

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

December 2, 2015

4:00 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

H. d'Entremont (Vice-Chair), C. Richardson, M. Tuncali, R. Vanderlee,
J. Graham, N. Black

A. Armenakyan, G. Brown, M. Litalien, K. McCullough, R. Vernescu

S. Arnocky, D. Borman, A. Burk, D. Campbell, N. Colborne, A. Erfani, R.
Gendron, A. Karassev, N. Kozuskanich, F. Noël, P. Nosko, M. Owens, T.
Parkes, G. Phillips
S. Renshaw, M. Saari, S. Srigley, D. Walters

M. Bruner, K. Clausen, S. Elliott-Johns, L. Frost, B. Hatt, D. Hay, T. Horton, D.
Jarvis, J. McIntosh, T. Sibbald

C. Cho, T. Waldock

O. Pokorny, L. Rossi

S. Feretycki

J. Andrews, M. Byblow, A. Deugo, I. Hall, S. Lamorea, K. Sawyer

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

M. DeGagné (Chair), S. Rich

A. Ackerman

G. Rickwood

C. Hachkowski

1. The Speaker welcomed all of the students to the meeting. The Speaker advised that we will be following a different agenda than the agenda used at our regularly scheduled Senate meetings, and the only issues that will be discussed will be the issues on the agenda. Quorum was confirmed.
2. Policies and Regulations affecting the class schedule were discussed. Jamie Graham advised that there are some restrictions regarding placements and labs that must be kept in mind. Ian Hall presented the NUSU proposal and Amanda Burke presented the faculty's proposal.

The following motions were presented and discussed by the faculty, administration and NUSU:

* All recommendations should be applied as broadly as possible, but recognize that any given solution may not work for all areas/disciplines, exceptions may be necessary.

MOTION 1: Moved by B. Hatt, seconded by A. Armenakyan that Senate recommend to the Registrar that the Fall 2015 term be compressed into 11 weeks. Where ever reasonable and possible, face-

to-face classes will be completed by December 18th. In accordance with the principles of academic freedom, each individual faculty member will have the right and flexibility to determine, in democratic consultation with students, how remaining course content will be delivered to ensure that the learning outcomes for each course have been met in the compressed time frame.

CARRIED

MOTION 2: Moved by B. Hatt, seconded by A. Armenakyan that Senate recommend to the Registrar that in recognition of the need for flexibility, there will be a transitional week for Fall or Fall/Winter courses that will run January 11 to January 15, 2016 with the exception of the following: 5th year Concurrent Education classes, the Collaborative BScN, the on-line RPN-BScN blended learning program and the Brantford Concurrent Education program. For classes that cannot be completed on December 18, 2015, the transitional week will enable faculty to hold classes and/or administer tests to ensure the completion of their course. The transitional week will follow the regular Monday to Friday Fall term schedule for class times and locations. As such, January 15, 2016 will be the last day of the Fall term

CARRIED

MOTION 3: Moved by R. Gendron, seconded by D. Campbell that the Fall 2015 Exam Period be eliminated for those classes that were suspended during the labour action.

CARRIED

MOTION 4: Moved by P. Nosko, seconded by B. Hatt that the following Academic Regulation on Final Examinations be waived for the Fall 2015 term: No test with a value exceeding 10% of the final grade may be given during the last week of classes in a session.
Amendment proposed to change the word “waived” to “modified” and to raise the “10% to 25%”.
Proposed by F. Noel, seconded by I. Hall
Amendment was DEFEATED.

A vote was then called on the original motion.
CARRIED

MOTION 5: Moved by A. Burk, seconded by D. Borman that the following Academic Regulation on Submission of Marks be extended to February 1, 2016 for the submission of Fall 2015 and that the following Academic Regulation be waived for Fall 2015:
For each course, faculty will enter their final grades into the Student Information System (SIS) within seven (7) days of the date a final exam was written for an on-campus course, and within fourteen (14) days of the date the final exam was written for alternative delivery courses. For courses where no final exam was scheduled, final grades must be submitted within seven (7) days of the last day of classes in the term. (Determination of Final Grades (h)).

THIS MOTION WAS WITHDRAWN.

MOTION 6: Moved by T. Parks, seconded by A. Armenakyan that the Registrar permits students to register and begin attending courses with Fall 2015 pre-requisites in Winter 2016 classes, prior to the submission of marks with the understanding that continuance in Winter courses is contingent on successful completion pre-requisite courses.
R. Vanderlee abstained
CARRIED

MOTION 7: Moved by R. Gendron, seconded by B. Hatt that Senate recommend to the Registrar that the Winter 2016 term begin on January 18th, 2016, and that it will be a 12 week term ending on

April 19, 2016. (Make-up classes for Easter Monday will be held April 18 and make-up classes for Good Friday will be held April 19).

CARRIED

MOTION 8: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by H. d'Entremont that notwithstanding Motion 7, and previous motions, that Senate recommend to the Registrar that for the following programs, the Winter 2016 term begin on January 11, 2016: Scholar Practitioner program; BComm College Partnership program; the RPN-BScN on-line blended learning program.

CARRIED

MOTION 9: Moved by A. Burk, seconded by B. Hatt that the Winter 2016 term will have a compressed exam schedule that will begin after April 19, 2016 and run until April 30, 2016. Faculty are encouraged to consider alternatives to a final exam wherever possible to alleviate student stress and to ease scheduling during a compressed exam schedule. That Senate also considers waiving Section II.e. of the existing Senate approved exam policy for the April 2016 exam period, which states: e) No student shall be required to write a final exam in the last period of one day and in the first period of the next day.

Students whose exam schedule is in contravention of Section II.e. will be able to apply for relief through the deferred exam process.

CARRIED

WITHDRAWN MOTION 10: Moved by D. Campbell, seconded by T. Horton that Senate recommend to the Registrar that Reading Week will be held February 15 – 19, 2016 and there will be no Saturday classes in the Winter 2016 term.

CARRIED

MOTION 11: Moved by I. Hall, seconded by H. d'Entremont that Senate urges the Research Ethics Board to endeavor to respond to all students with outstanding applications to the Research Ethics Board that were submitted prior to November 2015 with responses to those students being delivered no later than December 18, 2015.

CARRIED

MOTION 12: Moved by A. Burke, seconded by B. Hatt that if changes are made to a Fall or Fall/Winter 2015 syllabus and in particular to a course evaluation that it will be done in consultation with students in the class and that once agreed the revised course outline will be sent to the appropriate Dean.

CARRIED

MOTION 13: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by I. Hall that Senate approve a motion to implement a policy for assessed grades in the circumstances noted below:

Assessed Grades:

Where a Dean confirms that students will be unable to complete their courses and receive their final grades consistent with the original Fall/Winter 2015-2016 sessional dates, and have documented circumstances, they will be eligible to receive an assessed grade based on work completed provided that the work comprises at least 50 % of the course grade in the original syllabus. Examples of pressing needs include students applying or eligible to graduate in December 2015 with compelling personal circumstances such as: visa expirations; international or exchange students with non-refundable travel arrangements; commitments to study or conduct research elsewhere; firm employment dates; deadlines for graduate and/or professional schools.

CARRIED

Questions from the Floor:

Senator Horton asked whether faculty could get clean copies of the motions as soon as possible in order to advise students. The Provost advised that it would be better to wait until Friday when the Registrar could provide all of the essential information regarding revisions. Senator Horton impressed upon everyone the urgency of getting the information out to students as soon as possible.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ian Hall announced he was resigning as President of NUSU effective immediately as he had taken up a paid employment job offer.

ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting of Senate was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

.....
H. d'Entremont (Vice-Chair)

.....
S. Landriault (Senate Recording Secretary)