision of employability when graduating from BCIT programs.

### ***The Centre***

The physical space and its offering are very important to students. While professional, it must be welcoming. Students envision a place that is both used by all students and by prospective employers. As such, the space should be professional and should be managed by staffs who are student and employer focused. It should be an opened space with interview rooms equipped with teleconference capabilities for interview purposes. Also it should have hoteling types of offices for users' privacy and have a dedicated meeting room for small workshops. Other rooms in the SE2 Student Association Centre will complement space needs related to workshops.

### ***Web Base Programming***

Another significant issue for students was the centre's web presence. Since a lot of the students do not come to the Burnaby Campus, it is necessary to offer the majority of services and programs web based, especially when students pay for the services. The website should be easy to navigate and reflects the same level of professionalism as the services offered at the centre. Webinars would be available on line with all other potential resources. The challenge will be to



maintain the website high on the search engine ensuring easy access. It should provide enough information for all students and prospective employers. It should also offer features such as job market analysis, market needs and connectivity for employers and students.

### ***Workshops***

Workshops are defined as one time interaction with students. Educational workshops on career planning will remain a significant service by the centre. They will not compete with BCIT, but act as a complement. BCIT focuses on group seminars, resume writing, interview skills, and networking skills. These sessions are offered only on Wednesday afternoon. Thus, the centre would offer other type of workshops and/or ways of delivering them. For example, it could be the same workshops but offered early evening for part time students, or they could be offered by peers. Workshops will be developed based on what students need. It is anticipated that workshops such as; What can I do with my BCIT credential?; International opportunities; Social media use; and the filming and analysing of interview process. These workshops would be offered on line through pre-recorded sessions and live webinars. The schedule of these workshops would be flexible to ensure that all students can partake in these sessions.

### ***Student Development Programming***

Another significant component of the centre will be focusing on developmental programs. Any programs that require substantial student involvement, while enhancing students' skills for employability, will be categorized under this section. Programs such as mentorship, leadership skills, developing entrepreneurial skills would be offered. Students would be required to invest a little bit more time, but in return would gain lifelong skills. These programs would be designed to meet the different skill levels of students to ensure that not only beginning programs are offered.

### ***External Relations with Employers***

BCIT is composed of 6 main areas: Transportation; health, construction, business, engineering and environment; and computing. These industries are very different in nature, thus to treat them the same and to expect students to navigate the same way through these different industries is a wrong assumption. It is essential that the new career services be set up to meet the different needs of each sector. Connecting with the different employers will also be a priority. Employers are a very important player in the success of the centre. It should be important to cater to these employers by focusing on what they are looking for in a new employee; and connecting the line between the employers and students. By creating initiatives such as mini career fairs, job market trends or information sessions focusing on specific industry, these programs would offer opportunities for students and potential employers to connect. Again, we acknowledge that BCIT has strong ties with the industry. It is not our purpose to compete with what is being done, but simply enhance the connection between potential employers and students.

In conclusion, full and part time students have requested that additional career services be provided on campus. Since BCIT is unable to provide such services and BCITSA has a good track record of delivering similar services, it is proposed that new career services be created by BCITSA to address these needs.

**CAREER CENTRE – Brain Storming Session - Tuesday, November 5, 2013**

<p><b>Workshops</b></p> <p>Practice interviews being interviewed job preparation course Session negotiation Mock interviews -more individuals peer interviewing peer What to write about you How to use it Social Media How to use your degree How to network upper skills What works for student? How to use your degree i.e. International/Rural/Out of Province Peer programs - use PTS as (peers) Group session - mixed with individuals Work aboard Dress for success Mock - informal/formal setting How to negotiate your salary</p>	<p><b>Employers</b></p> <p>Resume books for employers Potential revenues from employers Industry events/info about field Connection/People inside information who is hiring not just jobs - people to people Mini career fair for industry specific Acknowledge of job market trends Match making for employment (Okanagan College) actual employers Create a qualification profile for employer search Cultural match Form partnership with employer Recruiters PTS industry mingling with non-industry people</p>
<p><b>Web Base Programming</b></p> <p>Online search - What's out there Career.ubc.ca Website very easy to use On-line service Webinars Other sites for jobs for promo Top 100 interview questions by School E-resume reviews M.I.T. user friendly Georgia tech (nice website) Web - School specific Search engine optimization</p>	<p><b>Physical Space &amp; Others</b></p> <p>Hire qualified staff Success board (how many have been successful) Alumni as long as you contributed in it University of Toronto/Ottawa Get students involved right from the beginning Looked professional Hoteling types of offices Smoked glass instead of "frosted" walls Computers section 6:30pm/Saturday One dedicated meeting room Work station private Follow theme of SE2 Interview room/teleconference Welcoming/opened</p>
<p><b>Student Development Programming</b></p> <p>Mentorship Like Peak but focus on career advancement multi-sessions Prep course for professional exams Peak could be good to link but limitation School specific programs</p>	<p><b>Others</b></p> <p>Reverse head hunter service Video services Connecting student for entrepreneurial projects Volunteer with/or out of school job focus Link with other programs for student (i.e. LOT)</p>

how to start your own business/contractor Want to be entrepreneur	Career advising Portfolio building matches you to jobs
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# Alliance of BC Students



# About

- ABCS grew out of student led organizations such as WTF (where's the funding)
- The ABCS's mandate will be to advocate for post-secondary students in the province in areas such as educational funding, transit, child care, and financial assistance to students.
- The Alliance of British Columbia Students (ABCS) is BC's largest student-driven post-secondary lobbying organization, representing over 140,000 undergraduate, graduate, and trades school students at 7 institutions.

# AGM

Held first AGM at the beginning of December

- University of Victoria Students' Society
- Alma Mater Society of the University of British Columbia Vancouver
- University of British Columbia Graduate Student Society
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University Student Association
- Capilano Students' Union
- University of the Fraser Valley Student Union Society
- British Columbia Institute of Technology Student Association



# Information

- No fees to be a member organization of ABCS
- Financial contributions will be made on a per campaign basis as each member organization decides
- Members can withdraw at any time by giving 30 days written notice
- ABCS will not take on debt to fund