

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

September 12, 2008
2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Mock, P. Ricketts, V. Paine-Mantha, C. Cooper, R. Wideman,
A. Carfagnini, B. Nettlefold, A. Robinson

G. Brophey, N. Brown, J. Knox, S. Lechlitner

N. Colborne, AB Graff, D. Jowett, T. Koivukoski, J. Kovacs,
U. Kundra, G. Morrell, I. Mueller, F. Noël, P. Nosko, G. Phillips,
S. Renshaw, T. Smith, M. Tuncali, H. Zhu

J. Barnett, K. Clausen, J. Corkett, S. Elliott-Johns, K. Ferguson, B. Hatt,
D. Jarvis, G. Laronde, N. Maynes, J. McAuliffe, J. McIntosh, MA Parr, J.
Scott

P. Joong, (Brantford), T. Waldock (Bracebridge)

W. Dew, C. Irwin

S. Lawlor, C. Mang

R. Kilpatrick

L. McLaren

T. Benevides

J. Fortier, AM McKenney, I. Wassink

REGRETS: R. Vanderlee, J. Barker, G. Raymer, C. Boston

The minutes of the Senate meeting of June 4, 2008 were adopted.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

MOTION 29: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by L. Patriquin that Senate approve the Tenure and Promotion Procedures Document dated May 14, 2008 with the proviso that the document for the standards for promotion and tenure be discussed at the September 2008 Senate.
CARRIED AS AMENDED

Senator Ricketts commented on this motion and it was followed by discussion and questions from the floor. No new motions resulted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Senate Speaker noted the historic occasion of this first meeting of a representative Senate and requested that Senators introduce themselves and indicate what faculty they were associated with. Senator Jowett added that there will be some bumps with the implementation of the new bylaws and indicated that once committees were formed and chairs elected, committee members will be canvassed to ascertain if there are any issues with implementation. A package of bylaw amendments will be introduced by the end of the year.

President Mock also welcomed everyone to the first Senate meeting as a representative Senate. He commented on the timetabling issues that occurred for this academic year and indicated that there was a group already addressing these problems.

President Mock thanked the many people who provide a welcoming environment to Nipissing University, especially at the NSO sessions this past July. This has resulted in a 6% increase in first year students. Our conversion rate of applicants to registrants increased by 2%. He reminded Senators that this institution is competing with 18 other provincial universities so these numbers are impressive.

The Ministry of Training, College and Universities has lost its Deputy Minister, Dr. Philip Steenkamp, to British Columbia. As a result, the President indicated that the Ontario university system has lost a key advocate in the provincial cabinet.

The MTCU Minister, John Milloy, spoke at the COU Executive Heads meeting earlier today and advised members that the economy is down and as a result, institutions may not get the usual end-of-year funding. President Mock reminded Senate that over half of the Ontario universities have had cuts this past year.

The President indicated to Senate that the strategic plan update that was presented to the Board of Governors in June is on the Senate website. He was pleased to report that there are 127 initiatives that have been undertaken as a direct result of the plan and encouraged Senators to review them. He added that there will be initial discussions about the next strategic plan in the next six months.

The President reminded Senators that the Honorary Degrees Subcommittee is taking nominations until the end of the month.

The Vice President Academic and Research was pleased to report that Dr. Dean Bavington, Nipissing's first Canada Research Chair was appointed this past summer. As well, Dr. Jeff Dech has been appointed as the Forest Bioproducts Research Chair, an initiative funded through both the federal and provincial governments and industrial sources. Applications are currently being reviewed for a second CRC that will be submitted later this year.

Senator Ricketts also introduced the new Dean of Arts and Science, Dr. Craig Cooper, and Dr. Rick Vanderlee, the inaugural Dean of Applied and Professional Studies. Michèle Parent, the new Director of Nursing was also introduced to Senators.

Since the Nipissing University Academic plan has been approved at the June Senate meeting, preparations will begin shortly regarding its implementation. Over the next few weeks, the Deans and Academic Administrators will be speaking to faculty about the plan's implementation, primarily through the development of four-year rolling plans.

Senator Ricketts was also pleased to add that the university welcomes eight new full-time and one part-time Master of Arts students in History.

The Vice-President Finance and Administration distributed an outline of construction projects for the upcoming academic year. Senator Paine-Mantha was pleased to report that the Muskoka campus is up and running. Staff will be trained in utilizing the new technology that will allow faculty and students to take advantage of the latest technology in electronic course delivery and streaming video. At the Brantford campus, the renovations are complete. There have been some issue with IT and the phone system, but these should be rectified very shortly.

UTS has had a total of 22 projects of which 10 are completed. Senator Paine-Mantha reported that Gradebook has been modified to meet the needs of the Deans. As well, the hardware migration of Datatel has been completed which will result in more stability and reliability. The Vice-President also noted that Reznet band widths have been upgraded and there is an e-mail policy under review. She also reported that the year end financial analysis has been completed and will be going to the Board .

Announcements from the Dean of Applied & Professional Studies was all welcome news. Dr. Jane Barker is to be congratulated for her recently published book titled *Women and the Criminal Justice System: A Canadian Perspective*. Dr. Greg Brown was the recipient of an \$18K CIHR grant that will be used towards sponsoring a Mental Health/Long Term Care conference for health care providers in northeastern Ontario.

The Dean of Arts and Science was pleased to report that the provincial government has given approval for a Bachelor of Fine Arts program. Stage three of this program will be coming to Senate this fall. The Dean also reported on the successful topology conference this summer and thanked all those faculty who were involved. Five new tenure-track faculty were hired and he, along with the Registrar's Office, is working on improving timetabling and scheduling.

The Dean of Education reminded Senators that 2009 is the university's year for reaccreditation by the Ontario College of Teachers. A steering committee is working hard to produce a written submission. The OCT reaccreditation panel will be visiting the North Bay and Brantford campuses in late January.

Senator Fortier, NUSU President reported a very successful Frosh week. He indicated that the Vice-President of Student Life should be congratulated. Shinerama raised \$16K. Senator Fortier encouraged Senators to visit the new campus in Bracebridge and check out the Lake House which is owned and operated by the students. The student referendum concluded this week. Eight hundred and forty-four ballots were cast with 77% of the students voting in favour of a fee increase of \$60. Senator Fortier noted that elections for student senators will be held in the next few weeks.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Senate Executive Committee

MOTION 1: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by B. Hatt that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated September 6, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 2: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by B. Hatt that Senate adopt the Nipissing University Academic Policies and Regulations outlined in the document entitled "Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, 2008."
CARRIED

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

Notice of Motion

That the language in Article 9.1.1(b)(i) be amended to read: one (1) faculty Senator or non Senator from each Faculty.

ELECTIONS

The list of Senate committees and subcommittees was reviewed and there were nominations made to various vacancies. Three elections were held and the final draft of the committee listing was made.

MOTION 3: Moved by B. Hatt, seconded by S. Renshaw that the Senate committees and subcommittees listing be acclaimed as outlined.
CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION 4: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate consider receipt of the report from the Dean of Arts and Science dated September 5, 2008.
CARRIED

MOTION 5: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by S. Lawlor that Senate approve waiving the requirement for a final examination for the 2008/2009 academic year for COSC2406 Introduction to Game Design and Development - Section FA001 ONLY.
CARRIED

If there is no objection, Senate will now adjourn: 4:51 p.m.

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D. Mock, President

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C. Jenkins, Senate Secretary