

Nipissing University
Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting
April 17, 2020
2:30 p.m. – Zoom Conference

MEMBERS PRESENT:

M. DeGagné (Chair), A. Vainio-Mattila, C. Sutton, J. McAuliffe,
P. Maher, P. Radia, C. Richardson, D. Iafrate, N. Black

A. Ackerman, O. Atari, A. Burk, D. Campbell, L. Chen, N.
Colborne, S. Connor, H. Earl, L. Hoehn, N. Kozuskanich, M.
Litalien, K. Lucas, S. Renshaw, S. Strigley, D. Tabachnick, R.
Vernescu, H. Zhu

J. Allison, C. Anyinam, C. Hachkowski, D. Hay, T. Horton, D.
Jarvis, A. Kociolek, D. Lafrance Horning, L. Manankil-Rankin,
K. McCullough, P. Millar, G. Raymer, C. Ricci, A. Schinkel-Ivy,
T. Sibbald, M. Sullivan

C. Irwin, O. Pokorny

S. Kidd, B. Ray

H. Mackie, T. Sullivan, C. Foster

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

A. Hatef, B. Kelly, H. Teixeira

E. Lougheed

N. Muylaert, S. Pecoskie-Schweir

GUESTS:

C. Peltier, C. Phillips, B. Zarins, M. King (incoming NUSU VP
Advocacy)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF THE SENATE MEETING OF: April 17, 2020

MOTION 1: Moved by C. Hachkowski, seconded by H. Earl that the agenda of the Senate meeting of April 17, 2020 be approved.
CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SENATE MEETING OF: March 13, 2020

MOTION 2: Moved by T. Sullivan, seconded by N. Kozuskanich that the minutes of the Senate meeting of March 13, 2020 be adopted.
CARRIED

The Speaker opened the meeting with a welcome to the traditional territory:

As we begin this Nipissing University Senate meeting, I would like to acknowledge that we are in the territory of the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and that the land on which we gather is the Nipissing First Nation Traditional Territory and the traditional territory of the Anishnabek. We respect and are grateful to hold this event on these lands with all our relatives.

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

The President spoke to some of the broader institutional issues regarding our reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to work with the government, colleagues and other universities to monitor the situation and make decisions as information becomes available as the pandemic progresses. Plans for the future will also unfold incrementally as information becomes available. The most dominant prediction is a 12 week cycle. We are currently at the fourth week of the cycle. There is no way to predict the outcome. We are working closely at different levels with our partners at COU. Enrolment in the fall is anticipated to be lower. Discussions will be held to determine if courses will be held on-site or offered on-line or a combination of the two. The President thanked all of Nipissing's front-line, essential workers. The continued success of the University's operations depends on the dedication and hard work of the employees who are working to keep our campus, our residences and our North Bay community safe during this time.

In response to questions regarding whether Senate meetings would be scheduled over the summer, or if a special meeting of Senate would be called to discuss academic decisions, the President advised that the Senate Executive Committee has authority to act on Senate's behalf during the Senate summer recess period. A special meeting of Senate may be called at the discretion of the Chair of Senate or the Senate Executive Committee with at least 48 hours advance notice.

The Provost's report was included in the Senate Agenda. A report from Casey Phillips, AVP Students, which includes information relating to student supports during the pandemic is also included in the report. In response to a question regarding whether accommodations will be available for students and staff that may require medical supports due to the virus, the AVP Students advised that processes are currently in place, but could be made more robust if required.

The Provost acknowledged that the university remains open, delivering on its programs and associated learning outcomes. Most functions of the university are continuing on schedule, i.e., Senate and its committees, quality assurance reviews (4 underway), promotion and tenure processes, Chancellors awards, Teaching Chairs, research supports, institutional planning and research and Faculty Council (A&S). Graduate defences and CRC submissions are proceeding as scheduled on-line. An internal call has gone out for COVID-19 related research projects and there are many external research funding opportunities as well. Spring/summer courses, many of them Schulich School of Education and Indigenous courses, will be provided with technology and supports. The regular slate of Arts and Science courses are being offered on-line and enrolment is up. Accessibility will also be addressed. The Library has been working on identifying alternate materials and sources as well as copyright issues. The Provost advised that a survey had been sent out to faculty to find out what kind of supports are working. 300 surveys were sent out with 86 responses received so far. We are looking forward to receiving comments and feedback.

The Vice-President Finance and Administration provided a report. The report is attached to the minutes.

The Board of Governors Senate representative, Stuart Kidd, advised that the Board has been meeting remotely to keep abreast with what is going on and coming up. On behalf of the Board, he thanked everyone and advised that their efforts are appreciated and to please keep healthy and safe.

The report from the Alumni Advisory Board is attached to the Minutes.

NUSU VP Advocacy and Awareness, Charlotte Foster, provided a report. The report is attached to the minutes.

The Assistant VP Students, Dr. Casey Phillips, was recognized to speak. Dr. Phillips provided a written report advising of the supports and services provided through Student Development and Services through the first few weeks of transition during the COVID-19 pandemic. The report can be found following the Provost's Report and will be included in the Senate minutes. Dr. Phillips thanked the NUSU executive for all of their excellent work, and advised that the students were a wonderful group and a pleasure to work with this past year.

QUESTION PERIOD

In response to a question whether there is a plan to accommodate and capacity to offer more summer courses if necessary regarding the relationship of spring/summer courses and drops from fall/winter courses, the Provost advised that the drop deadline was extended as the f/w term ended in an unusual way. As this information was not available to her in the meeting, she advised that any time a course can be fully subscribed, the course will be offered. The Dean of Arts and Science advised that the faculty is prepared to offer courses in the summer term if there is demand and that further discussions will take place with the chairs, coordinators and faculty council to determine this.

In follow up to questions raised in the May and December 2019 Senate meetings regarding NU's Honorarium Policy for Elders and Indigenous Knowledge Holders (2019), NU's Honorarium and Gift Certificate Policy (2009) and the payment structure for ELAS (Experiential Learning and Arts Program) and when information might be expected to be received, the Vice-President Finance and Administration advised that work has been completed and will be communicated in the next few weeks.

In response to questions regarding the nursing practicum clinical placements during the pandemic, the Provost advised that the university has a number of accredited placements and that recommendations are taken from the governing bodies and discussed by the faculty. The Dean of Education and Professional Studies also advised that discussions have been held over all programs and that competencies must be proven to rapidly changing information. It is understandable that the health care system requires more nurses during the pandemic, but we must wait until we receive word from the governing body.

In response to a question regarding the survey sent out to faculty and what steps are being taken to ensure that technology will be available for the fall, the Provost advised that this is a difficult scenario as some students will be on-site and some students won't. It could be that courses are offered in a blended format. Technical issues such as connectivity and hardware are being addressed by the UTS Department.

In response to a question whether there will be an opportunity to re-visit the course master, i.e. experiential and lab-based courses, the Provost advised that conversations will have to be held to determine whether we go back to offering courses as usual or do we look at this as an opportunity to try different ways of organizing and offering programs?

In response to a question regarding fall enrolment predictions, the Registrar advised that while the f/w enrolment may be down, the Recruitment team is focusing on virtual conversion opportunities for prospective students, including live tours, virtual mock lectures and live Q&A sessions. She thanked the faculty who have participated in the virtual mock lectures. Staff is working to have high school grades in on time. Enrolment averages will not be decreasing. The Registrar thanked the faculty and staff for all of their hard work.

In response to a suggestion to have classes of over 30 students set up in different rooms and whether there would be extra money for TA's to assess people's knowledge and skills, the Provost advised that this comment should be included in the survey comment section. There will be no extra money, and we have a very limited number of large classes at NU compared to larger universities. Once the results of the survey are received, the most pedagogically sound method of offering courses will be determined.

In response to a question regarding whether the Academic Advising office would be open over the summer months, the Registrar advised that students will be served remotely by email and telephone. Offering webinars to students is also being look into. It was suggested that the Academic Advising website be updated to reflect this.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND FACULTY OR UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION 3: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by A. Ackerman that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated April 9, 2020 be received.
CARRIED

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

MOTION 4: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by L. Hoehn that the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated March 24, 2020 be received.
CARRIED

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

A question was asked regarding the information that comes to the Senate as it relates to experiential learning courses where there is international study, placements, internships, or service learning. These kinds of courses when they are proposed do not currently provide information related to how students will be evaluated, who is responsible for the evaluation or oversight of the course, nor how much involvement Nipissing faculty have in them, which would be useful information for Senate to have. It was suggested that ARCC or another committee of Senate should consider which information in addition to the usual information required for new course proposals would be useful for Senate to receive when considering courses that involve international study, placements, internships, or service learning. The Provost advised that experiential learning takes many forms and reminded that workload is not considered a Senate matter. The Dean of Arts and Science advised that the proposals have gone through faculty council, ARCC and ACC, and that she will work closely with faculty to determine workload.

A second question was also asked about credit to course hour ratios for three new course proposals on the agenda: CLAS 3415 Classical Studies Fieldwork in Classical Archeology, GEOG 4506 Professional Internship in Geography, and PHED 4606 International Experience. The question asked why these courses have significantly different credit to course hour ratios: CLAS 6cr/170 hrs, GEOG 3cr/60hrs, and PHED 3cr/36hrs. Concerns were expressed that there are a lot of inconsistencies. The Provost responded that it relates to the learning outcomes and pedagogies.

A question was also asked about the term non-substantive, as there are inconsistencies in how the term non-substantive is being applied in the Senate motions. The Provost responded that she recognizes that that Quality Assurance uses a different language and suggested that the term non-substantive will be used for a minor modification or revision and a major modification will be indicated as a motion.

For academic oversight, a request was put forward that the pre-requisite changes concerning Classical Studies & Modern Languages listed as non-substantive motions be considered as substantive changes and be approved as an omnibus motion.

MOTION 5: Moved by S. Srigley, seconded by S. Renshaw that the pre-requisite changes concerning Classical Studies & Modern Languages listed as non-substantive motions be considered as substantive changes and be approved as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

MOTION 6: Moved by L. Hoehn, seconded by N. Black that motions 8 & 11-18 concerning Classical Studies & Modern Languages listed as non-substantive motions in the Senate Agenda be considered as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

Classical Studies & Modern Languages

MOTION 7: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve that the course CLAS 3415 – Fieldwork in Classical Archaeology be added to the list of courses offered by the Classical Studies Program as outlined in the attached template.
CARRIED

(Initially listed as non-substantive)

MOTION 8: Moved by L. Hoehn, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the course prerequisite for CLAS 4427-Honours Seminar in History and Culture, which is currently “CLAS 4436 – Theory and Method in Classical Studies Research” be changed to “CLAS 3415 – Fieldwork in Classical Archaeology OR CLAS 4436 - Theory and Method in Classical Studies Research.”

MOTION 9: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate approve that the course CLAS 2026 – Law and Justice in the Ancient World be added to the list of courses offered by the Classical Studies Program as outlined in the attached template.
CARRIED

MOTION 10: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. McCullough that Senate approve that the course CLAS 2036 – Trade, Commerce, and Economy in the Ancient World be added to the list of courses offered by the Classical Studies program as outlined in the attached template.
CARRIED

(Initially listed as non-substantive)

MOTION 11: Moved by L. Hoehn, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the prerequisites for the course CLAS 2207-Medicine, Science, and Technology in the Ancient World have as a prerequisite “any 18 credits completed.”

(Initially listed as non-substantive)

MOTION 12: Moved by L. Hoehn, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the prerequisites for the course CLAS 2206-Sport and Recreation in the Classical World be changed from “restricted to upper level students” to “any 18 credits completed.”

(Initially listed as non-substantive)

MOTION 13: Moved by L. Hoehn, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the prerequisites for the course CLAS 2706-The Ancient World in Modern Popular Media be changed from “any 30 credits completed” to “any 18 credits completed.”

(Initially listed as non-substantive)

MOTION 14: Moved by L. Hoehn, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the prerequisite for CLAS 3016-Economy and Social Class in the Ancient World be changed from “Any 12 credits in Classical Studies with at least 3 at the 2000 level” to “any 18 credits with at least 6 credits in Classical Studies.”

(Initially listed as non-substantive)

MOTION 15: Moved by L. Hoehn, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the prerequisite for CLAS 3017-Warfare in the Ancient World be changed from “Any 12 credits in Classical Studies with at least 3 at the 2000 level” to “any 18 credits with at least 6 credits in Classical Studies.”

(Initially listed as non-substantive)

MOTION 16: Moved by L. Hoehn, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the prerequisite for CLAS 3066-Race, Racism, and Ethnic Identity in Ancient Greece and Rome be changed from “none” to “any 18 credits with at least 6 credits in Classical Studies.”

(Initially listed as non-substantive)

MOTION 17: Moved by L. Hoehn, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the prerequisite for CLAS 3067-Religious Conflict in the Ancient World be changed from “Any 18 credits completed” to “any 18 credits with at least 6 credits in Classical Studies.”

(Initially listed as non-substantive)

MOTION 18: Moved by L. Hoehn, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the prerequisite for CLAS 3206-Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greece and Rome be changed from “none” to “any 18 credits with at least 6 credits in Classical Studies.”

Motions 8 & 11-18 (Initially listed as non-substantive) as omnibus, CARRIED

Economics

MOTION 19: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. McCullough that Senate approve the change in prerequisites for ECON 3067 Problems and Policies of Economic Development from “ECON 1006 and ECON 1007” to “ECON 1006 or ECON 1007 and any 54 credits”.

A concern was expressed that students don’t have to take the Macroeconomics course as a prerequisite. The Dean of Arts and Science advised that numerous discussions have been held with faculty, the department and ARCC and it was agreed that the course content does not require both courses. Professors also often waive the prerequisite.
CARRIED

MOTION 20: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve the addition of the new course ECON 3006 Environmental Economics as outlined in the attached template.
CARRIED

English Studies

MOTION 21: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Richardson that Senate consider motions 22-27 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

MOTION 22: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve the addition of ENGL 2513 “Writing a Creative Work” to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 23: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve the addition of ENGL 2613 "Revising a Creative Work" to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 24: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve the addition of ENGL 2713 "Publishing a Creative Work" to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 25: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve the addition of ENGL 2813 "The Actor's Audition" to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 26: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve the addition of ENGL 2016 Fundamentals of Acting as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 27: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve the addition of ENGL 2017 Theatre Production as outlined in the attached template.
Motions 22-27, as omnibus, CARRIED

Non-substantive

Delete ENGL 2015 Theatre Production Practice and Theory from the Academic Calendar.

Fine & Performing Arts

Non-substantive:

Change the course title for FAVA 1027 Introduction to Contemporary Studio Practice to FAVA 1027 Studio Art: Ideas and Practices.

MOTION 28: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate consider motions 29-32 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

MOTION 29: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate approve the modification of the Group Requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree, Specialization in Fine Arts & Major in Fine Arts as outlined on the attached document.

MOTION 30: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate approve the modification of the Bachelor of Fine Arts Program Requirements as outlined on the attached document.

MOTION 31: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate approve the addition of FILM/GEND 2336: Women in Cinema as outlined in the attached template.

Non-substantive:

Add the following statement to the end of the FILM 2336 course description to note cross-coding, "This course is also offered as GEND 2336".

MOTION 32: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate approve the addition of FILM/GEND 2337: Gender and Film as outlined in the attached template.
Motions 29-32, as omnibus, CARRIED

Non-substantive:

Add the following statement to the end of the FILM 2337 course description to note cross-coding, "This course is also offered as GEND 2337".

Non-substantive:

Delete FILM 2305: Women in Cinema.

Gender & Equality

MOTION 33: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by J. Allison that Senate consider motions 34-39 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

MOTION 34: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve that the course INTD 1007 Big Ideas: Introduction to the Disciplines be added to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 35: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve that the course INTD 3007 Wicked Problems: Applied Interdisciplinarity be added to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.

Non-substantive:

Delete INTD 1005: Introduction to Disciplinary Studies.

Non-substantive:

Delete INTD 3005: Applied Interdisciplinarity: Solving Wicked Problems.

MOTION 36: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve that the new course GEND 2246 Transforming Harm: Case Studies in Transformative Justice be added as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 37: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve that the new course GEND 3236 Memory and Violence be added as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 38: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve that the new course GEND 3246 Madness and Medicine be added as outlined in the attached template.

MOTION 39: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve that the course RLCT 2156 Religion, Justice and Animals be Cross-Coded with GESJ as GEND 2256.
Motions 34-39 as omnibus, CARRIED

Non-substantive:

Add the following statement to the end of the GEND 2336 course description to note cross-coding, "This course is also offered as FILM 2336".

Non-substantive:

Bank GEND 2277: Genocide and Mass Violence in Rwanda.

Geography**Non-substantive:**

Bank GEOG 4126: Snow and Ice Hydrology.

MOTION 40: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve the addition of a new course GEOG 3196: Snow and Ice Hydrology as outlined in the attached template.
CARRIED

MOTION 41: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by O. Atari that Senate approve the addition of a new course GEOG 3416: The City: Natural & Human Environments as outlined in the attached template.
CARRIED

MOTION 42: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Campbell that Senate approve the addition of a new course GEOG 4506: Professional Internship in Geography as outlined in the attached template.
CARRIED

Native Studies

MOTION 43: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Foster that Senate approve that the abbreviation for all Indigenous Studies courses (formerly Native Studies) be changed from NATI to INDG.
A request was made to ensure that these changes be updated in WebAdvisor.
CARRIED

FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

School of Business

MOTION 44: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate consider motions 45-50 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

MOTION 45: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. McCullough that Senate approve that ACCT 1106 Introductory Financial Accounting I is made a prerequisite for ACCT 1107 Introductory Financial Accounting II.

MOTION 46: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. McCullough that Senate approve that ACCT 1106 Introductory Financial Accounting I be added as a core requirement for the BBA.

MOTION 47: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. McCullough that Senate approve that ACCT 1106 Introductory Financial Accounting I be added as a core requirement for the BComm.

MOTION 48: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. McCullough that Senate approve that the Bachelor of Commerce Program requirements be updated to include an Honours option, as well as optional concentrations in Accounting and Human Resources as outlined in the attached document. (Major Modification)

MOTION 49: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. McCullough that Senate approve that the Bachelor of Commerce Degree requirements be updated to include the BComm (Honours) as outlined in the attached document. (Major Modification)

MOTION 50: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. McCullough that Senate approve that the Second Degree requirements be updated to include the BComm (Honours) as outlined in the attached document. (Major Modification)
Motions 45-50 as omnibus, CARRIED

Non-substantive:

Unbank ADMN 4915 Entrepreneurship.

School of Physical and Health Education

- MOTION 51: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by J. Allison that Senate consider motions 52-57 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED
- MOTION 52: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve that, effective September 2021, the program requirements for BPHE with Concurrent Education be changed as outlined in the attached document.
- MOTION 53: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve that the prerequisites for PHED 3106 Community Leadership Placement I be changed as outlined in the attached document.
- MOTION 54: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve that the prerequisites for PHED 4086 Musculoskeletal Assessment and Exercise Prescription be changed as outlined in the attached document.
- MOTION 55: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve that PHED 4067 Clinical Biomechanics be created, as described in the attached document.
- MOTION 56: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve that PHED 4606 International Experience be created, as outlined in the attached document.
- MOTION 57: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve that the degree requirements for the Bachelor of Physical and Health Education be changed as outlined in the attached document.
Motions 52-57 as omnibus, CARRIED

School of Social Work

- MOTION 58: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate consider motions 59-70 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED
- MOTION 59: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve the attached revised learning outcomes for SWRK 4456 International Social Work.

Non-substantive:

Revise the course description for SWRK 4716 Social Work Leadership.

- MOTION 60: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve the attached revised learning outcomes for SWRK 4716 Social Work Leadership.
- MOTION 61: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve that the following prerequisite be added to SWRK 3316 Structural and Interpersonal Violence: SWRK 3106 Social Work as Transformative Practice, SWRK 3216 Social Work Professional Skills Development, SWRK 3356 Individual Practice Across the Life Span Part 1, SWRK3506 Anti-Oppression Theorizing and SWRK 3806 Community Practice in Northern, Rural and Remote Communities with a minimum average of 70% on those courses.
- MOTION 62: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve that the following prerequisite be added to SWRK 3406 Indigenous Perspectives and Social Work Practice: SWRK 3106 Social Work as Transformative Practice, SWRK 3216 Social Work Professional Skills Development, SWRK 3356 Individual Practice Across

the Life Span Part 1, SWRK 3506 Anti-Oppression Theorizing and SWRK 3806 Community Practice in Northern, Rural and Remote Communities with a minimum average of 70% on those courses.

- MOTION 63: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve that the following prerequisite be added to SWRK 3505 Field Practicum I: SWRK 3106 Social Work as Transformative Practice, SWRK 3216 Social Work Professional Skills Development, SWRK 3356 Individual Practice Across the Life Span Part 1, SWRK 3506 Anti-Oppression Theorizing and SWRK 3806 Community Practice in Northern, Rural and Remote Communities with a minimum average of 70% on those courses.
- MOTION 64: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve that the following prerequisite be added to SWRK 3357 Individual Practice Across the Lifespan Part 2: SWRK 3106 Social Work as Transformative Practice, SWRK 3216 Social Work Professional Skills Development, SWRK 3356 Individual Practice Across the Life Span Part 1, SWRK 3506 Anti-Oppression Theorizing and SWRK 3806 Community Practice in Northern, Rural and Remote Communities with a minimum average of 70% on those courses.
- MOTION 65: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve that the following prerequisite be added to SWRK 4316 Indigenous Child Welfare: SWRK 4306 Indigenous Wellness, SWRK 4706 Risk, Resilience and Complexity, SWRK 4206 Social Work Research and 3 credits of SWRK electives with a minimum average of 70% on those courses.
- MOTION 66: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve that the following prerequisite be added to SWRK 4106 Social Work Practice with Groups: SWRK 4306 Indigenous Wellness, SWRK 4706 Risk, Resilience and Complexity, SWRK 4206 Social Work Research and 3 credits of SWRK electives with a minimum average of 70% on those courses.
- MOTION 67: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve that the following prerequisite be added to SWRK 4716 Social Work Leadership: SWRK 4306 Indigenous Wellness, SWRK 4706 Risk, Resilience and Complexity, SWRK 4206 Social Work Research and 3 credits of SWRK electives with a minimum average of 70% on those courses.
- MOTION 68: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve that prerequisites for SWRK 2006 Foundations of Social Work Practice be modified from “SWRK 1007 Introduction to Social Work and SWLF 1006 Introduction to Social Welfare and Social Development” to “30 credits completed”.
- MOTION 69: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve that prerequisites for SWRK 2106 Critical Social Policy for Social Work be modified from “SWRK 1007 Introduction to Social Work and SWLF 1006 Introduction to Social Welfare and Social Development” to “30 credits completed”.
- MOTION 70: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Hachkowski that Senate approve that a minimum grade of 70% be added to each of SWRK 1007 Introduction to Social Work, SWLF 1006 Introduction to Social Welfare and Social Development, SWRK 2006 Foundations of Social Work Practice and SWRK 2106 Critical Social Policy for Social Work for the BSW program requirements.
- Motions 59-70 as omnibus, CARRIED

Master of Education

MOTION 71: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by T. Horton that Senate approve that the reference to themes be removed from the Master of Education degree and program requirements in the Academic Calendar.
CARRIED

Master of Kinesiology

MOTION 72: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve that KINE 5306 Sport Management be created as an elective course in the MSc Kinesiology program.
CARRIED

ADMISSION POLICY

MOTION 73: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve that the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Professional Years admission policy modification be approved.
CARRIED

MOTION 74: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate approve that the Foundations Pathway admission and progression requirements be approved.
CARRIED

PATHWAY

MOTION 75: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Lafrance Horning that Senate approve that the transfer pathway to the Bachelor of Commerce degree (three-year and four-year) for two-year Esports Entrepreneurship & Administration graduates from Lambton College be approved.
CARRIED

TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

MOTION 76: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by J. Allison that the Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated March 10, 2020 be received.
CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION 77: Moved by D. Iafrate, seconded by J. Allison that Senate approve that the Duolingo English Test be temporarily recognized as an acceptable test for proof of English language proficiency for the 20SS and 20FW intakes.

Acceptance of Duolingo English Test

Nipissing University will temporarily accept the Duolingo English Test from applicants who are in a region impacted by IELTS or TOEFL test centre closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Minimum Duolingo English Test scores required:

Undergraduate/Post-Baccalaureate programs: 110

Bachelor of Education (Consecutive) and Graduate programs: 115

CARRIED

ELECTIONS

- Elect three (3) tenured faculty members, with at least one from each faculty, to serve on the President's Search Committee

D. Hay

N. Kozuskanich

G. Phillips

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Provost thanked the Senate Speaker, Recording Secretary and especially UTS Video Technologist (Greg Foster) and Service Desk Technician (Ryan Hehn) for their knowledge and support which lead to a very smooth first time ever Zoom conferenced Senate meeting, as well as many of the other units that are continuing to operate in altered formats.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.



.....
M. DeGagné (Chair)



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

Senate Update

(updated from the presentation to the Board on 8th April 2020)

Arja Vainio-Mattila

Please note: I have included a report from Casey Phillips, AVP Students, at the end of the report as I suspect many of you would like to have this information relating to student supports during the pandemic.

Goal: Nipissing remains open, delivering on its programmes and associated learning outcomes.

- Many functions of the university continue on schedule, for example, Senate and its committees, quality assurance reviews (4 underway), promotion and tenure processes, Chancellors awards, Teaching Chairs, research supports, institutional planning and research, Faculty Council (A&S).
- Many other functions have more significantly adjusted ways the work is done, and are continuing with new ways of doing things, for example, applications, admissions, offers, transcripts, degree audits, student advising, recruitment for both undergraduate and graduate students.

Recruitment, Admission, and Advising:

- Recruitment is focusing on virtual conversion opportunities for prospective students, including live tours, virtual mock lectures and live Q&A sessions, exploring availability of online courses for high school students. International recruitment by our partner in India (and Nepal) continues while we await federal decision re: immigration status of prospective students.
- All admission offers are up to date and continue to be processed.
- The academic advising team continues to support students remotely, including creating workshops to help prepare 1st year students moving into 2nd year.
- To help support our students during this time we've extended the academic deadline to withdrawal from a course to May 3rd (from March 6th). This gives students the opportunity to withdraw from a course without a negative impact to their GPA. (Communicated on April 1st)
- Unlike most of our provincial counterparts our spring/summer term will begin as scheduled, most courses, 141 out of 155, were scheduled to be offered online. The Deans are working with the faculty to move the remaining courses to remote delivery.
- Our managers are meeting regularly with provincial counterparts to ensure we're making the appropriate provisions and accommodations for our students. This includes how we can make admission decisions when students may not have completed their final year of high school, delay in submitting grades and considering extending the June 1st deadline to accept an offer.

Our admission #'s:

- Applications are down 9% vs. same time last year
- Offers are also down 11% vs. same time last year
- Acceptances are down 14% vs. same time last year

Although our numbers are down from last year and it's difficult to anticipate the impact the pandemic will have on admissions we continue to focus on conversion. We're proud to say that conversion (offers to acceptances) has increased in the following programs: Biology, Nursing, Business, Math & Computer Science, English, Geography, and Sociology & Anthropology.

Teaching:

- Winter term was finalized through alternative delivery, i.e. remote or online delivery, redesign of assessments, prorating of grades. All classes were cancelled for March 16th and 17th to allow for preparation, with alternative delivery beginning on March 18th. Support through the Teaching Hub was announced for Faculty to move on-site courses to on-line environments. (Communicated on March 12th) Workshops on using Blackboard Learn and Blackboard Collaborate were run March 13th, 16th, and 17th. More than 40 Faculty attended.
- All on-site exams were cancelled (Communicated on March 17th)
- Communication re: placements in various programmes initiated between students and programmes in mid-March, remains an ongoing concern.
- SS academic programmes will all be remote delivery (Communicated on March 30th)
- Blackboard Learn (our Learning Management System) migration was supposed to take place in May, new dates in June and August are being discussed in order not to disrupt continued on-line delivery.
- Working with OII, SDS, and UTS to see whether we can secure iPads with sim-cards (or similar) for students in indigenous programming during summer (Indigenous Summer Institute, Indigenous Teacher Education Programme, Classroom Assistant Programme, and Language Teacher Programme).
- Deans working with SDS to resolve emerging accessibility issues caused by movement to alternative delivery.
- Nursing students are being advised about clinical placements differently depending on their year in the programs and the program. We are working to accommodate in as many ways as possible as our Blended students are RPNs and are dealing with the crisis in their workplace.
- Good news: Our Data Science programme has received Quality Council Approval, and preparations to offer the programme are underway.
- The Dean of Teaching has engaged with Ontario Universities Council on eLearning. Attended a number of roundtable discussions, and is pleased to announce we're doing well, and are ahead of the curve on many issues.
- The Dean of Teaching, as well as UTS and LST staff, attended MCU Technical Briefing with the Minister on eProctoring services being offered through eCampus Ontario (March 26th). These services are opt-in, but come too late to assist us with FW exams, and may duplicate our existing licences.

- A&S Dean attended a virtual meeting with the Deans of Sciences (CCDS) to discuss how other universities have transitioned science courses, labs in particular, to on-line delivery; also participated in the discussion of forward plans for the fall should the online instruction continue into the fall
- Planning for Fall term has started as various scenarios, and supports required, are explored.

Research

- Annual Undergraduate Research Conference was one of many events that had to be cancelled. Nipissing continues to celebrate undergraduate research by creating a virtual conference. When you go to the link (<https://osf.io/vgtbf/>) you'll see that Dr. Justin Carré, Assistant Dean of Research, created 3 folders (Art Installations, Research Posters, Research Talks). Enjoy the presentations and posters!
- Graduate student defenses are proceeding remotely as scheduled (i.e. by using Zoom)
- Research Office is consolidating externally funded pandemic related research opportunities to be shared with Faculty
- Working on creating supports for research responsive to community needs in the post-pandemic world
- Research office has created FAQs to advise our researchers specifically about grant/project management in the pandemic context.
<https://www.nipissingu.ca/coronavirus/faq-covid-19#research>
- Call for Proposals on Research relating to COVID-19 Impacts in North Bay and Surrounding Area: We have invited Nipissing Faculty from all disciplines to participate in research, scholarship, and creative activity projects addressing immediate needs of the community relating to COVID-19 (during and after the pandemic). The invitation is to explore the implications of COVID-19 across educational, professional, industry, and community sectors. The funding for this research is made possible by COVID-19 related funding from the Province of Ontario. This research will contribute to regional recovery.

Community:

- Nipissing has donated all PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) from its labs to the hospital, and together with Canadore also contributed a ventilator.
- Nipissing has established a partnership in order to share facilities, such as residences, with the Hospital.

Library:

- Staff continue to monitor voice and email, and respond to library users with requests for assistance accessing materials and any other questions related to library use.
- Interlibrary loan services (ILL) are still suspended...as is the case at all other libraries
- Working with instructors to ensure that ways in which they use information resources in their online courses is copyright compliant.

Student Development and Services
Update to the Academic Senate
Casey Phillips
April 17, 2020

This written report is meant as an update to the Academic Senate at Nipissing University as to the supports and services provided through Student Development and Services through the first few weeks of transition during the COVID 19 Pandemic.

In general, Student Development and Services has been successful in the transition to online, virtual or alternate forms of service model delivery to students, staff and faculty. *We continue to offer all support services to students.*

Student Counselling Services:

As Student Counselling Services were piloting OnCall Health, a secure video conferencing portal, since the end of November 2019 with our Scholar Practitioner Program, the transition to expand this service to all students we have has been quite smooth. Counsellors were already trained and familiar with the software and the required intake processes and documentation was already completed. As we had already been working with OnCall health, the creation of the “Nipissing look” and branding of the platform was completed. This allowed for a welcoming and trusted feel for students.

Student Accessibility Services:

More frequent email outreach to all SAS students in order to offer the most up to date information how their classes/exams/accommodations may be affected by changes to program delivery and to advise how we can support their testing, note taking, adaptive technology, and other accommodation-related needs. We have increased social media presence to remind students that our services are still available and provide information on how they can reach us.

Continuing to send out monthly Student Newsletters, which now include information on our updated service delivery model, changes in withdrawal dates, exam schedules, and reminders for the upcoming month.

Continuing to provide all types of SAS appointments via email or Google Hangouts voice or video calls. SAS has sent "check-in" emails to students to ensure their needs are being met and to open the door for further discussion regarding accommodation questions or concerns, if necessary. The goal is for students to feel very well supported by our office.

Providing advocacy on behalf of students with disability-related concerns to faculty, Dean's offices, Registrar's Office, and other university departments and services as required. A huge

thank-you to all faculty for their continued assistance and creative approaches in supporting our students during this time.

Student Learning and Transitions:

Continuing with online appointments for all, doing social media posts daily to remind students of this. In addition we are facilitating distant tutoring for interested students. We have also developed Webinars focused on 4th and 2nd year students to assist with transition, career discussions for 4th year students.

We have also noticed an increase in requests for support from mature students with resources sent to 700 mature students with kids at home who are struggling with parenting and assignments.

International Initiatives:**Outgoing Exchange Students**

Through the evolution of the pandemic across the globe we have continued to remain in communication with Nipissing students studying at partner institutions across the globe. To date, all but 2 students have returned to Canada. These 2 students chose to stay in their host countries. We communicated with students 2-3 times a week when COVID became a global concern identified by the Canadian Government. Shared supports with students who chose to return home early from exchange. For instance finishing course work online from Canada and communicated with international partners about recommendations about our students staying on their campuses. Nipissing has offered financial support to students who incurred extra costs for early departure from their exchange / return to Canada.

Incoming Exchange Students

Nipissing has continued to support students studying on our campus from our partners across the world. We have provided COVID-19 information released by the university and answered questions that they had. Communicated with their home institutions on the status of how Nipissing was operating during this time.

Before classes and exams were moved online we met with students to develop a plan for their return home early. Some student's home institutions made it mandatory for them to return home early.

We have communicated with residence about early move-outs and extended stays for students who were having difficulty finding flights home. As of Friday, April 3, 2020 there are 4 exchange students still left in residence waiting to find a flight home (1-Japan, 3-China).

International Degree / Post-Bac Students

We continue to support our International Degree Seeking students to navigate changes in the institutional landscape as well as legal and government changes to Visa, work and travel regulations. We have provided COVID-19 information released by the university and answered questions that they had. We continue to share local job postings to the group, as 11 students that we are aware of are still looking for employment for the summer (there are probably more though). Sharing CIC resources on qualifying for EI and other government assistance and other opportunities as they relate to International Students.

Sexual Violence Prevention and Education:

Sexual Violence Prevention and Education is continuing to provide support to students. Meetings with students are continuing to happen via Google Hangouts or other methods that students are comfortable with. Investigations into formal reports are continuing with third party investigator through virtual or alternative points of contact. In addition, the Sexual Violence Task Force Report is continuing to be developed and meetings of the Committee will occur virtually.

We will be continuing to provide educational programming options for students over various virtual platforms. More information on current programs can be found on our @consentbelongshere social media accounts.

Student Intervention Specialist:

We are continuing to receive referrals from the Student Retention Alert system from faculty and staff. We continue to reach out to these students and offer services. Assessments and consults are being performed over email, phone, and video chat. Referrals to other services, e.g.: counselling, will continue.

Athletics:

Ontario University Athletics and U Sports continue to monitor the current pandemic and are exploring various options as to what the next year could mean to athletics. Augmented playing seasons and the impact on institutions continue to be explored.

We have been keeping in touch with current and future Lakers. We have been sending out social media messages from our student athletes on what they are up to, staying safe, working on their studies...You can find some of them on our twitter account. We have also been working with future Lakers by sending them updates and what is going on with their application process. We have an email drafted by the admissions office that we are sharing. Our coaches have been in contact with the student athletes through different platforms, google hangout, zoom. etc.

We have been working closely with the Advancement team on the 2019-20 Lakers Virtual Athletic Awards which we will be announcing dates, etc. soon.

Residence Life:

As of March 9, 2020, we had 808 non-staff students in house. In the process of move-out, 151 students requested to leave belongings behind, and 62 students requested extended stays. Student employees, of which we had 42 as of March 9, 2020, were not included in these numbers. March 23, 2020 was the date which we required students who were able to, to vacate residence. Students who were unable to vacate due to travel, or any other extenuating circumstances were offered extensions and approximately 50 students still remain. We have consolidated these students to Chancellors House and the Townhouse Residence Complex as of April 6. We are currently in the process of deep cleaning and dressing Founders House with linen. A professional moving company has been hired to assist with the relocation of student belongings in order for the university to provide support to the North Bay Regional Health Centre in housing their front line staff during the COVID pandemic.

Specific outreach to international students regarding fast paced changes for their travel plans and further cancellations; reassurance that they will be able to stay in residence while they continue to seek their next available opportunity to return home.

Outreach to students to provide updates regarding refund inquiries, belongings remaining in residence, damage inspections, outstanding key returns, etc.

Student staff continue check-ins with remaining students, continuing with touch points noted above.

Student Emergency Fund: (www.nipissinu.ca/studentemergencyfund)

The current pandemic has caused a great deal of upheaval for many Nipissing University students and for some, significant financial hardship.

The success of our students is our top priority. In response, Nipissing has established a new Student Emergency Fund to provide urgent financial assistance to students unable to cover immediate, essential expenses as a result of the crisis.

The Student Emergency Fund will assist students with a variety of expenses spanning everything from food, housing and utilities to transportation, clothing and medical expenses. The fund will continue to be a resource for students in need beyond the lifetime of the pandemic.

The fund has been established and made possible through the generosity of Nipissing alumni, donors and supporters. We are encouraging those that are able to donate, to do so by clicking the link below.

Students seeking relief through the Student Emergency Fund should fill out an online application below. A joint committee of staff from Student Development and Services and Financial Aid will review the student applications to determine the extent of financial need and funding will be allocated accordingly. Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis.

Alternative Supports:

Nipissing continues to support all students as best we can to ensure that they have the supports that they need to take care of themselves and be academically successful. Several faculty have reached out with concerns about students and we ask that any faculty member that is aware of a student who is struggling or in need of any support, please reach out through the Retention Alert Portal in WebAdvisor or email directly to SDS@nipissingu.ca.

To date we have assisted several students who were without internet connection (Bandwidth, cellular hotspot connections, etc.), had no access to technology (Laptop Lending program) and have assisted the Nipissing University Student Union with setting up a temporary location within Chancellors House Residence to ensure all students at Nipissing had access to the resource as we restricted access to the Education Center. The Food Bank remains open to all students – Please check NUSU social media for hours of operation.

Briefing Note: Senate Update

Submitted by: Vice-President, Finance & Administration

April 17, 2020

1. During this crisis, the University remains open and in support of that mission, the Administrative team has been engaged in a wide variety of activities, the vast majority of them being handled remotely. We are serving our students in the Student Finance Office, our vendors are being paid and we continue to purchase required items. Payroll is being processed and benefits are being administered. Our external relations office is assisting with a variety of communication pieces, both internally and externally and ensuring that our social media channels and website contain up-to-date information. Our IT Department continues to support employees who are working from home and the Facilities Department is coordinating access to the campus as well as liaising with Canadore College security services.
2. Many employees have been asking about gaining access to campus as the restriction continue and we are working on that – you should hear more about that next week.

As a reminder, in order to ensure we follow the direction of the Provincial government regarding restricted access essential services as well as protecting the health and safety of those essential workers who are required to be on campus, the following process is currently in place, if you need to access the campus to collect essential materials:

- a) The requestor's should first reach out to their supervisor or Dean with their needs. The supervisor or Dean will **fully evaluate** the request to ensure it is **essential** first.
 - b) The accepted request is forwarded to Facilities who will coordinate the self assessment portion through Michelle Banks in Human Resources for prevention and record keeping prior to coming on-site. Facilities will arrange actual building access, Security awareness AND most importantly, caretaking coordination to clean the areas visited.
 - c) If it can be arranged to have the requestor's essential item(s) brought to Shipping & Receiving for pickup, that is much preferable. That has worked for a number of individuals already and avoids unnecessary exposure.
3. Budget Timeline – we are approximately two weeks behind in our regular budget timeline. We will be bringing a draft budget to A&F within the next few weeks. We recognize that this delay has also caused delays in decisions around hiring.



Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board Report to Senate
April 17, 2020

- March NU Connections e-newsletter went out at the beginning of the last month. The focus for the newsletter was on the NUAAB gift to top up existing scholarships and bursaries, we also looked at research month events and a call to action for alumni to network and mentor through their connections on the NU Café hub.
- Early conversations have begun on how Convocation and Homecoming will be conducted this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. When more details are formulated we will communicate those to you. In the meantime alumni relations has shifted focus slightly to continue to engage with alumni virtually through our social media channels, e-newsletter and ad hoc messages of togetherness. We are highlighting good news stories to bring positive thoughts to our followers. If you have good news stories we would love to hear them and share them with our alumni.
- Nipissing University Student Emergency fund was recently announced to provide urgent financial assistance to students unable to cover immediate, essential expenses as a result of the crisis. The fund has been established with funding from donors, with the Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board acknowledging the importance of the fund with an initial commitment of \$100,000. "As alumni of the University, the Board is committed to supporting students and is empathetic to the added stress, disappointment and financial hardship they are enduring," said Mitchell Crown, Vice-President, Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board. "We felt that there was no better way to support our future alumni than to contribute to the Student Emergency Fund to ensure that this unique set of circumstances doesn't hold anyone back from reaching their goals. We hope this contribution inspires others in our Lakers community to contribute if they are able to do so.
- Alumni relations is operating at pretty much the same level as before this situation began. Everyday business except processing alumni cards is running as usual for now. We have created a document to track the work we are doing at home. Some of these tasks include updating/creating job manuals, web content updates, creating new recruitment and onboarding documents for NUAAB and updating alumni materials like the new grad handbook.
- We are encouraging virtual connection through the NU Café hub. Our most recent introductions went out at the end of March. We are also planning an office hours mentor chat in the next few weeks. To join the network please visit nipissingu.ca/nucafe
- Alumni awards nominations will be opening up May 1. If you know of an exceptional alumnus please consider nominating them for an Alumni Award today. Visit the website or email alumni@nipissingu.ca

NUSU Senate Report

April 17, 2020

NUSU's Response to COVID-19

Since the COVID-19 outbreak, NUSU has been taking steps to continue to provide services to our students. Currently, all staff and executives are working from home. We have been providing a platform, through our social media, for students to engage with during this time of stress and especially the exam period.

Our student food bank is accessible every Wednesday in Chancellor's House. We are thankful to Dr. Casey Phillips, Residence staff and Facilities for assisting us in this process. We are also extremely grateful to the Alumni Board for their significant financial contribution, as well as staff, faculty and community members who have made monetary donations or dropped off food items. For more information on how to support the student food bank, please contact our Director of Services, Warren Lindsay, at services@nusu.com.

Real Campus

As part of our response to COVID-19, we have extended our online mental health services, Real Campus, to all students who had originally opted out of the student health plan. Furthermore, we have set up numerous workshops for all Nipissing University students to attend hosted by Real Campus. These topics included: How To Be Productive At Home, How To Keep Your Stress In Check, and Dealing With Loneliness During Social Isolation.

Executive and Student Senator Elections

This past month, we held our executive by-election for the Vice-President of Finance and Administration position, along with our Board of Directors and Student Senator elections. We are pleased to announce that Sarah Pecoskie-Schweir will be returning as our EPS Student Senator and Charlotte Foster as our Arts and Science Student Senator. Thank you to Charlotte Foster and Tayler Sullivan for participating as NUSU Executives this past academic year.

Our executive team for 2020/2021 will be:

Hannah Mackie, President

Ward Loveday, VP Finance & Administration

Mykayla King, VP Advocacy & Awareness

Shannon MacCarthy, VP Student Life

NUFA and NUSU Book Recommendations

To help our students pass the time and increase self-care, NUSU partnered with NUFA to put together a list of book recommendations by faculty. This has been a great initiative and has had high student engagement. Thank you to the NUFA executives for engaging with this project.

Nipissing University Nursing Society

We wanted to recognize the Nipissing University Nursing Society, or NUNS, for highlighting alumni working on the front lines. We are so grateful to all of our alumni and current students who are working in positions such as in the police force, medical fields, grocery stores, as caregivers etc. It has been encouraging to see the Laker Spirit throughout all of this.

Student Emergency Fund

On behalf of NUSU, we would like to thank the administration, and all those involved, for putting together the Student Emergency Fund. We know that this time is particularly stressful for our students, especially as the question around summer employment approaches, but this fund has had a positive impact and we are so thankful to everyone for their support to our students.

Nipissing/ Canadore Relay for Life Club

Although this year's Relay for Life event was cancelled our students still continue to work hard and fundraise for the Canadian Cancer Society. In total, the group has raised \$25,762 this year! We are extremely proud of these students and all their hard work and dedication.