

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

March 14, 2003

2:30 p.m. -- Room A246

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Marshall, R. Bergquist, R. Common, A. Dean, R. Forrest,
R. Wideman

C. Boterbloem, T. Chase, M. Denike, T. Dokis, S. High, P. Kelly,
J. Kovacs, S. Kulkarni, J. LeClair, B. Lorezkowski, E. Mattson,
D. Murphy, F. Noël, T. Parkes, G. Pyle, L. Robinson, M. Saari,
K. Topps, D. Walton, A. Weeks, H. Zhu

P. Barber, W. Blair, D. Bolger, T. Campbell, P. Joong, M. Kariuki,
H. Langford, J. Long, G. McEwen, J. McIntosh, J. Mroczkowski,
B. Olmsted, M. Parr, C. Richardson, W. Richardson, O. Ridler,
R. Weeks

D. Bourne-Tyson; L. Campbell, S. Renshaw
C. MacGillivray, R. Molicia-Lazzaro, J. Price
Guest: A. Fera

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: B. Nettlefold, L. Stamler

J. Baffoe (sabbatical), D. Flynn, (sabbatical), L. Kruk, U. Kundrats,
S. Muhlberger (sabbatical), P. Nosko (sabbatical), G. Olsen,
D. Rowbotham (sabbatical), M. Tuncali, V. Valov, W. Young (on leave)

D. Brackenreed, K. Clausen, L. Frost (sabbatical), C. Harvey, T. Horton,
J. Scott, S. Van Nuland
S. Carmichael

MEMBERS ABSENT: W. Borody, G. Brophey, G. Brown, R. Brozowski, P. Chow,
A. Clendinning, D. Hackett, D. Hall, L. Janzen, D. Jowett, J. Knox,
S. Lawlor, L. Patriquin, G. Phillips, B. Riome, J. Ryan, C. Sarlo,
B. Schreyer, A. Sparkes, K. Stange, L. Thibeault, G. Williams

D. Berry, R. Davis, D. Franks, L. Knaack, G. Laronde, A. LeSage,
J. Lundy, M. McCabe, S. Reid, C. Ricci, H. Rintoul, T. Ryan,
G. Swanson, H. Vail

L. McLaren
C. Brescht, A. LeRoy, K. Shields
S. Anderson, I. Bajewsky, M. Brewes, K. Brozowski, K. Cowcill,
M. Kershaw, J. Kooistra, J. Morton, S. O'Hagan, C. Peterson,
L. Richards, U. Stange

MOTION #1: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by D. Bolger that the minutes of the Academic Senate dated February 14, 2003 be received.
CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President congratulated Senators Denike and Renshaw for the exceptional work they had done in organizing the events of International Women's Week. He asked them to convey gratitude, on behalf of the university, to all who had assisted with the project. The President also thanked the faculty who had given presentations of their research to the members of the Board of Governors at the Professional Development Evening held on March 6. He stated that Senators Hall, High, Van Nuland and Pyle had been invited to speak about their research and he thanked them for agreeing to share their expertise.

Senator Marshall presented an overview of the 2003/2004 budget, calling it a "positive" budget that added new faculty and resources. However, he placed the budget in context within the current declining, spiraling environment for universities. He predicts a more deregulated university system over the next few years. Other universities, such as Toronto and Queen's, have issued "cut orders" since they do not expect to achieve their desired enrolment. At Nipissing, grant levels will not increase and tuition levels for Arts and Science have been controlled for the 4th consecutive year at a 2% increase. Senator Marshall made comparisons with last year's budget noting that Nipissing sustained enough growth, and also had the Special Northern allocation grant, to get through the year. The acquisition of grant equity still remains a possibility and work continues on this issue. The President stated that the first 150 additional students admitted will only cover the "estimated" costs of resources that need to be added. He stated that the main issue that will need to be considered, approximately three years hence, is how Nipissing will respond when it does not want to grow by a single student, yet the government's tuition and grant levels remain frozen at 2002 levels. Senator Marshall stated that the budget will be ready by March 27.

Mr. Green referred to the budget as a balanced budget, but indicated that there will be a second budget prepared at the end of June. He announced that no capital had been included in this budget. Mr. Green stated that Nipissing would use the revenue generated from additional students (if the number of first year Arts and Science students is more than 730), to pay for capital expenditures; if the numbers are on target, some of the desired capital needs may need to be reduced, and if there are less than 730 students, there will be some difficulties. It will not be known until the end of June the actual number of students Nipissing will receive. Mr. Green stated that the budget represents a \$5.2 million increase, overall, from last year, which is indicative of how much the university has grown. He explained that the release time for faculty, removed from last year's budget in order to balance the budget, was added back in this year's budget. He further noted that more money is being paid out in scholarships because better students are choosing to enroll at Nipissing. These monies are taken from operating expenses. The budget also allows for the inclusion of four Library positions, assuming the partnership of Canadore; if not, there will be a total of three. Mr. Green stated that most faculty positions have been approved and almost \$2 million has been allotted for salary and wage increases with regard to progression through the ranks. There also is an increase in benefit costs. Mr. Green explained that

many of the budget items are related to the volume of students expected. The numbers reflected in the budget are the result of the university's planning exercise and the enrolment target agreement submitted to the government. The President informed senators that each student represents \$8000. Mr. Green encouraged senators to contact him if they had any questions. The budget will be presented next to NUSU and the Finance Committee. The uncertainty as to what will happen is causing apprehension and it is also discomforting not to know the strategy that other universities will adopt.

Senator Forrest provided statistical information about the successful March Up Close event noting that there had been 643 visitors including 224 student applicants. He announced the names of the two external reviewers who would conduct a review of the Psychology program at the end of the month. He reported that the University Research Council had met on March 14 and approved many internal grant applications. Senator Forrest explained that Nipissing is one of 10 universities that does not have a Canada Research Chair; however, there now exists an opportunity to initiate a process, develop criteria and guidelines and submit written proposals by a December 15th deadline.

Senator Dean stated that the Office of the Dean of Arts and Science had been busy with faculty searches. He was pleased to report that, in every instance, the Selection Committee's first choice had accepted the position. He thanked his faculty for their participation in the "March Up Close" event.

The Dean of Education stated that interviews are currently being held for two remaining faculty positions. He also reported that the first choice applicants who were offered positions have accepted. Senator Common reported on the recent trip to Cameroon and announced that six Education students and Senator Olmsted had reached the summit of Mount Cameroon where they had unfurled the Nipissing University flag.

Senator Price announced the results of the recent NUSU elections and confirmed that the 2003-2004 NUSU executive will be comprised of: Wilson Abreu, President; Steve Hayne, Vice-President, External; Roberto Molicia-Lazzaro, Vice-President, Internal and Aaron Bean, Vice-President, Student Life.

Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee

MOTION #2: Moved by R. Bergquist, seconded by M. Denike that the Report of the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee dated February 7, 2003 be received.

CARRIED

MOTION #3: Moved by R. Bergquist, seconded by D. Walton that the students listed on Appendix A, who have completed all requirements of their respective degrees, be admitted to their respective degrees in-course and that diplomas for the degrees be awarded.

CARRIED

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

MOTION #4: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by M. Denike that Senate amend the Terms of Reference for the Library Committee as follows:

1. The Committee shall work with the Executive Director of Library Services to develop and review Library policies on:
 - (b) the acquisition and maintenance of collections, and
 - (c) the provision of services to faculty and students.
2. The Committee shall review and provide advice on the Library's annual budget to the Executive Director of Library Services.
3. The Committee shall consider and approve the expenditure of any supplementary funds available for the acquisition of Library resources.
4. The Committee shall be responsible for assisting the Academic Planning Committee in the planning of any physical facilities for the Library.

CARRIED

MOTION #5: Moved by P. Barber, seconded by M. Denike that Senate amend the membership of the Research Ethics Committee to include the Manager of Research Services as an ex-officio, non-voting member.

CARRIED

MOTION #6: Moved by D. Bolger, seconded by J. McIntosh that Senate do now adjourn:
3:25 p.m.

CARRIED

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D. Marshall, President

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G. Williams, Secretary