

Nipissing University

DRAFT - Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting

January 15, 2016

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

A. Armenakyan, K. McCullough, R. Vernescu

A. Ackerman, S. Arnocky, D. Borman, A. Burke, N. Colborne, A. Erfani, N. Kozuskanich, P. Nosko, M. Owens, T. Parkes, G. Phillips, S. Renshaw, M. Saari, S. Srigley, D. Walters

M. Bruner, K. Clausen, L. Frost, B. Hatt, D. Hay, T. Horton, D. Jarvis, J. McIntosh, G. Rickwood

C. Cho, T. Waldock

O. Pokorny, L. Rossi

C. Hachkowski

M. Berube

S. Feretycki

J. Andrews, M. Byblow, S. Lamorea

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

J. Graham

G. Brown

D. Campbell, R. Gendron, A. Karassev, F. Noël

T. Sibbald

G. Jodouin

A. Deugo, K. Sawyer

The minutes of the Senate meeting of December 11, 2015 were adopted with amendments.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A request was made to correct the December 11, 2015 Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting. K. Clausen not D. Jarvis as indicated, moved Motion 2 on Page 2. The Minutes will be revised to reflect this correction.

Senator Vernescu advised that although reference was made in the December 11, 2015 Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting regarding the request for administration and the Board to provide formative and summative evaluations of the status of the Muskoka Campus going back 5-10 years, the request was actually a Motion. There were no objections from Senators to add the following Motion to the revised Minutes:

MOTION: 1 Moved by R. Vernescu, seconded by S. Renshaw that the Nipissing University administration and Board of Governors provide to Senate any/all formative and summative evaluations that have been completed in the past 5-10 years and used in the decision to close the Muskoka Campus.
CARRIED

In response to an inquiry deferred from the December 11, 2015 Senate meeting, the Provost advised that the average for legal fees (including industrial relations) over the past four years, excluding this year, has been approximately \$240K per year. This year we are at \$243K so far, with an expectation that we will not be incurring significant additional expenses for the rest of the fiscal year. However, this will not be known definitively until the end of the fiscal year. These expenditures are incurred for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to land purchases; contract negotiations for the hiring of senior administrators; vetting contract language for institutional contracts with third parties; responding to lawsuits; providing advice to the Board related to the Act and By-Laws; union grievances, and negotiation of Collective Agreements.

In response to questions from the last Senate meeting with respect to a request that the outgoing Dr. Elizabeth Thorn Chair in Literacy and Language Arts give a report on the activities during her occupancy, the Provost advised that no report had been submitted and the Associate Vice-President Academic & Dr. Elizabeth Thorn Chair is no longer employed by the University. The Provost also gave an update regarding the endowment principal. The original gift was approximately \$1M. The market value in April 2015 was \$1.8 M. There were no specific requirements from the donor other than that the monies support the Chair. We will be naming someone else to replace the Chair. It is not a legal problem to have the position vacant. Programs such as NU Reads, and the Literacy Day Camps are also funded by the endowment. Scholarship funds and the Elizabeth Thorn Centre are separate donations that preceded the Chair endowment.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

GRADUATE STUDIES COUNCIL

MOTION 2: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by M. Saari that the report of the Graduate Studies Council dated October 26, 2015 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 3: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by D. Hay that Senate approve the MSc Kinesiology courses as outlined in the attached document.
CARRIED

RESEARCH COUNCIL

MOTION 4: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by M. Owens that Senate approve the Research Council report dated October 30, 2015.
CARRIED

MOTION 5: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by D. Hay that Senate approve the creation of the Integrative Watershed Research Centre (WRC), as attached.
CARRIED

PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

MOTION 6: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by D. Walters that the Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated October 16, 2015, be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 7: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate grant approval of the Stage 1: Program Proposal for a Bachelor of Arts, Child and Family Studies program proposal, as attached.
CARRIED

AMENDMENT of BY-LAWS

MOTION 8: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by M. Tuncali that Article 9.5.2 of the Senate Bylaws be amended as outlined below:

- **Notice of Motion Regarding Dissolution of Article 9.5.2 (Technology and Infrastructure Subcommittee) and the Creation of Article 9.6 (Technology and Infrastructure Committee)**

The By-laws and Elections Subcommittee passed a motion to dissolve the Technology and Infrastructure Subcommittee and create it as a full Senate Committee. The terms of reference will remain the same. The new committee will incorporate the changes, if passed, to include the revisions to “members elected by faculty council.”

Current article reads:

9.5.2.1 Technology & Infrastructure Subcommittee (T&I)

- (a) Ex Officio Members:
 - (i) the Executive Director, Library Services, or designate; and
 - (ii) the Vice-President, Administration (non-voting).
- (b) Members Elected by Faculty Council:
 - (i) one (1) faculty Senator or non-Senator from each Faculty, one of whom shall be elected by the Committee to serve as Chair, and one of whom shall be elected by the Committee to serve as Vice-Chair;
 - (ii) one (1) faculty Senator who is a full-time lab, seminar or service course instructor; and
 - (iii) two (2) student representatives from any Faculty.
- (c) Terms of Reference:
 - (i) to engage in on-going review, needs assessment and policy development in all matters related to academic technology and infrastructure (where infrastructure includes both academic physical resources and human resources in academic support areas), and to make recommendations to the Teaching & Learning Committee as necessary and appropriate, for conveyance to Senate;
 - (ii) to provide advice and priority-setting assistance to the VPFA regarding:
 - 1) support for teaching, learning and scholarly research through the application of computing, information and multi-media technologies;
 - 2) the need for, and design of, new or renovated teaching, learning and research space;

- 3) staffing needs in academic support areas such as technology services, research assistance, lab supervision and secretarial or clerical support; and
- 4) the allocation of the annual budgets in technology and academic infrastructure areas;
- (iii) to invite and assess applications for the annual Information Technology in Teaching and Learning Fund, and make recommendations to the PVPAR on the awarding of these funds;
- (iv) when other supplementary funds become available for the acquisition of additional technology resources, to oversee the process whereby these funds are announced and awarded on a competition basis; and
- (v) to deal with such other matters as may be assigned from time to time by the Teaching & Learning Committee or by Senate.

Revised article reads:

9.6 Technology & Infrastructure Committee (T&I)

- (a) Ex Officio Members:
 - (i) the Executive Director, Library Services, or designate; and
 - (ii) the Vice-President, Administration (non-voting).
- (b) Members Elected by Faculty Council:
 - (i) one (1) faculty Senator or non-Senator from each Faculty, one of whom shall be elected by the Committee to serve as Chair, and one of whom shall be elected by the Committee to serve as Vice-Chair;
 - (ii) one (1) faculty Senator who is a full-time lab, seminar or service course instructor; and
 - (iii) two (2) student representatives from any Faculty.
- (c) Terms of Reference:
 - (i) to engage in on-going review, needs assessment and policy development in all matters related to academic technology and infrastructure (where infrastructure includes both academic physical resources and human resources in academic support areas), and to make recommendations to the Teaching & Learning Committee as necessary and appropriate, for conveyance to Senate;
 - (ii) to provide advice and priority-setting assistance to the VPFA regarding:
 - 1) support for teaching, learning and scholarly research through the application of computing, information and multi-media technologies;
 - 2) the need for, and design of, new or renovated teaching, learning and research space;
 - 3) staffing needs in academic support areas such as technology services, research assistance, lab supervision and secretarial or clerical support; and
 - 4) the allocation of the annual budgets in technology and academic infrastructure areas;
 - (iii) to invite and assess applications for the annual Information Technology in Teaching and Learning Fund, and make recommendations to the PVPAR on the awarding of these funds;
 - (iv) when other supplementary funds become available for the acquisition of additional technology resources, to oversee the process whereby these funds are announced and awarded on a competition basis; and
 - (v) to deal with such other matters as may be assigned from time to time by the Teaching & Learning Committee or by Senate.

CARRIED

1 OBJECTION

ELECTIONS

- Elect two faculty Senators to serve on the Pension and Benefits Advisory Committee for a two year term commencing July 1, 2015.

The Provost advised that a change to the committee's terms of reference may be required. Committee members do not have to be Senators. NUFA will look for two more members.

- Elect one Senator from outside the discipline, possibly outside the Faculty of Arts and Science, to serve on the Search Committee for a tenure-track position in Native Studies.

The Dean of Arts & Science advised that this election was initially left off the October Senate agenda and that it is a formality. An election is not required. The position has been advertised and applications have been received. As well, the CA has now changed. The Provost advised that this is an on-going committee and process. The Speaker suggested that the CA which was in place at the time be followed.

MOTION 9: Moved by M. Saari, seconded by B. Hatt that Senate accept the current Search Committee for the tenure-track position in Native Studies.

CARRIED

- Elect two Senators to serve on the Chancellor's Selection Committee.

Senator Hatt advised that he had been a member of the Chancellor's Selection Committee prior to going on sabbatical and requested confirmation that he was still a member of the Selection Committee. The President confirmed that Senator Hatt was still a member. The process has been on-going and has been brought forward to Senate three times. The position of Chancellor has been vacant for 18 months.

MOTION 10: Moved by A. Burke, seconded by S. Srigley that Senate delay the election of two Senators to serve on the Chancellor's Selection Committee.

MOTION 11: Moved by A. Burke, seconded by S. Srigley that Senate withdraw the motion to delay the election of two Senators to serve on the Chancellor's Selection Committee.

ACCLAIMED - Dean Hay

ACCLAIMED - Susan Srigley

- Elect two faculty to serve on the Special Governance Commission.

ELECTED - Kurt Clausen

ELECTED - David Tabachnick

QUESTION PERIOD

In light of the exclusion of faculty members on the Board of Governors in meetings during the recent labour disruption, a request was made to table the following motion at the next Board of Governor meeting via a motion from Senate.

MOTION 12: Moved by G. Phillips, seconded by S. Srigley that Senate recommend that the Board of Governors resolve to include all Board Members, regardless of any anticipated conflict of interest or perception of bias, on every Board of Governors' communication, especially including the announcement of meetings (electronic or face-to-face), the circulation of agendas and the circulation of minutes.

RATIONALE: it was argued that though this understanding and obligation is clear from the Nipissing University Act and from best practice in transparent decision-making in the governance of public institutions, the Board has evidently failed to follow its own rules in this regard. Senate would like to see the Board's commitment to this rule affirmed in a public way through the tabling and hopefully passing of this motion.

The Provost advised that from a procedural point of view, substantive motions should not be passed in Question Period. The Speaker responded that a long precedent has been set that motions have been allowed in Question Period. Unless there is a vote to not allow, then the process of passing motions in Question Period will be continued.

Senator Phillips advised that the motion was not a substantive motion, but was more of a symbolic affirmation, and was within Senate's purview. The President responded that the issue of exclusion of duly appointed members to the Board emerged from a misunderstanding of what constitutes a conflict of interest. Faculty members that sit on the Board should have declared a conflict and when they did not, it forced the Board's hand.

Senator Saari advised that it is difficult to declare a conflict when you are not invited to attend a meeting. The President responded that a forum does not have to be convened to declare a conflict.

Senator Renshaw advised that currently there is nothing in the Board's policy as to who will and won't be notified to attend meetings.

CARRIED
3 OBJECTIONS

A question was asked if and when Town Hall meetings would be held to discuss the Price Waterhouse report. The President advised that meetings will be held and faculty will be advised of the date and time.

In follow up to the last meeting a Senator advised that specific questions were asked regarding the cost of outside legal counsel fees during the negotiations. The Provost advised that this information will not be divulged and that it was not appropriate for Senate to ask for this information. The range for the year has been given. As to the role of Chief Negotiator, there is not a set procedure as it varies from each institution.

A discussion was held regarding Senate procedures. Questions should be directed to the Speaker, not other Senators. As well, if motions could be forwarded in advance to the Senate Secretary to be included in the Senate agenda, the process would be more transparent and allow Senators to become familiar with issues and topics before they are on the floor.

Concerns regarding the sustainability of the BScN program and the upcoming accreditation. The Provost advised that planning is ongoing and these concerns will be taken into consideration moving forward.

Further questions were raised regarding the Elizabeth Thorn Endowed Chair. A motion was passed requesting a report and none was given. The Provost advised that the proper place for a request for a report would be from the Schulich School of Education. He advised that it is not Senate's jurisdiction to choose a Chair. The normal process would be to strike a committee to decide on the parameters and advertise for the position.

In follow up to a discussion regarding the issue of suspension of admissions to programs from the last Senate meeting, the Motion that PPC address this issue was discussed. The Provost advised that PPC has not met since the last Senate meeting and that this item will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

MOTION 13: Moved by S. Renshaw, seconded by D. Walters that Senate affirm that suspension of admission to a program is the equivalent of closing a program and all such future decisions should be approved by Senate.

CARRIED

1 OBJECTION

MOTION 14 : Moved by D. Walters, seconded by L. Frost that Senate rescind Stage 1 approval of the Data Management program as the program does not meet the definition of a new program.

DEFEATED

In response to a request to provide formative and summative evaluations of the status of the Muskoka Campus going back 5-10 years, the Provost advised that 18 documents had been sent to Senators that morning by e-mail. A Senator advised that a comprehensive undertaking or summative evaluation had still not been provided showing the information that the Board and the administration took into consideration when making the decision to close the Campus. The Provost advised that the information that was sent out was the information provided to the Board. Comprehensive reports were included showing that programs such as Social Work and Nursing had been attempted to be developed. The decision that the Board and Administration made was made on financial grounds.

The President advised that it cannot be argued by anyone that the Muskoka Campus wasn't given the opportunity to succeed. In terms of the decision to close the Campus, the discussions had been ongoing for some time. He advised that the same questions were answered at the last Senate meeting. Adequate information was presented to the Board and a decision was made. The current Senate meeting must proceed in order to cover the business of the University.

Senator Berube advised that she has been a Board member for four years and the Muskoka Campus has been an ongoing discussion at the Board. The decision to close the Campus was not based on one meeting. The financial situation was taken into consideration.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION 15: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by K. McCullough that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated January 7, 2016 be received.

CARRIED

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

- **October 21, 2015 Report**

MOTION 16: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by T. Parkes that the report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated October 21, 2015 be received.
CARRIED

Schulich School of Education

MOTION 17: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by J. McIntosh that Senate approve MOTIONS 18-22 as outlined in the Undergraduate Studies Report:

MOTION 18: That Senate approve the deletion of the PHED 2306 Research Methods and Statistics course and its resultant removal from the Bachelor of Physical and Health Education program requirements.

MOTION 19: That Senate approve the addition of PHED 2406 Research Methods in Physical Activity.

MOTION 20: That Senate approve the addition of PHED 2406 Research Methods in Physical Activity as a program requirement.

MOTION 21: That Senate approve the addition of PHED 3306 Statistics in Physical Activity.

MOTION 22: That Senate approve the addition of PHED 3306 Statistics in Physical Activity as a program requirement.
CARRIED

POLICIES & GUIDELINES

Non-Substantive Changes:

That the language in the Exam Policy sections concerning General Principles and Scheduling of Final Examinations be modified to provide clarity, as indicated in the supporting documentation.

MOTION 23: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by M. Owens that Senate approve the modification of the Aboriginal Advantage Program admission requirements policy.
CARRIED

MOTION 24: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by M. Owens that Senate adopt:
- Ancillary Fees: Guidelines pertaining to learning resources and fieldtrips
- Guidelines for Instructors on textbooks, clickers, field trips and the use of online resources

TABLED - A request was made for further discussion and that this Motion be included in the next Senate agenda.

CARRIED

- **December 3, 2015 Report**

MOTION 25: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by M. Saari that Senate receive the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, dated December 3, 2015.
CARRIED

Faculty of Arts and Science

Computer Science and Mathematics

Non-Substantive:

The course description be changed for PHYS 2007 as follows:

Students study concepts and physical laws in geometric optics, physical optics, and interaction of light with matter, and provides an introduction to topics in modern physics including the theory of special relativity, fundamentals of quantum physics, atomic physics and nuclear physics.

MOTION 26: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by H. d'Entremont that Senate withdraw the Motion to change the course number of the course PHYS 4006 Computational Physics back to PHYS 3007.
CARRIED

Schulich School of Education

Physical Education

Non-Substantive:

The course title for PHED 4227 be changed from "Nutrition" to "Nutrition and Physical Activity".

MOTION 27: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by L. Frost that Senate approve that PHED 4227 – Nutrition and Physical Activity no longer be cross coded with BIOL 4227 – Nutrition.
CARRIED

Admission Policies

Concurrent Grade 12 Applicants

MOTION 28: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate approve the Concurrent Grade 12 admission policy.
CARRIED

Admission to a Degree Program from the Aboriginal Advantage Program

MOTION 29: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate approve the Admission to a Degree Program from the Aboriginal Advantage Program admission requirements policy.
CARRIED

Other

MOTION 30: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate grant a one-time extension for curriculum submissions for inclusion in the 2016/17 Academic Calendar, due to current circumstances. Submissions must be approved by the February 12th Senate Meeting.
CARRIED

PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

Motion 31: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by K. McCullough that Senate receive the Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated December 11, 2015.
CARRIED

Motion 32: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by S. Renshaw that Senate grant approval of the Stage 1: Joint Degree/Diploma Bachelor of Arts in Social Welfare and Social Development (SWLF) Nipissing University and Canadore College.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Elect one Senator as Deputy Speaker

ACCLAIMED – Sal Renshaw

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Provost was pleased to announce that Dr. Steve Arnocky, Dr. Logan Hoehn and Dr. Michelann Parr were the recipients of 2015 Research Achievement Awards. He also advised on the quota on interns funded by the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation. A call for proposals will be going out in the near future.

Senator Andrews welcomed everyone back from holidays and advised that the NUSU Executive was excited to see the start of the second semester. He was pleased to announce that the Student Centre building project has been re-ignited. There are some great campaigns coming out and there will be multiple events held at the Wall.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

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M. DeGagné (Chair)

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