

Higher Education Quality Council

**MINUTES**

**July 4, 2012  
2:30 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.  
1 Yonge Street, Suite 2402**

**Present**

**Council Members:**

Navin Dave, Interim Chair  
Chris Monahan  
Gisèle Chrétien  
Michael Hill  
Norie Campbell

**President and Secretary to the Board:**

Harvey P. Weingarten

**Staff supporting the Council:**

Diana Macri, Chief Administrative Officer  
Susan Bloch-Nevitte, Executive Director, Communications  
Ellen Permato, Recording Secretary and Executive Assistant

**1. Call to order**

The Interim Chair called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and established that a quorum of Council members was present.

**2. Approval of agenda**

The members approved the agenda as presented.

**3. Approval of Meeting Minutes :**

1. That the Board approve:
  - a) the Minutes of the Board Meeting of March 28, 2012

Moved by Gisèle Chrétien; seconded by Michael Hill.  
Passed unanimously.  
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**4.1.1 President's update**

Harvey P. Weingarten welcomed Navin Dave, Interim Chair.

He reported that the government has introduced several initiatives that will involve HEQCO.

The Minister will hold a series of roundtable discussions with the PSE sector on sector transformation. The government will seek input on specific topics, including tuition policy, measuring productivity, online learning, and quality. A discussion paper

has been released. Deadline for submission of inputs is September 30<sup>th</sup>. HEQCO will be called upon to assist in assessing these inputs for clarity and credibility.

HEQCO initiated a *Performance Indicators Project* and created a panel composed of experts on PSE. It has circulated a consultation paper seeking comments and feedback to develop a set of performance indicators to monitor, evaluate and improve Ontario's public postsecondary system. HEQCO plans to release an evaluation of the Ontario postsecondary sector in Fall 2012.

#### **Updates on Research Plan**

Close to 80 projects are being managed. Three RFPs will be issued under the heading of increasing productivity of Ontario's postsecondary system while sustaining quality. Issues to be examined are:

- online learning
- shift to competency-based credentialing
- incentives for faster completion formulas

H. Weingarten complimented Diana Macri for the successful renegotiation of HEQCO's Memorandum of Understanding with MTCU.

As a result of the retirement of the VP Research, there will be an Administrative reorganization in the Research department to further clarify roles and responsibilities. A tracking system to automate a number of HEQCO core business processes is being implemented.

#### **Communications Update**

S. Bloch-Nevitte reported on the up to 40% increase in media exposure of HEQCO through conferences, workshops and news releases. Top source for media coverage is Toronto Star with notable increase in coverage across the country (including Ottawa Citizen, Calgary Herald and Edmonton Journal).

Harvey Weingarten is quoted in more than one-third of media coverage, followed by Richard Wiggers, research director.

Since the launch of the new website in April 2011, total monthly audience has more than doubled. Approximately 20% of the web audience comes from the United States. Most visited sites are the blog posts and research.

Stakeholders' list grew from 700 to 1600 in the past year. There have been over 3,000 views on HEQCO's YouTube site since it was launched in February 2011.

## **4.2 Interim Chair's Update**

Navin Dave nominated Michael Hill as a member of the Audit Committee.

Moved by Gisèle Chrétien; seconded by Norie Campbell.

Approved unanimously.

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HEQCO has recently received three Freedom of Information requests which have been processed expeditiously.

#### **4.3 Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities update**

Chris Monahan reported on the following:

- Government Priorities
  - PSE Transformation
  - Employment and Training Integration
- Ontario Education Number (OEN)
- Statistics Canada Cuts and implications for PSE data
- Board Appointments
- 100<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of Ministers of Education Canada (CMEC)

#### **5.1 2011 – 2012 Audited Financial Statements**

##### **Motion:**

1. That Board accept the recommendation of the Audit Committee to approve the Audited Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year 2011-12 for inclusion in the 2011-12 Annual Report for submission to the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities.

Moved by Gisèle Chrétien; seconded by Michael Hill.

Passed unanimously.

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#### **5.2 Year-end report**

Diana Macri submitted the Year-end financial report for the Board's information.

#### **5.3 Amendment to HEQCO HR Policy**

##### **Motion**

1. That the Board
  - a. amend the HEQCO Human Resources Policy to permit no more than 15 days carryover of vacation entitlements per year and;
  - b. permit that when employees leave HEQCO they can receive a payout for whatever is left of the current year's accrued vacation time plus a maximum of 15 days carried over

Moved by Norie Campbell; seconded by Michael Hill.

Approved unanimously.

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#### **5.4 Memorandum of Understanding**

##### **Motion**

1. That the Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities and Interim Chair of Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario.

Moved by Norie Campbell; seconded by Gisèle Chrétien.  
Approved unanimously.  
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## **6.1 HEQCO Fellows Program**

Motion

1. That the Board resolve that The Honourable Frank Iacobucci become a member of the HEQCO Fellows Program in deep appreciation of his service and dedication to the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario. As the founding chair of the Board of Directors, Frank Iacobucci has played a foundational role in the agency's success. His extraordinary leadership, guidance and sense of humour, coupled with his unbridled passion for higher education, have created an indelible legacy that will be enhanced through his continuing relationship with HEQCO.

Moved by Navin Dave; seconded by Norie Campbell.  
Passed unanimously.  
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## **6.2 HEQCO Boardroom**

Motion

1. That the Board resolve that the Boardroom of the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario be officially designated as the Frank Iacobucci Boardroom -- a lasting and visible tribute to his outstanding leadership as chair of the Board of Directors from 2006 to 2012.

Moved by Michael Hill; seconded by Gisèle Chrétien.  
Passed unanimously.  
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## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.