

Nipissing University  
Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting  
December 14, 2018  
2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

M. DeGagné (Chair), A. Vainio-Mattila, J. Nadeau, C. Richardson, D. Iafrate, N. Black, A. Weeks  
L. Chen, D. Lafrance Horning, M. Litalien, L. Manankil-Rankin, K. McCullough, P. Millar, M. Sullivan  
A. Burk, N. Colborne, S. Connor, E. Dokis, R. Gendron, B. Kelly, L. Kruk, E. Mattson, G. McCann, K. Srigley, D. Tabachnick, H. Teixeira, H. Zhu  
J. Allison, C. Hachkowski, B. Hatt, D. Hay, T. Horton, D. Jarvis, C. Peltier, G. Raymer, C. Ricci, A. Schinkel-Ivy, G. Sharpe  
D. Goulard, H. Mackie

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

C. Sutton, J. McAuliffe, P. Radia  
P. Ravi  
A. Hatef, S. Renshaw, S. Srigley, T. Vassilev  
O. Pokorny  
L. Lambert  
T. Curry, B. Ray  
J. Nighbor  
A. Wood, X. Winter, N. MacKenzie, K. Kearney

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF THE SENATE MEETING OF: December 14, 2018

MOTION 1: Moved by A. Burk, seconded by G. McCann that the agenda of the Senate meeting of December 14, 2018 be approved with the revision of MOTION 1 & 2 under Reports from other Bodies moving from (6) Council of Ontario Universities (Academic Colleague) to (7) Joint Board/Senate Committee on Governance.  
CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SENATE MEETING OF: November 9, 2018

MOTION 2: Moved by N. Colborne, seconded by M. Litalien that the minutes of the Senate meeting of November 9, 2018 be adopted.  
CARRIED

## REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

The President provided updates on recently attended events including the Board of Governors Retreat where the Strategic Plan and discussion of an outdoor classroom took place. The All Canadian Breakfast to acknowledge our student athletes who are also high achievers took place and was well attended. The President also wished to acknowledge and congratulate the volunteers (students, faculty and staff) from our Student Caller Campaign who have placed hundreds of calls per night and have already raised over \$10,000 from our generous alumni. The great success of our Economic Impact Study making the connection between NU and the community was recently announced in partnership with NUSU and some of our strategic partners at City Hall. The study took six months to complete with KPMG and recognizes \$130 million of economic activity that the University generates, as well as the \$70 million NU budget that is spent in the community. The Study is available at: [www.nipissingu.ca/economicimpact](http://www.nipissingu.ca/economicimpact)

The Provost provided an update from the recently attended Alliance of Canadian Comprehensive Research Universities (ACCRU) meeting. ACCRU brings together small and medium sized universities from across Canada and it strives to be the voice to discuss the challenges and issues that small universities face. A presentation from the Royal Society of Canada was made and a website that promotes the work of new faculty members was recently launched. Please contact the Provost if you wish to engage in or require further information. The Provost advised of a recent announcement regarding emerging scholars in international, high risk and, collaborative research which includes support for experiential and interdisciplinary learning. The Research Office will put forth further information. She also informed that the search is on for a made in Canada solution to aid the promotion of women in sciences, and that future articulation of equity inclusion of faculty and student research will be required for Tri-Council funding. The Provost advised that the IQAP protocol was submitted to Quality Council and that we anticipate a response in the New Year. The Provost was pleased to report and offer congratulations to the following recipients of the 2019-20 Research Achievement Awards: Dr. Barbi Law, Dr. Dennis Geden, Dr. John Allison and Dr. Ping Zou.

Dr. Gillian McCann, Council of Ontario Universities, Academic Colleague, provided the attached report.

### Joint Board/Senate Committee on Governance

MOTION 3: Moved by D. Tabachnick, seconded by G. McCann that Senate endorse the Free Speech Policy as drafted and recommended by the Joint Committee of the Board and Senate on Governance dated December 3, 2018.

CARRIED

ABSTENTIONS - 2

MOTION 4: Moved by D. Tabachnick, seconded by R. Gendron that Senate adopt the Statement on the Importance of Collegial Governance at Nipissing University dated December 3, 2018.

CARRIED

The NUSU VP Governance and Legal Affairs provided an update communicating of a change in regard to Executive elections that were voted on and approved at the October 30, 2018 Annual General Meeting to have Executive positions go from 5 to 4 positions. The positions were consolidated to become the following: President; Vice-President, Finance and Administration; Vice-President, Advocacy and Awareness; and, Vice-President, Student Life. Executive elections will be taking place in January. Appreciation was expressed for support of the Movember Campaign, support of students during exams, Dr. Mark Bruner and Student Development Services for their continued support and acceptance of donations of food for the Student Food Bank and Cheryl Sutton and the administration team for assistance with the new Student Centre. Congratulations as well to Dr. Denyse Lafrance Horning and the Sport Marketing class for raising \$8,264 to support mental health in our community.

The Indigenization Steering Committee met on November 30, 2018 and although quorum was not met, the pros and cons of the proposed structure for work of the Committee going forward was discussed and some excellent ideas were brought forth for incorporation into an Indigenization Strategy. The Committee will meet again in January and continue their work. Any questions or concerns may be addressed to the Chair, Dr. Cindy Peltier.

### QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a question regarding the role of Senate in the upcoming search for the new Dean of Teaching position and the new academic hiring policy passed by the Board of Governors, the Provost advised that the same structure would be followed for both positions. The search committee for the Dean of Teaching will include four faculty members, one from each faculty, and one faculty member from the recent teaching award winners or teaching chairs. The policy makes no reference to members being elected by Senate. The Dean of Teaching election is of interest to all of the university.

Ongoing concerns were expressed for the need of a functioning website for the recruitment of students as well as the ability to use Google searches on the NU website. The President advised that patches and changes were made to provide information to students, but there are still some elements that need to be fixed. Please forward your concerns on to Kelly Brown, Manager of Marketing and External Relations. A comment was noted that the new staff directory was found to be very intuitive.

### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND FACULTY OR UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

#### SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION 5: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by N. Colborne that Senate receive the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated December 6, 2018.  
CARRIED

#### ACADEMIC QUALITY ASSURANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

MOTION 6: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. Srigley that the Report of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee dated November 23, 2018, be received.  
CARRIED

#### UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

MOTION 7: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by N. Colborne that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, dated October 30, 2018 be received.  
CARRIED

### **FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE**

#### Aboriginal Advantage Program

MOTION 8: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Goulard that Senate approve that the name of the Aboriginal Advantage Program to be changed to Indigenous Foundations Program.  
CARRIED

**History**

MOTION 9: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Goulard that Senate approve Motions 10, 11 & 13 as outlined as an omnibus motion.  
CARRIED

MOTION 10: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve the creation of HIST 2206 W-A-R (Whiskey Alpha Romeo): An Introduction to War in the Modern Age as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 11: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve the creation of HIST 3007 History Travel Course as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 12: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. Srigley that Senate approve the creation of HIST 3565 Justice or Vengeance? Mass atrocity, war crimes, and perpetrator trials in historical perspective as outlined in the attached template.  
CARRIED

A question was raised whether this course would remain a 6-credit course. It was advised that the course would remain a 6-credit course as it consists of 36 contact hours and 36 experiential learning hours, which balances out the hours.

MOTION 13: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve the creation of HIST 3806 Experiential Learning Course as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 14: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by G. McCann that Senate approve the revision of the course name and course description from HIST 1206: An Introduction to Genocide to HIST 1206: "Blood and Soil": An Introduction to the History of Genocide as outlined in the attached template.  
CARRIED

A concern was raised that the course description in regards to genocide should also include reference to Turtle Island, state violence and colonialism. It was advised that the professor that teaches the course is an expert in European genocides and that reference to these subjects is included in other courses.

A request for a friendly amendment was received and agreed to by the mover, seconder and the course instructor, to include reference to Turtle Island, state violence and colonialism in the HIST 1206: "Blood and Soil": An Introduction to the History of Genocide course description.

MOTION 15: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. McCullough that Senate approve Motions 16, 17 & 18 as outlined as an omnibus motion.  
CARRIED

MOTION 16: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Goulard that Senate approve the revision of the course name and course description from HIST 3626 Interwar Europe: Fascism and the Radical Right, 1918-1945 to HIST 3626 Swastikas, Swords, and Symbols: The Fascist Phenomenon in Historical Perspective as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 17: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Goulard that Senate approve the unbanking of HIST 4325: Oral History along with minor modifications to the course description and prerequisite as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 18: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Goulard that Senate approve changing the title of HIST 3355: History of Women in Canada to HIST 3355: Topics in the History of Women and Gender in Canada, with accompanying changes to the course description as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 19: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Teixeira that Senate approve a minor in the Study of State Violence (War, Atrocity, and Genocide – WAG) as outlined in the attached template.  
CARRIED

MOTION 20: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. Srigley that Senate approve the creation of a Certificate in the Study of State Violence (War, Atrocity, and Genocide) as outlined in the attached template.  
CARRIED

### **Psychology**

MOTION 21: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by E. Dokis that Senate approve the addition of the following to the course description of PSYC 2715: “May be credited towards a Science course” as outlined in the attached template.  
CARRIED

### **POLICIES**

MOTION 22: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Richardson that Senate approve the revisions to the Transfer Credit Policies.  
CARRIED

MOTION 23: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Sullivan that Senate approve the modification of the admission requirements for the BSc in Psychology.  
CARRIED

MOTION 24: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by L. Kruk that Senate approve ~~that~~ the transfer credit policy for Mental Health and Addiction Worker diploma graduates into the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW).  
CARRIED

### **AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS**

MOTION 25: Moved by N. Colborne, seconded by H. Teixeira that the Senate By-Laws document, dated August 2018, be amended as attached.  
CARRIED

### **ELECTIONS**

- Elect three (3) tenured faculty members, from the Faculty of Arts and Science, to be elected by Senate for the Committee for the Search/Appointment/Reappointment of the Dean of Arts and Science. TABLED

- Elect one (1) faculty member, from a Faculty other than the Faculty of Arts and Science, to be elected by Senate for the Committee for the Search/Appointment/Reappointment of the Dean of Arts and Science. TABLED

Following a lengthy discussion the following Motion was proposed:

MOTION 26: Moved by N. Colborne, seconded by L. Kruk that due to a change in the process of hiring Senior Academics that Senate approve a Motion to post-pone the above two elections for the Search/Appointment/Reappointment of the Dean of Arts and Science to the January 11, 2019 Senate meeting.  
CARRIED

- Elect one (1) Senator, external to the School of Social Work, to be elected by Senate for the Director review process for the School of Social Work.  
**L. Chen - ACCLAIMED**
- Elect one (1) faculty member, for the Research Council, who represents the SSHRC discipline for a two (2) year term (replacement required as the faculty member elected at the November 9, 2018 Senate meeting rescinded their nomination).  
**B. Law - ACCLAIMED**
- Elect one (1) faculty member, for the Research Council, for a two (2) year term.  
**C. Peltier – ACCLAIMED (RESCINDED)**  
**K. Srigley – ACCLAIMED**

#### NEW BUSINESS

- Notice of Motion that the Strategic Research Plan (DRAFT 30 November, 2018) be received.

MOTION 27: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by R. Gendron that Senate move in camera to bring forward three new names to be added to the ongoing Senate List for consideration to receive an honorary degree.  
CARRIED

#### ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.



.....  
M. DeGagné (Chair)



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

## **COU Report December 14, 2018**

### **Submitted by Gillian McCann**

#### **Presentation by Jamie Cameron**

At COU, as our topic for the year is free speech, we heard a presentation by Jamie Cameron a Constitutional Legal Scholar from Osgoode Hall. She gave a very interesting presentation on the concept of free speech and was contrasting American and Canadian approaches. She noted the American concept, at least in theory, was to allow for all expression and gave examples of cases emerging from the Cold and Vietnam War. In the Canadian cases there have been more clear limits on freedom of speech which have been upheld by the Supreme Court of Canada. She stressed that in both countries the idea is that we can't make judgements on the content of the speech unless it is hate speech.

In terms of universities she noted that tension is between these institutions as places of inquiry and open discussion and the protection of human rights. She noted this impacts in the classroom, public space of universities, with guest speakers and posters on campus. As I understood what she was saying each university might take a slightly different approach to how they are going to balance free speech and "safe" environment as each university has a different culture and are located in different areas of the province.

#### **Presentation by McMaster Students**

The next day we had a presentation by members of the McMaster Student Union Ikram Farah and Stephanie Bertolo. McMaster Student Union, like many in the province, have rejected the idea of the premier's office dictating a freedom of speech policy which they see as unnecessary and potentially impacting university autonomy.

<https://www.msumcmaster.ca/posts/915>

The students also spoke about ideas of inclusive pedagogy and afterwards we discussed training for faculty in creating spaces for open discussion where everyone feels able to speak. I requested that the dean of OCAD pass on information on these modules and perhaps Nipissing can host these sorts of trainings.

#### **Committee Reports**

While we are still early days with the Ford government the signals are coming through that the government will be looking for "efficiencies" in the public sector and so this will likely entail cuts to funding and perhaps tuition. 9% to 25% cuts have been bandied around. It is also very likely that funding will be tied more tightly to metrics of some sort. COU is currently running models to look at what this might look like in terms of actual dollars for each university.

COU has also been working with third parties such as Chambers of Commerce to demonstrate to the government the financial contribution of universities in the province. The government has made it clear they want to hear from "parents and students" if universities are serving their needs.