



Date: September 3, 2024
To: Senate
From: Senate Committee on Continuing Studies
Re: **2023-24 Annual Report**

The [Terms of Reference for the Senate Committee on Continuing Studies](#) define its scope and relationship with Senate and other Senate committees. Annually in October, the committee presents a report to Senate on its business and proceedings over the previous academic year.

The Senate Committee on Continuing Studies met five times during the academic year: October 12, 2023, November 22, 2023, December 12, 2023, March 12, 2024 and May 15, 2024. All meetings were held in person with the option to attend remotely. The committee reviewed academic programs and considered other issues over the course of the year, including:

- approval of modifications to the Pathway program model;
- discussion about micro-credentials at UVic;
- approval of a new non-credit professional specialization certificate in Intellectual and Cultural Property Law and a new credit micro-certificate in Professional Communication in the Workplace;
- approval to offer two advanced English language courses for credit for students who are conditionally admitted to UVic;
- a proposed name change from the Division of Continuing Studies to the Division of Professional and Continuing Education.

Bullets of Major Issues:

- **Modifications to the Pathway Program (October 12, 2023)**

The committee reviewed and discussed proposed modifications to the Pathway program including: 1) continuing with a hybrid co-location model; 2) offering a curated list of approved credit course options for students to choose from; 3) separating the science stream from engineering and computer science; and 4) adding a business stream. The proposal was tabled for a future meeting to allow the committee to gain a more comprehensive understanding of how this change would impact student advising and on-campus support services.

- **Intellectual and Cultural Property Law Professional Specialization Certificate (November 27, 2023 – special e-vote)**

This four-course non-credit certificate enables professional learners to enroll in courses current law students already take. Some course content has been revised with a stronger emphasis on Indigenous property laws, customs and traditions.

Due to a lack of quorum at the November meeting, a special e-vote was held on November 27, 2023. The committee approved this new offering, referring to the Senate Committee on Planning for approval.

- **Modifications to Pathway Program (December 12, 2023)**

The committee received additional information regarding student supports and advising, and subsequently approved the changes presented by Dr. Seppy Masoodi. These changes were forwarded to the Senate Committee on Planning for approval.

- **Credit for Advanced English courses – Pathway Program (March 12, 2024)**

The committee discussed a proposal to award credit for two advanced English courses (levels 5 and 6) for international students who have received an offer of conditional admission to UVic. Granting credit would allow students who complete the Pathway program to finish their first year of undergraduate studies. The committee viewed this as a positive move and approved advancing the proposal to appropriate senate committees.

- **New Micro-Credential: Professional Communication in the Workplace (May 5, 2024)**

The committee expressed strong support for this credit micro-credential offering, noting that significant consultation took place with sector partners. These courses will also benefit undergraduate students who plan to take them as part of a minor in Professional Communications. The committee approved the new micro-credential Professional Communication in the Workplace and forward to the Senate Committee on Planning for approval.

- **Division name change (May 5, 2024)**

Based on recommendations made by Propero Learning Systems Inc. in the fall of 2023, findings from two brand awareness studies and a competitive analysis of other continuing education units across Canada, Dr. Clarke proposed a motion to change the division's name. After some discussion, the decision was made to table the motion until further consultations with university faculties could be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

2024-25 Senate Committee on Continuing Studies

Jo-Anne Clarke, (Chair), Division of Continuing Studies
Elizabeth Adjin-Tettey, Chair, Senate Committee on Planning
Jeffrey Bruton, GSS Representative
Kate Donovan, Convocation Senator
Christopher Eagle, Faculty of Science
Li-Shih Huang, Faculty of Humanities
Helen Kurki, Faculty of Social Sciences
Alexis Luko, Faculty of Fine Arts
Doug Magnuson, Faculty of Human and Social Development
Solange Nicholson, Continuing Studies Student Representative
Brock Smith, Gustavson School of Business
Natasha Thambirajah, Alumni Association
Jens Weber, Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science
Kirsten Kopp (Secretary), Division of Continuing Studies

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Jo-Anne Clarke, (Chair), Division of Continuing Studies
Elizabeth Adjin-Tettey, Chair, Senate Committee on Planning
Jeffrey Bruton, GSS Representative
Dzifa Dordunoo, President's Nominee
Christopher Eagle, Faculty of Science
Mark Gillen, Faculty of Law

Anaïs Holdaway, Convocation Senator
Doug Magnuson, Faculty of Human and Social Development
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Li-Shih Huang, Faculty of Humanities
Alexis Luko, Faculty of Fine Arts
Sophie Pavlik, UVSS Representative
Monica Prendergast, Curriculum and Instruction
Natasha Thambirajah, Alumni Association
Jens Weber, Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science
Kirsten Kopp (Secretary), Division of Continuing Studies