

Sharing the Value and Importance of
Interprovincial Articulation Committees:

Western Regional Criminology Articulation Committee



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BCCAT - BC Council on Admissions and Transfer

- Manages and oversees the BC Transfer system and facilitates links and partnerships between the BC post-secondary institutions, the education ministries, and the public and private education sectors. www.bccat.ca
- Facilitates admission, articulation, application, and transfer arrangements among BC post-secondary institutions for the benefit of students.
- Member institutions:

	Public	Private	Outside BC
Colleges	11	6	1
Universities	11	5	1
Institutes	3	1	



BCCAT Articulation Committees

- There are 66 discipline/program based articulation committees currently recognized by BCCAT.
- Typically meet once a year to:
 - share information and engage in discussions related to curricular matters, particularly those affecting student mobility.
 - Collaborate and build relationships among disciplinary colleagues from other institutions usually within BC and YK
 - <https://www.bccat.ca/articulation/committees>

WRCAC- History

- Originally called “WCCAC” Western Canada Criminology Articulation Committee
- One of our veterans, Doug King (MRU) recalls hearing of the meetings in 1994 and attended in 1999
- In 2005, became WRCAC (Western Regional Criminology Articulation Committee)
- BCCAT started keeping record in 2006 - majority of Institutional Representatives were not from BC
- Development of Criminology and Criminal Justice as disciplines - Recent, fast and always changing

Current WRCAC Institutional Representation

BRITISH COLUMBIA		ALBERTA & NORTH	SASKATCHEWAN/ MANITOBA
<p><u>Colleges</u> Camosun Coast Mountain Coll. of the Rockies Coll of New Caledonia Columbia* Corpus Christie * Douglas Justice Institute Langara Native Education Nicola Valley Institute North Island Northern Lights Okanagan</p>	<p><u>Universities</u> Kwantlen Polytechnic Royal Roads Uni. Thompson Rivers Uni. Simon Fraser Uni. Uni. Fraser Valley Vancouver Island Uni.</p>	<p>Bow Valley College Lethbridge College Mount Royal Uni. Red Deer College Yukon College</p> <p>Previous members: Athabasca University; Aurora College</p> <p>* Indicates a Private Institution</p>	<p>University of Regina University of Winnipeg</p> <p>Previous member: (SIAST) Saskatchewan Polytechnic</p>

WRCAC- What we do



- Faculty representation, Department Chairs/teaching faculty
- Meets Annually in Spring, locations are rotational and involve visiting institutions outside of BC



WRCAC What We do...

- Communicate regularly & collectively via listserv (google groups)
 - Course and program development & changes
 - Course and program articulation decisions & questions
 - Coordinate transfer agreements
 - Build relationships
 - Establish Support/Options for transferring students
 - Ensure program and course alignments to support articulation
 - Questions about transfer and articulation

Challenges

- Costs for Institutional representatives to attend
- Difficult to navigate course and program transferability across Provinces.
- Inventory for all existing transfer agreements outside BC not recorded in BC Transfer Guide
 - Agreements on Department/Institution websites or with advisors
- Time commitment from Institutional contacts to maintain active participation
- Keeping contacts coordinated and up to date
- Including everyone- not being too focused on BC system

Benefits - From our Members

- Sharing of information - discipline is constantly changing and creates a way to share these updates and how we are responding to them;
- Support in program and curriculum development;
- Recruitment and exchange of faculty;
- Sharing of research ;
- In-person meetings assist with building the relationships,
- facilitating block transfers and course articulations,
- sharing of best practices,
- can assist with external program reviews and
- has faculty feeling more connection to the discipline.
- Support student mobility



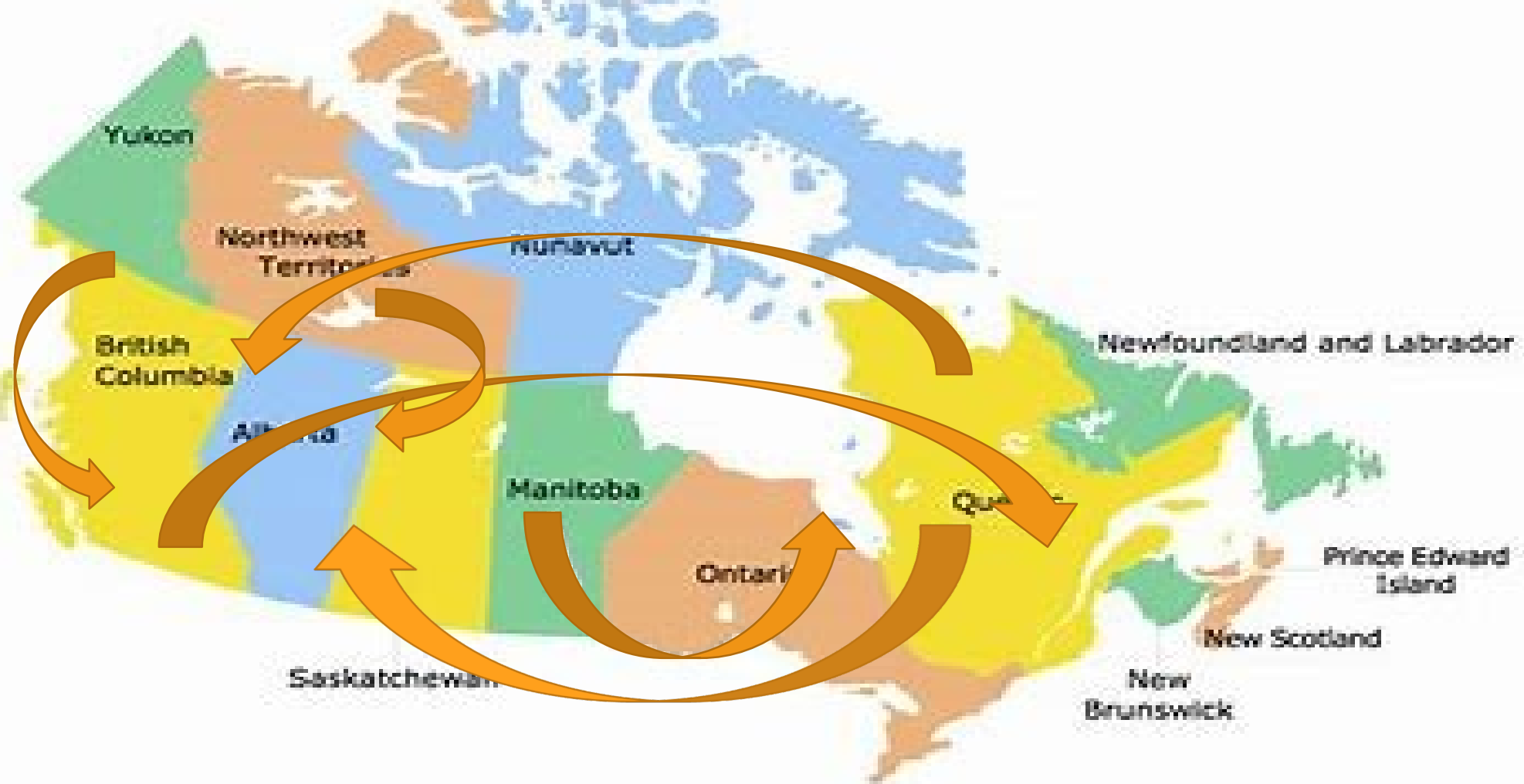
A top-down photograph of a workspace on a corkboard. In the upper left, a white coffee cup filled with dark coffee sits on a matching saucer. To its right is a white notepad with the words "build relationships" written in a large, bold, grey, textured font. A red pencil lies diagonally across the bottom right corner of the notepad. The entire scene is set against a textured brown corkboard background.

build
relationships

- *“we were a new department and [this committee] helped us grow and develop. WRCAC helps me feel anchored among criminal justice and criminology programs...there is no other program like ours in the province...I am part of a larger regional and national network, I feel more connected.”*

Steven Kohm, University of Winnipeg

Why is this so Important? Support Student Mobility!



Why should we have Regional Articulation Committees?

- Support student mobility
 - Increase in inter-provincial student mobility
 - How are we supporting these students?
 - More so in specific programs
 - Which programs in your institutions are you seeing a large amount of out of province students?



QUESTIONS?



Now to get YOU involved, your thoughts and experiences...

Working in small groups,
Discuss the Following...

Group Discussion



Discussions

- Are there other regional articulation committees like WRCAC that exist?
 - If so, which ones- how and why are they sustainable?
 - If not, why do you think they don't exist?
- Would this type of model work for your Institution?
 - Financial/budgetary
 - Workload
 - Commitment
- Would it work across disciplines?
- Benefits
- Challenges
- Can you think of any possible partnerships/pathways that you could explore to support student mobility across Provinces?

Sharing from Groups

- Are there any solutions to the challenges brought forth in your group?
- Have you explored any new partnerships or pathways?

Thank you!

- Please feel free to share your questions, thoughts & feedback!
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