

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

September 13, 2013

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

M. DeGagné (Chair), A-B Graff, C. Richardson, A. Robinson, R. Vanderlee

A. Armenakyan, J. Barker, G. Brown, A. Page

A. Ackerman, D. Borman, R. Breton, A. Burk, N. Colborne, J. Dech, M. Jha,
U. Kundrats, McCann, F. Noël, T. Parkes, S. Renshaw, D. Tabachnick, A. Weeks,
S. Winters, H. Zhu

L. Ashworth, G. Black, B. Bruner, K. Eyre, B. Hatt (Speaker), M. Kariuki,
J. McAuliffe, T. Ryan, J. Scott, T. Sibbald, A. Steele

M. McCabe (Brantford), R. Vernescu (Bracebridge)

C. Murton-Stoehr, L. Rossi

G. DuCharme, J. Zimbalatti

Y. Benoit, K. Fitzsimmons, C. Grist

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

H. d'Entremont, N. Black, L. Carter, M. Tuncali

A. Karassey, T. Smith

T. Horton, M-A Parr

C. Hachkowski

The minutes of the Senate meeting of May 17, 2013 were adopted.

QUESTION PERIOD

A question was asked to ascertain if the new position of Associate Vice President Academic was a permanent position and if it is considered a senior academic appointment. A similar question was asked at the May 17, 2013 Senate meeting regarding the Assistant Vice President Research and whether that position was deemed a senior academic appointment. The response at that time was the position is still in the budget and is viewed as a senior academic appointment. The Vice President Operations indicated he would take that question to the Human Resources Committee of the Board of Governors and provide a response at the October Senate meeting.

Another question was raised concerning three recently advertised new positions that were not part of the 2013-14 budget process. The Vice President Operations indicated that the position approval process goes through a specific procedure by looking at the needs of a department taking into account budget consideration. He added that the Board must first approve any new positions that were not included in the initial budget deliberations. In some cases, external funding has been made available for a position.

A request was also made for an organizational chart that will include the positions that have had title changes. The Vice President indicated there is no change in remuneration and the title changes came about as a result of an HR survey so as to level the field with provincial counterparts. A chart will be provided.

A question was asked as why there is only one SSHRC and one NSERC grant available for our graduate students. The Interim Dean of Arts and Science responded by noting that the Tri-Council has changed their funding structure by using a metric based on how many tri-council grants are held by faculty and the size of graduate programs. Any plans to supplement missing funds, is on the agenda for the next Graduate Studies Council meeting.

There was a query regarding the status of the comprehensive Academic Skills Centre (ASC). Senate was reminded that in 2012, the interim VPAR asked the Teaching and Learning Committee (TLC) to develop a plan for moving forward with an ASC. A sub-committee was struck and the concept of a new enhanced and expanded ASC was presented to the new VPAR. According to the annual report of the TLC of May 16, 2012, the VPAR assured that the budget funds for an enhanced ASC had been allocated and that faculty input would be sought in the hiring of a new full-time director with academic credentials in the area of writing and writing instruction. Senator Breton has requested that a response to this question be made in writing to Senate.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

Senate Executive Committee

Annual Report

MOTION 1: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by A. Burke that the Annual Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 15, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

May 23, 2013 Report

MOTION 2: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by S. Feretycki that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 23, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

June 7, 2013 Report

MOTION 3: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by A. Burk that the Report of the Special Senate Executive Committee dated June 7, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

July 26, 2013 Report

MOTION 4: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by Y. Benoit that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated July 26, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

August 30, 2013 Report

MOTION 5: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by A. Burk that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated August 30, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

September 5, 2013 Report

MOTION 6: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by A. Weeks that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated September 5, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 7: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by K. Eyre that the Senate Regulations and Policies, September 2013 be adopted as outlined in the attached Table of Contents.
CARRIED

Planning and Priorities Committee

May 16, 2013 Report

MOTION 8: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by K. Eyre that the Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated May 16, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

Annual Report

MOTION 9: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by K. Eyre that the Annual Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated May 16, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

Annual Report of the Admissions and Enrolment Subcommittee

MOTION 10: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by S. Renshaw that the Annual Report of the Admissions and Enrolment Subcommittee dated May 23, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

Undergraduate Studies Committee

Annual Report

MOTION 11: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by A. Page that the Annual Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated May 7, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

May 29, 2013 Report

MOTION 12: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by A. Page that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated May 29, 2013, be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 13: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by A. Weeks that Senate approve the addition of PSYC 3626 Psychological Disorders in Children, and the deletion of PSYC 3615 Psychological Disorders in Children from the Psychology curriculum.
CARRIED

Graduate Studies Council

April 29, 2013 Report

- MOTION 14: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that the Report of the Graduate Studies Council dated April 29 2013 be received.
CARRIED
- MOTION 15: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that Senate note the revisions to courses ENST5116 Perspectives on the Environment and ENST5117 Methods of Inquiry in Environmental Research, as outlined.
CARRIED
- MOTION 16: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that Senate approve the deletion of ENST5217 Seminar in Environmental Studies, as outlined.
CARRIED
- MOTION 17: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by A. Burk that Senate approve the addition of EDUC5747 Inquiry Through the Arts: Research Methodologies and Methods and EDUC5736 Teaching and Learning Through the Arts, as outlined.
CARRIED

Annual Report

- MOTION 18: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by E. Eyre that the Annual Report of the Graduate Studies Council dated May 16, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

Student Appeals Committee

- MOTION 19: Moved by A. Robinson, seconded by A. Page that the Annual Report of the Student Appeals Committee dated May 15, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

Teaching and Learning Committee

- MOTION 20: Moved by K. Fitzsimmons, seconded by A. Burk that the Annual Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated Thursday, May 16, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

Research Council

- MOTION 21: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that the Annual Report of the Research Council dated May 15, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION 22: Moved by A. Robinson, seconded by A-B Graff that the exam requirements for ENGL 2055 – Drama be waived for 2013-14 only.
CARRIED

AMENDMENT of BY-LAWS

Revised wording:

MOTION 23: Moved by D. Tabachnick, seconded by G. McCann that Senate approve that Article 10.1.1 (c), (d), (e) and (f) of the Senate bylaws be modified as follows:

- (c) The following undergraduate curriculum matters shall require the approval of the relevant Faculty Council(s), the Undergraduate Studies Committee and Senate:
 - (i) proposals for Stage 2 (Curriculum) approval of new undergraduate programs prepared in accordance with the Nipissing University IQAP, as required in the provincial Quality Assurance Guidelines; or
 - (ii) proposals requiring changes to existing undergraduate degree or program requirements; or
 - (iii) undergraduate curriculum proposals which involve adding new courses, deleting existing courses, or substantive changes to existing courses.
- (d) The following undergraduate curriculum matters shall require the approval of the relevant Faculty Council(s), with conveyance to the Undergraduate Studies Committee and Senate for information:
 - (i) undergraduate curriculum proposals which involve non-substantive changes to existing courses and which do not directly affect another Faculty (e.g. minor changes to course titles or course descriptions, banking courses)
- (e) Where there is disagreement or uncertainty as to whether a proposed undergraduate curriculum change is significant or minor or substantive/non-substantive, the more rigorous standard shall be applied.

CARRIED

Current wording:

- (c) *The following undergraduate curriculum matters shall require the approval of the relevant Faculty Council(s), the Undergraduate Studies Committee and Senate:*
 - (i) *proposals for Stage 2 (Curriculum) approval of new undergraduate programs prepared in accordance with the Nipissing University IQAP, as required in the provincial Quality Assurance Guidelines;*
 - (ii) *proposals requiring significant changes to existing undergraduate degree or program requirements; and*
 - (iii) *undergraduate curriculum proposals which involve one or more new courses or substantive changes to existing courses, and which directly affect another Faculty (e.g. Concurrent Education or other interdisciplinary programs involving more than one Faculty).*
- (d) *The following undergraduate curriculum matters shall require the approval of the relevant Faculty Council and the Undergraduate Studies Committee, with conveyance to Senate for information:*
 - (i) *proposals requiring minor changes to existing undergraduate degree or program requirements; and*
 - (ii) *undergraduate curriculum proposals which involve one or more new courses or substantive changes to existing courses, and which do not directly affect another Faculty.*
- (e) *The following undergraduate curriculum matters shall require the approval of the relevant Faculty Council, with conveyance to the Undergraduate Studies Committee and Senate for information:*
 - (i) *undergraduate curriculum proposals which involve non-substantive changes to existing courses, and which do not directly affect another Faculty (e.g. minor changes to course titles or course descriptions, deleting or banking courses).*

- (f) *Where there is disagreement or uncertainty as to whether a proposed undergraduate curriculum change is significant/minor or substantive/non-substantive, the more rigorous standard shall be applied.*

Notice of Motion (regarding change in the ex-officio membership on Senate)

- That Article 2.1 of the Senate bylaws be amended with the elimination of the Director of the Centre for Flexible Teaching and Learning.

Notice of Motion (regarding the addition of the Vice-President Academic and Research to the Bylaws and Elections Subcommittee)

- That Article 9.1(1)(a) be amended with the addition of the Vice-President Academic and Research (non-voting)

Notice of Motion (regarding the addition of a new Senate subcommittee, Article 9.3.3)

- The addition of Article 9.3.3 Undergraduate Research Conference Subcommittee to the Senate bylaws as outlined below:

Article 9.3.3 Undergraduate Research Conference Subcommittee (URCS)

(a) *Ex Officio* Members:

- (i) the VPAR or designate
- (ii) the Dean, or designate, of each Faculty;

(b) Members Elected by Faculty Council

- (i) Two (2) faculty Senators or non-Senators from each Faculty one of whom shall be elected by the Committee to serve as Chair and one to serve as Vice-Chair;
- (ii) one (1) faculty Senator or non-Senator to serve as Poster coordinator;
- (iii) one (1) faculty Senator or non-Senator, preferably from Fine Arts, to serve as Fine Arts coordinator;
- (iv) one (1) student representative.

(c) Terms of Reference:

- (i) Secure the dates for the Undergraduate Research Conference;
- (ii) Establish the themes, if any;
- (iii) Communicate to all Nipissing University faculty;
- (iv) Establish linkages to other universities;
- (v) In collaboration with the VPAR office, secure a budget for the conference;
- (vi) In collaboration with Marketing, Communications and Development, ensure that the event is publicized; and
- (vii) Ensure the logistical support for the conference

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Board of Governors

Senator DuCharme introduced himself and Senator Zimbalatti as the two Board of Governor's representatives to Senate for the next academic year. Senator DuCharme noted that the final board meeting for 2012-13 was on June 6 at which time the 2013-14 budget was approved. The executive positions on the Board remain the same as last year: Colin Dennis will serve

his second year as Board Chair; Greg Ducharme will serve as Vice-Chair; and Marianne Berubé will serve as Vice-Chair Pro Tem.

Senator DuCharme went on to say that the Board held a successful orientation for new board members on August 13 and the annual dinner is slated for September 17. Individual exit interviews are currently being conducted with retired external and constituent board members. In terms of professional development, Senator DuCharme announced that COU is hosting a Board Conference for Board members from all Ontario universities. The respective Board committee chairs will attend this year.

Alumni Advisor Board

Senator Feretycki announced that the Advisory Board retreat was being held September 14. One of the items on the agenda is plans for the upcoming year. He encouraged faculty and staff to participate in Homecoming October 25-27.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION 24: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by A. Burk that Senate considers receipt of the Report of Graduate Studies Council dated July 30, 2013.
CARRIED

MOTION 25: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by K. Eyre that the Report of the Graduate Studies Council dated July 30, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 26: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by A. Steele that Senate approve the addition of EDUC 5437 Special Topics in Education, as outlined.
CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President welcomed all senators to a new and exciting academic year. He announced that he had the opportunity to visit the various residences during move-in and spent time with the dons, staff, students and parents.

The President indicated that preliminary work is being done on a new strategic plan. He noted that his vision is for a shortened and sharper plan with one overall plan reflecting major priorities and directions. Detailed plans will be sought from each constituent group. The process will be discussed at the next UMG meeting as well as at the Board retreat.

The President reported that there were four roundtables with the Minister over the summer. The four topics were online education, credit transfer, differentiation and the SMAs and graduate expansion. A summary of these discussions will be part of the agenda of the September 19, 2013 COU Executive Heads meeting. The President indicated he had the opportunity to meet with the Minister earlier this week and indicated that he is making the case for re-examination of the northern grant so Nipissing is at parity with the other northern universities. The President also impressed upon the Minister the significance of the upcoming cuts in education. The third point the President made is bringing the Minister up to speed on northern and Aboriginal outreach. He added that it is time for evidence based thinking with perhaps the formation of a new institute.

In regards to capital projects, the President announced that a building at Jane and Gormanville has been donated to the University. The best use for the Monastery is now being reviewed. The official opening for the Centre for Physical and Health Education will be later this fall. The President is also pleased to report that the university is \$2M ahead of last year with a donation from Mr. Seymour Schulich.

The Dean of Applied and Professional Studies welcomed all new faculty and thanked the student leaders for a successful FROSH and the faculty and staff of his faculty for contributing to its growth.

The Dean of Arts and Science (interim) welcomed all seven new faculty members. She also congratulated Drs. Steve Muhlberger and Nathan Kozuskanich on their new books. Four members of the department of Math and Computer Science recently travelled to Japan to participate in a conference on topology and geometry.

The Dean of Education (interim) welcomed her new faculty and indicated that the faculty is busy preparing for the two-year consecutive education program.

Senator Fitzsimmons, NUSU President announced a very successful FROSH with a Shinerama goal of more than \$13,500 reached. The NUSU President indicated that club days have ended and the new student handbooks are back to much fanfare. Elections for student senators under the new governance model are commencing. Information on the student union is available at nusu.com.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

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M. DeGagné (Chair)

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C. Jenkins (Senate Secretary)