1.0 The chair, Shahram Manouchehri, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

2.0 MOVED THAT the agenda circulated be approved with one addition – “Peer Review” added as item 5.3 (Aimee Skye/Lynne Honey). CARRIED

3.0 MOVED THAT the minutes of the Council meeting of December 6, 2012 be approved as circulated (Melike Schalomon/Lynne Honey). CARRIED

4.0 Dean’s report:

- Review of statistics on research and scholarly activity, grant applications, sabbaticals, participation in the USRI program, and applications for 2013-14.
- Commented on the success of the recent Quality Council site visit and thanked those who participated in those meetings.
- Noted the recent announcement of a hiring freeze, and introduced the President to speak to this item
- The President spoke about the upcoming provincial budget and explained why the hiring freeze was implemented. He confirmed that sessional hiring required for instruction in the Spring/Summer term of this year may proceed; the freeze is intended to pause recruitment activity that will encumber the 2013-14 fiscal year while the current uncertainty prevails. Further details will be communicated from Human Resources.
- The Dean thanked the President for addressing Council.

4.3 Program Committee report:

MOVED that Council recommend the proposed changes to the General Studies program for approval by MacEwan Curriculum Committee (Bob Irwin/ Rob Wiznura) CARRIED.

MOVED that Council recommend the proposed minor in French for approval by MacEwan Curriculum Committee (Suzanne Hayman/ Colin Bailey) CARRIED.

Note that the proposals were circulated with the agenda. The General Studies changes include changing the name of the program to Transitions.

5.1 Department Peer Committees for academic titling:
MOVED to adopt the proposed Terms of Reference for Department Peer Committees as a model (David McLaughlin/ Karen Buro). DEFEATED

MOVED that all departments adopt the proposed Terms of Reference for Department Peer Committees, with the section “Selection of Referees” deleted (Jonathan Withey/Hugh McKenzie) CARRIED.

5.2 Academic Titling Committee:

MOVED that the proposed changes to the terms of reference of the Arts and Science Academic Titling Committee be approved (Bob Irwin/ Aimee Skye) CARRIED.

5.3 Peer review:

Academic Titling Committee has received questions with respect to the interpretation of “peer review” in the recently approved standards, and whether or not this has to be formal classroom peer review. David McLaughlin spoke to this item and suggested that the definition of peer review is broader than that and encompasses all forms of formal and informal review.

6.0 Information item – information on upcoming elections for Council and standing committee positions was distributed with the agenda.

7.0 Question period – no questions posed

8.0 MOVED adjournment (Craig Blatz/Lynne Honey) at 5:15.