Board Meeting Highlights

The Feb. 18, 2021, Board of Governors’ meeting was held via Microsoft Teams.

The board received a number of reports, including:

- Approval of New Programs
- Program Suspensions
- COVID-19 Update

Motions were passed by the board to approve:
- New programs
- Program suspensions

Presentation - The Time for Colleges: Successes and Challenges ahead for Ontario’s College System, by Linda Franklin, President and CEO, Colleges Ontario

Colleges Ontario has worked to raise the profile of colleges at all government levels and within college communities, and has been instrumental in supporting Ontario colleges in advancing many strategic priorities for the sector. Linda gave a thorough overview of the mandate of community colleges, important achievements for colleges, opportunities and challenges ahead for postsecondary education, government’s immediate priorities, and views of the economy pre-pandemic. Linda shared thoughts on where the government goes from here with postsecondary education, and what will higher education need to do in the short term and in the future. The apprenticeship agenda was discussed and possible next steps as well as how colleges can help lead the province out of the pandemic. There was a fulsome Q&A following Linda’s presentation.

New programs/program suspension

The college has developed a sophisticated enrolment management strategy over the past four years through investments in enhanced data and analytics, stakeholder input, and integrated finance, human resources and facility planning.

Adding, revising, suspending intakes and suspending programs are all essential tools to ensure the college program mix is relevant and viable.

New programs approved:

1. Marketing Management (graduate certificate)
2. Business Management (graduate certificate)
3. Supply Chain Management – Global (graduate certificate)
4. Complex Care Nursing for Internationally Educated Nurses (graduate certificate)
5. Small Business Trades Management (certificate)

Effective fall 2021, changes will be made to eight current programs, from three academic areas. We will fulfill our commitment to students currently enrolled in the programs to be suspended.
Suspended programs (Barrie):
- Fine Arts Advanced (advanced diploma)
- Jewellery and Metals (diploma)
- Goldsmithing (graduate certificate)
- Photography (diploma)
- Acute Complex Care for Internationally Educated Nurses (graduate certificate) offered in Barrie and in Orangeville: suspend and introduce new program Complex Care Nursing for Internationally Educated Nurses (graduate certificate) in fall 2021

Additional program launches planned:
Two new programs, Jewellery Design/Arts (diploma) and Digital Media (graduate certificate), will be developed following research and consultation and pending approval through our robust new program development process with intent to offer in 2023. The Fine Arts (diploma) continues with fall 2021 intake while we undertake a complete program renewal to launch in fall 2023.

Changes to the Owen Sound Campus programs:
- Culinary Skills (certificate): suspend program intake in Owen Sound in 2021 and reintroduce in fall 2022 – program continues at the Barrie Campus
- Culinary Management (diploma): suspend program intake in Owen Sound, current students will have option to complete year 2 at the Barrie Campus

There will be no job losses for permanent employees as a result of these program changes.

The board acknowledged that Georgian must remain current and responsive to the changing workforce needs by investing in new program development and refreshing viable current programs. We’re committed to the long-term success and sustainability of the college. These changes are a critical part of that process.