

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

September 12, 2014

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

M. DeGagné (Chair), H. d'Entremont, N. Black, C. Richardson, A. Robinson,
M. Tuncali, R. Vanderlee

A. Armenakyan, J. Barker, M. Litalien, K. McCullough

A. Ackerman, S. Arnocky, N. Colborne, J. Dech, R. Gendron, N. Kozuskanich,
G. McCann, F. Noël, P. Nosko, M. Owens, G. Phillips, S. Renshaw, M. Saari,
S. Srigley, T. Vassilev, H. Zhu

L. Ashworth, B. Bruner, S. Elliott-Johns, R. Graham, T. Horton, D. Jarvis, C. Ricci,
J. Scott, T. Sibbald, A. Steele

R. Vernescu (Bracebridge)

C. Hachkowski

S. Feretycki

Y. Benoit, I. Hall

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

D. Borman, R. Breton, D. Walters

M-A Parr

A. Grierson (Brantford)

C. Murton-Stoehr, L. Rossi

J. Zimbalatti

The minutes of the Senate meeting of May 30, 2014 were adopted.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

MOTION 1: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by R. Gendron that Senate approve the deletion of CHFS4506 Honours Research Thesis and the addition of CHFS4505 Honours Research Thesis, to the CHFS curriculum.
CARRIED

QUESTION PERIOD

The first question was regarding the number of “interim” academic administrative positions. The Provost and Vice President Academic and Research (PVPAR) acknowledged the large number of “interim” positions but indicated that both decanal positions will be posted this fall followed by the respective Associate Deans’ positions.

A concern was raised that the Graduate Studies Council is currently without a Chair since the departure of Senator Tuncali. Specifically, the question was under what authority the Council will be meeting. Senator Colborne from the Bylaws and Elections Subcommittee indicated that a number of committees and councils are in flux at the moment because of the elimination of that position and the position of the Director for the Centre of Flexible Teaching and Learning as well as the addition of the Associate Vice President Academic~~e~~. This particular issue was discussed in depth at Bylaw's recent meeting. A report will be forthcoming for the October Senate meeting.

The purpose of the Planning and Prioritization Process (PPP) was raised. Since the Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA) has already been signed, it appears that much of this information already exists. The PVPAR noted that the PPP does not substitute for the Senate Bylaws or the Collective Agreement. The PPP is another mechanism from which to gather more qualitative information. Some tough decisions must be made in the next couple of years, and the PVPAR suggested the findings of the PPP will add additional information to the mix.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

Senate Executive Committee

September 2, 2014 Report

MOTION 2: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by T. Vassilev that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated September 2, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

September 4, 2014 Report

MOTION 3: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by G. Phillips that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated September 4, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 4: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by G. Phillips that the Senate Regulations and Policies, September 2014 be adopted as outlined in the attached Table of Contents. (the full document is available on the Senate website)
CARRIED

MOTION 5: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by Y. Benoit that Senate move into an in-camera session.
CARRIED

MOTION 6: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by M. Owens that Senate move out of the in-camera session.
CARRIED

Undergraduate Studies Committee

MOTION 7: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by H. d'Entremont that the Report of the Undergraduate Committee dated June 24, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION 8: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by K. McCullough that for the purposes of publishing the University's Academic calendar, that Senate approve that the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC) will not accept program changes for the current academic year after the last scheduled USC meeting in December. Any submissions to USC after that meeting date will not take effect until the following Academic Year.
CARRIED

AMENDMENT of BY-LAWSNon-substantive changes to the Senate Bylaws

- All references in the Senate Bylaws to Vice-President Academic and Research be deleted and replaced with Provost and Vice-President Academic and Research.

ELECTIONS

- Elect one Senator at-large to serve on the Planning and Priorities Committee
P. Nosko - ACCLAIMED
- Elect one SSHRC eligible faculty member to serve on the Research Council for a 2-year term ending June 30, 2016
R. Gendron - ACCLAIMED
- Elect one NSERC eligible faculty member to serve on the Research Council for a 2-year term ending June 30, 2016
L. Hoehn - ACCLAIMED
- Elect one faculty member at-large to serve on the Research Council for a 2-year term ending June 30, 2016.
A. Armenakyan - ACCLAIMED

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIESCouncil of Ontario Universities (Academic Colleague)

Senator McCann commented on the retreat held August 27 with Academic Colleagues. She noted that since the provincial government has received a clear majority, we will be facing austerity measures for the next few years. Other items that will be discussed in the future are satellite campuses, intellectual property and freedom of academic speech.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President welcomed all senators to a new academic year. He announced the resumption of the search for a Chancellor. A search consultant has been engaged to help seek out prospects.

New Student Orientation was another successful imitative held in early July. Approximately 316 students registered for their courses. The President noted that some of the feedback he received was the pleasure that new students and their parents felt when they could talk directly with faculty members.

The President indicated he has met with the new student recruitment team on a number of occasions. Unlike the past, these people are being employed all year round.

Senators were reminded that this is the inaugural year for the Women’s and Men’s basketball teams. The President added that the addition of the many OUA sports teams has resulted in the recruitment of 200 new students, many of them from out of province.

The President’s final comment was in regards to the upcoming visit by the Countess Wessex. The Countess will be travelling to Big Trout Lake First Nation (Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug) with a group of women leaders who will be exposed to remote communities. She will return to North Bay on Friday, September 19 and talk about Aboriginal Education at an afternoon event at the Surtees gymnasium.

The Provost Vice President Academic and Research was pleased to report that Nipissing has now been declared a CIHR eligible institution. He acknowledged the efforts by Senator Tuncali to bring this about. Senator d’Entremont indicated that the budget process is beginning early this year.

The SMA agreements from all post-secondary institutions have now been posted to the government website. The PVPAR noted that it is still not clear what its status is. He was able to confirm that as a result of this process, the grad allocations have changed with Masters being decreased and doctoral positions being increased.

The Dean of Applied and Professional Studies expressed appreciation to the faculty and staff who have assisted with the expansion of its programs. He also welcomed all new faculty.

The Dean of the Schulich School of Education thanked current faculty for helping facilitate a solid start to the new academic year. She reminded senators that this is the final year of the one-year consecutive Bachelor of Education program. Next year will be the first year of the two-year consecutive program.

The student union president was pleased to report that orientation week went well. He noted that elections for student senator positions is taking place shortly and a full roster of students senator will be known by the end of the month. A rezoning application for the new student centre building is underway and the design process is being reviewed. Senator Benoit reported he is hoping to see day service at the Wall begin in early October. The menu is currently under development.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

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M. DeGagné (Chair)

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C. Jenkins (Senate Secretary)