

Nipissing University
Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting

September 10, 2021

2:30 p.m.

Zoom Videoconference

Members Present:

K. Wamsley (Chair), A. Vainio-Mattila, C. Sutton, P. Maher,
J. McAuliffe, J. Nadeau, P. Radia, D. Iafrate, N. Black

A. Burk, D. Campbell, N. Colborne (Speaker), S. Connor,
J. Dech, H. Earl, R. Gendron, A. Hatef, L. Hoehn, M.
Litalien, K. Lucas, C. McFarlane, J. Murton, G. Phillips, S.
Renshaw, M. Saari, S. Srigley, M. Tuncali, S. Winters

J. Allison, C. Anyinam, A. Armenakyan, G. Brown, B.
Elliott, K. Ferguson, C. Greco, R. Hoffman, A. Kociolek, T.
McParland, J. Muterera, L. Peachey, P. Ravi, G. Raymer,
A. Schinkel-Ivy, T. Sibbald, A. Wagner

C. Irwin, O. Pokorny

J. Smith, K. Wilcox

J. McIntosh, S. Pecoskie-Schweir, E. Wilson, M. Murray,
M. Fichaud

Absent With Regrets:

R. Vernescu

A. Armenakyan

Approval of the Agenda of the Senate Meeting of: September 10, 2021

Motion 1: Moved by N. Black, seconded by T. McParland that the agenda of the Senate meeting of September 10, 2021 be approved.
Carried

Adoption of the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of: May 28 & June 10, 2021

Motion 2: Moved by T. Sibbald, seconded by S. Winters that the minutes of the Senate meeting of May 28, 2021 be adopted.
Carried

Motion 3: Moved by T. Sibbald, seconded by C. Greco that the minutes of the Senate meeting of June 10, 2021 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.

Business Arising From the Minutes

The Director of Human Resources provided follow-up to questions raised in the May 28, 2021 Senate meeting regarding concerns as to how decisions were made to hire student research assistants, and the process in which HR advises faculty of the outcome. She advised that of the various funding opportunities, summer employment is a different process involving supervision, job templates and cross referencing of applications dependent on the number of applications received. She also advised that the tight one-week turnaround was the founder's non-negotiable funding deadline, not a NU deadline. To assist in the tracking and the transparency of the process in which HR advises faculty of hiring outcomes, cross training, and the use of an everyone HR email has been implemented. A replacement HR Administrator position has been posted.

Reports From Other Bodies

The President and Vice-Chancellor, Senator Wamsley, welcomed Senators back for a new academic year and thanked everyone for their warm welcome. He advised that the last few weeks had been spent learning how things work, and that he is looking forward to getting to know everyone and determine how best to move forward with strategic planning.

He reported that Board and Senate orientations had been held earlier in the day for members to learn about the important work that we do. He noted how great it was to see people on campus and thanked staff for all their work preparing for the students return. We will continue to be transparent with information on vaccines, adhering to the rules on gatherings while working within the boundaries of the Health Unit.

With approximately 800 students in residence and 700 students taking at least one course on campus, we are gradually working towards getting back to face-to-face teaching and meetings. The President applauded our Teaching Hub with the Dean of Teaching at the helm for the facilitation of the hybrid, asynchronous and synchronous classes. He noted that our teaching capacity and skills level has improved with the numerous workshops offered, and many interesting opportunities have resulted.

The President acknowledged World Suicide Day, and the importance of care and compassion for students in need. Please continue to be good to one another.

The Provost and Vice-President Academic and Research provided a written report. The report is attached to the minutes.

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

The Board of Governors' Senate representative, Kathy Wilcox, acknowledged the contributions of former Board Senate representative, Bobby Ray, and recognized new Board of Governors, Senate representative, Judy Smith. She wished all Senators, faculty and staff a successful year and advised that she looks forward to all that they will learn.

Senator Winters read out the following question directed to the Board of Governors Senate representatives:

Yesterday an email was sent to Dr Natalya Brown, among others, stating that the presentation on what it would mean for Nipissing University to move to a jointly sponsored pension plan scheduled for the September 16th Board of Governors meeting would not take place on the grounds that Section XVI of the General Bylaws of the Board of Governors states the following: "every member of the Board or committee who is an employee of the University may take part in discussions and vote on matters related to the financial operation of the University, other than on matters related to the remuneration, benefits or working conditions of a class or group of employees of the University." Instead, Dr Brown would be invited to present to the Executive of the Board at a later date.

My question is that given that there is no vote planned on the presentation, and also that Section XVI subsection 2 of the Board of Governors Bylaws states that:

*2. A member of the Board or of a committee created by it who has any interest in a matter in which the University is concerned shall declare his or her interest as soon as possible and no later than at any meeting at which the matter is to be considered. The member shall not take part in the discussion or vote on the matter **and may be required by the Board or committee to withdraw from the meeting during the discussion.***

Would the Chair of the Board ask employees of the university on the Board to either refrain from speaking or withdraw from the meeting during the discussion following the presentation in order that all members of the Board of Governors who are neither employees nor on the Executive may hear the presentation?

The Board of Governors' Senate representative, Senator Wilcox, advised that the question will be forwarded on to the Board for a response.

The Speaker requested that the question be forwarded to the Senate Secretary to be forwarded to Senator Wilcox.

A report was provided by the Alumni Advisory Board. The report is attached to the minutes.

The Council of Ontario Universities, Academic Colleague, provided a brief update from a recently attended retreat, advising that a review of the previous year's activities had taken place and that similar themes from last year were discussed, including mental health and EDI.

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

Question Period

It was noted that some students have experienced scheduling issues this fall semester. In response to a request that the Registrar review these issues so that problems don't arise in the winter semester, the Registrar advised that students were unable to register in courses where a conflict was identified. The Registrar's Office is working to get this issue resolved as quickly as possible.

In response to a question as to whether students registered in online courses can attend onsite courses or flip back and forth, the Registrar advised that students were informed upon

registration that they had to choose a particular delivery mode, either online or onsite. Students have until September 20 to make changes. After September 20 students cannot flip back and forth. Students have been advised of this, but we would ask that faculty also remind students.

Students registered in online courses have a permanent record of the class, whereas onsite students take notes. In response to a question as to whether notes should be provided to in class students, the Provost responded that it is up to the professor. If the course material is available, the faculty member would make the decision whether to provide it as they would under normal circumstances. Students need to understand that they are registered in a certain segment of your course. Students registered in an online class would complete an online assessment. Once they make a choice there are consequences to this choice.

It was noted that there may have been some miscommunication as some students have not been receiving emails from the Registrar's Office. The Registrar's Office has been informed and will investigate further.

The following question was directed to the President or the Provost for response:

Preamble: Chi-miigwech to the President and the University for making September 30 (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation) a campus holiday and also many thanks to those who have been doing the work of reconciliation and decolonization on campus for years. As a faculty member who is new to the idea and the process of decolonizing my curricula and classroom practice, I have encountered some barriers in being able to invite Elders and Knowledge Keepers into my classes due to our Honorarium policy. Nipissing needs a more robust and flexible way to put our money where our mouths are in doing the work of TRC, and the current honorarium process just isn't adequate to acknowledge community members' contributions when they are substantive.

Questions: First, can the President and the Provost please work to secure a permanent budget line to fund both Indigenous guest speakers and guest teachers and co-creators of curriculum? Second, can the university work on a collaboratively built mechanism, going beyond token honoraria, to acknowledge these more substantive contributions? Whatever mechanism is developed should be done with wide consultation, not only with faculty, students and staff but also with Elders from nearby First Nations, especially those who may already be involved in such collaborations.

In response to these questions, the President advised that interpersonal community relationships are very important to him, and that a consistent approach is needed. It would be helpful to our professors to have a clearing house and a list to refer to. This could be a part of our strategic plan. Whether it be monetary compensation or otherwise needs to be determined by Elders and Knowledge Keepers so that everyone feels compensated.

The Provost responded by advising that we must honour the commitments we have and ensure that all our students, regardless of the program they are in, have access to this learning. This needs to be a significant component of our next Academic Plan. Once we have an idea of what it is we are trying to accomplish it will be easier to determine the dollar amounts, i.e.: Indigenous ways of knowing, pedagogies, and the history of our country.

It was noted that the Graduate Studies and Research administrative staff is doing a great job, but more staff and resources are needed to keep pace with the ever-increasing research capacity at Nipissing University. The Provost responded by advising that this is an ongoing issue in all areas. Many of the recent hires were made possible through external funding that was applied for and received by the Teaching Hub. We are in the process of reappointing the

Dean for one more year, and he has brought forward a plan to adjust the portfolios within the department. We may also look at an Associate or an Assistant Dean in this office which will directly impact grants.

In response to a request that a lab technician be available on call on evenings and weekends to assist faculty and students in case Blackboard goes down, the VP Finance and Administration advised that discussions are ongoing with the with the Director of Technology Services and the Assistant VP Finance and Infrastructure (Interim).

Following a request as to why non-mandatory courses in conflict were scheduled so that students were unable to take courses as they wanted to take them, the Registrar advised that students received a schedule and were made aware. Students would have to have been registered and overridden individually. This is a new way of scheduling and she advised that feedback is welcome and will be taken into consideration for next year.

In response to the question as to who made the ultimate decision that students could take courses in conflict non-mandatory, and how was this decision made, the Provost responded advising that it was discussed at Senate, in workshops and at Deans' Council and Faculty Council meetings. While trying to give students as much choice as possible in difficult circumstances, ultimately the Provost is responsible.

Following a question as to how we are managing the lifting of social distance restrictions, Michelle Banks, HR Health Safety and Wellness, advised that the social distancing restrictions have only been removed in educational spaces. Restrictions are still in place in hallways, elevators, etc. Please follow the signage to be physically distant. In response to a question as to whether faculty should be tracking students for contact tracing, Ms. Banks advised that faculty do not need to track students as scanners and the NU safe app tracks this information. If information is required, the Registrar's Office would be able to provide further details.

The Speaker thanked Ms. Banks for all her work.

Reports of Standing Committees and Faculty or University Councils

Senate Executive Committee

Motion 4: Moved by K. Wamsley, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated June 30, 2021 be received.
Carried

Motion 5: Moved by K. Wamsley, seconded by M. Litalien that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated August 5, 2021 be received.
Carried

Motion 6: Moved by K. Wamsley, seconded by M. Litalien that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated September 2, 2021 be received.
Carried

Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee (AQAPC)

Motion 7: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Report of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee dated July 23, 2021 be received.
Carried

Motion 8: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Earl that Senate approve the History IQAP Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan.
Carried
The Provost congratulated the History Department for the extremely favourable review received by the external reviewers.

Motion 9: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate receive the Internationalization Plan for Nipissing University: 2021-2026.
The mover and seconder approved a friendly amendment be added to EFL support to discuss the possibility of making ENGL1551 and ENGL1552 exempt from the low enrollment cancellation threshold of 15 for CASBU courses.
Carried

By-Laws and Elections Committee

Motion 10: Moved by Tim Sibbald, seconded by M. Litalien that the Report of the By-Laws and Elections Committee dated May 20, 2021 be received.
Carried

Teaching and Learning Committee

Motion 11: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by N. Black that the Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated May 27, 2021 be received.
Carried

Motion 12: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by C. Greco that the Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated July 29, 2021 be received.
Carried

Motion 13: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by M. Litalien that the TLC recommends that Senate approve that only the "Comment Sheet" portion of the current Nipissing University Student Opinion Surveys (i.e. referenced in the FASBU CA 2019-2022 Article 27 and CASBU CA Article 19.2 (b) and (c)) be administered for all courses in the 2021-2022 academic year (i.e. FA, WI, FW, SP, SS, SU), and that the "Course & Instructor Evaluation Questionnaire" be suspended (not administered and no data collected) during this time.

Rationale: Due to the time required for the Joint Committee on the Assessment of Teaching and Learning to complete its work and its recommendation be implemented, it is necessary that the use of interim Student Opinion Surveys, as approved by Senate September 11, 2020, be extended by another 12 months.
Carried

Motion 14: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by D. Campbell that the TLC recommends that Senate approve for the 2021-2022 academic year (i.e., FA, WI, FW, SP, SS, SU), the Student Opinion Surveys be presented to students, during a two-week period in the final two-weeks of each course, in an online manner, in the format approved by Senate at the September 11, 2020 meeting.
Carried

Motion 15: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by C. McFarlane that the TLC recommends that Senate approve that the administration of the interim Student Opinion Surveys in the 2021-2022 academic year (i.e. FA, WI, FW, SP, SS, SU), be conducted in

such a way that the anonymity of students is maintained and that the Survey results received are returned unexamined to the faculty member, in keeping with FASBU Article 27.2 (b) and (c) and CASBU Article 19.2 (b) and (c).

Motion withdrawn

Amendment of By-Laws

- **Notice of Motion that the Senate By-Laws, Article 2.4(b) Faculty Senators, be amended as outlined below:**

Rationale:

As the term CASBU faculty no longer exists in the CA, all references were removed from the Senate By-Laws. Librarians qualify as faculty members under Senate By-Laws Article 1.1(r) General Definitions, but they were not included in any of the categories under By-Laws Article 2.4 that would allow them to be elected. Following discussion, the following language (changes in bold and strikethrough) was suggested:

- 2.4 (b) There shall be ~~two (2)~~ **three (3)** designated faculty Senate positions, as follows:
- i) two (2) faculty Senators elected by and from the full-time lab, seminar and service course instructors (North Bay), hereafter referred to as "instructor positions".
 - ii) **one (1) designated librarian Senate position elected by and from the academic librarians, hereafter referred to as "librarian positions."**

Elections

- Elect one (1) A&S faculty Senate representative to serve on the Academic Awards, Appeals and Petitions Committee for a three-year term effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024. *No nominations were received. The election will be included in the October 8, 2021 Senate agenda.*
- ~~Elect one (1) A&S faculty Senate representative to serve on the Academic Curriculum Committee for a three-year term effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024. *This election will be held at an A&S Faculty Council meeting as it was advised that the vacancy is for a non-Senate representative.*~~
- Elect one (1) A&S faculty Senate representative to serve on the Research Committee for a three-year term effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024. *No nominations were received. The election will be included in the October 8, 2021 Senate agenda.*
- Elect one (1) A&S faculty Senate representative to serve on the Senate Budget Advisory Committee for a three-year term effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024. *No nominations were received. The election will be included in the October 8, 2021 Senate agenda.*
- Elect one (1) EPS faculty Senate representative to serve on the By-laws and Elections Committee for a three-year term effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024. *No nominations were received. The election will be included in the October 8, 2021 Senate agenda.*

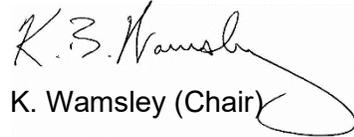
New Business

Motion 16: Moved by D. Iafrate, seconded by C. Greco that Senate move in camera.
Carried

Motion 19: Moved by C. Greco, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate move out of camera.
Carried

Adjournment

Senate was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.



K. Wamsley (Chair)



S. Landriault (Senate Secretary)

Senate Report - September 10th 2021
Arja Vainio-Mattila, PVPAR

Nipissing University will recognize the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30th. Classes will be cancelled on that day, and a make-up teaching day has been scheduled for December 7th.

Enrolment Fall 2021

| | Acceptances | FTEs | Headcount |
|------|-------------|------|-----------|
| 2021 | 1940 | 2247 | 5362 |
| 2020 | 1680 | 2122 | 5144 |
| 2019 | 1860 | 2046 | 4982 |

- 61 Laurentian students are starting with us this fall (some have transferred to NU and others on a letter or permission)
- 213 courses are onsite this fall (178 UG, 22 BEd, 13 Grad Studies)
- Recruitment season begins this month - thank you to all faculty who have taken the time to create videos
- India - We have 16 students taking courses as part of a special cohort to develop our relationship and reputation within this market. The students will be taking the following courses delivered by full time faculty in the School of Business and the Department of Economics. For the Winter term, we have so far 39 applications for our Post Baccalaureate programs, plus the 13 students that deferred.

| | | |
|------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 21FW | ADMN-1607-FA831 | Business Mathematics |
| 21FW | ORGS-1136-FA831 | Intro. to Organizational Behaviour |
| 21FW | MKTG-1126-FA821 | Marketing Concepts |
| 21FW | ACCT-1106-FA811 | Principles of Accounting I |
| 21FW | ECON-1006-FA821 | Intro to Microeconomics |

- International students: We have 95 international degree seeking students (84 undergraduate, 11 graduate students) from 18 countries studying in 23 different programmes. 55 students are from India, and 32 students are in the Business Post-Baccalaureate Diplomas.

Award

Nipissing University has been granted funding (\$483,000) for the “Transcultural Interdisciplinary Learning Experiences (TILE)” Global Skills Opportunity that was designed to enhance outbound mobility opportunities for low-income, indigenous and students with disabilities. The proposal was prepared by Pat Maher, Casey Phillips, and Laura Solano Moya.

Arts and Science

- Retreat: A&S hosted a day-retreat on August 26, 2021, to discuss A&S operations and actionable items for 2021-2022. The guest speaker was Dr. Sheila Cote-Meek, VP Equity, People, and Culture, York University. Dr. Cote-Meek gave a presentation on the “Perspectives on Indigenization, Decolonization & EDI.”
- BSc Environmental Science Stage II proposal draft completed; to be submitted to the Executive at the end of September

- Community engagement course: RLCT 2066: Death, Dying, and Spirituality (Dr. Susan Strigley), offered to students, palliative care workers, and other community members
- Outdoor courses offered:

PHIL 2717: Environmental Ethics (David Borman)
 ENGL 1036: Literature on the Land (Gyllie Phillips)
 HIST 2167: Environmental Era in Canada (Jamie Murton)
 HIST 3936: History of Sexuality I (Derek Neal)

Education and Professional Studies

CASN Accreditation Self Study document has been completed and was submitted on Tuesday. This is a significant undertaking and many faculty and staff members that supported Veronika Williams in this effort but a special acknowledgement of Laurie Peachey who spent significant hours on the document as well.

School of Graduate Studies

- Kieran Peltier, MSc Kin Graduate and PhD in Education candidate, wins Indigenous Mentorship Network of Ontario Scholarship valued at \$20,000.
- Christina Page, PhD in Education candidate, wins Canada Graduate Scholarship - Doctoral (SSHRC) valued at \$35,000 for up to three years. (We are not yet able to announce this publicly until SSHRC tells us we can).
- Our CGS-M (\$17,500) recipients for this 2021-2022 academic year are:
 - Maxwell Peacock (History) – SSHRC
 - Amy Bartlett (MEd) – SSHRC
 - Rodica Cocieru (MEd) – SSHRC
 - Kimberly Montgomery (MEd) – NSERC
 - Alexander Maycock (Kin) – CIHR
- Nipissing 3MT 2021 winner Erin Watters (Kin), and runner-up Casey Monkelbaan (History), have agreed to submit their virtual 3MT presentations to the Graduate Student Research Showcase presented by the University of Toronto on November 11th, 2021. More details to come.
- Amber McCarthy (Graduate Studies Coordinator) attended the annual Tri-Agency meeting for Scholarship Liaison Officers on August 23rd. We can now submit self-identifying Indigenous applications for CGS-D to the national competition above our quotas (our quota per agency is 3).

Research

Note: a press release for the funding announcements will be forthcoming in the Fall. Many announcements are still embargoed.

- Dr. Mary-Pat Sullivan has secured funding (\$400,000) from the Weston Foundation for her work on Rare Dementia. The project includes research, Learning and Training, and Client Services (e.g., diagnosis, symptom management, emotional support).
- CFI - Earl, H. Funds: \$120,864 (CFI) + \$120,864 (ORF) = \$241,728 External Funds + 60,432 (NU Matching) = \$302,160 : Nipissing University Centre for the Study of War, Atrocity, and Genocide (C-WAG)
- CFI - Bruner, M. Funds: \$74,403 (CFI) + \$74,403 (ORF) + \$5,127 (Industry) = \$153,933 External Funds + \$33,076 (NU Matching) = \$186,009 (Total Funding Package)
- CFI - Greer, K. Funds: \$67,976 (CFI) + \$67,976 (ORF) = \$135,952 External Funds + \$33,989 (NU Matching) = \$169,941 (Total Funding Package)
- Greer, K.: \$74,000 - SSHRC Insight Development Grant titled: *"Our Guides Were Really Going Places": Nipissing Guides and the Carnegie Museum's Northern Expeditions, 1900s-1950s*

- Dech, J.: Forestry Futures Trust Ontario - Sub-grant UBC: \$68,000
- Sullivan, M.: Retired Teachers of Ontario - \$24,950
- McCullough, K.: RNAO: \$15,000
- Rob Hoffman & Roxanna Vernescu: \$100,000 - Child and Youth Mental Health Impact Grant: Focus on Northern Ontario (Funder: Ontario Centre of Excellence for Child and Youth Mental Health and Mental Health Research Canada)
- Bruner, M.: \$292,000 - SSHRC Insight Grant competition titled: Together Toward a Shared Sense of 'Us': Unlocking the Power of Groups in Youth Sport
- Jha, M. \$120,000 : NSERC Discovery Grant titled: Development of synthetic methodologies to access novel fused polycyclic frameworks
- NOHFC: 3 Research Interns: Total Funds: \$94,500

Library

In celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Harris Learning Library, a LibGuide was created to acknowledge and celebrate our accomplishments:

<https://nipissingu.libguides.com/10thanniversary>

Copyright:

On July 30th, the Supreme Court issued its decision on the York University v. Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency (Access Copyright) <https://decisions.scc-csc.ca/scc-csc/scc-csc/en/item/18972/index.do> This decision (10 years to reach this point) is very good news for Canadian universities and libraries and determined that the tariff (that is the Access Copyright license) is not enforceable against York and by extension, not mandatory for other institutions, and fair dealing is affirmed as a user right. (Access Copyright has always maintained that the tariff is mandatory, but in fact there never was a legal requirement for institutions to have an AC license.)

The **issues:** tariffs and fair dealing. Access Copyright maintained the tariffs are mandatory, the Supreme Court found them to be voluntary. The purpose of the copyright legislation is to protect users, not copyright collectives. When it comes to remuneration for creators, the Copyright Board argues this is outlined/managed by the Board and in the Copyright Act. With respect to fair dealing, the Supreme Court recognizes fair dealing and recognizes the importance of fair dealing for education. (The Copyright Act includes / allows for Fair Dealing as outlined in its Fair Dealing exceptions.)

The **takeaways** from the decision: Universities have more freedom on how copyright is managed and from whom they obtain licenses. Library licenses (that is the content academic libraries licenses through national, provincial consortia, or directly from the vendor/publisher) will continue to play an important / key role. While this Supreme Court decision is welcome and very good news, institutions must continue to operate with fair dealing guidelines and moving forward, copyright management will continue to be very important. At Nipissing and Canadore, we conscientiously and diligently follow robust fair dealing practices; the Executive Director of Library Services provides Copyright guidance to instructors, staff and students for both institutions.

Possible **ramifications/implications:** Access Copyright, as well as rights holders' groups, will likely continue aggressively lobbying for legislative change, such as lobbying to make tariffs mandatory, limit fair dealing exceptions, might initiate copyright infringement claims against institutions, might launch class action suits.

For your interest and information, below are links to statements regarding the Supreme Court decision from the Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA) and the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL)

<http://cfla-fcab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/SCC-York-v-Access.pdf>

<https://www.carl-abrc.ca/news/reaction-supreme-court-decision-on-york-case/>

With respect to licensed content: for your awareness, approximately 90% of the library's acquisition budget is allocated to licensing approximately 80% to 85% of the library's electronic information resources. National and provincial consortia negotiate on behalf of academic libraries and have developed standardized licenses; the licenses are cost effective, permit fair dealing use and include royalty fees for the creator in the licensing costs. These practices are in keeping with and are similar to the practices of academic libraries across Canada.

Institutional Planning

The Survey Management Committee (SMC) has been constituted by the Provost to provide oversight and coordination of institutional surveys used to collect information from members of the Nipissing University community including students, employees, applicants, alumni, and community partners.

To ensure that institutional surveys at Nipissing University are managed and communicated in the most effective and efficient manner, the SMC will operate with the following objectives:

- Encouraging sound survey methodology, structure, and administration;
- Ensuring that surveys are designed effectively with appropriate and objectively worded questions;
- Minimizing the number of times students and staff are asked to respond to surveys, thereby reducing survey fatigue and maximizing response rates;
- Avoiding the use of surveys in cases where alternate data collection methods may exist and/or be more appropriate;
- Coordinating the timing of surveys to avoid overlap of survey timeframes and avoid survey requests during particularly busy times of the year (e.g., during exams);
- Communicating survey results in a format and schedule that aligns with the central communications plan; and
- Adhering to legislative requirements (e.g. FIPPA) and ethical standards of practice.

Reporting Change

- Both Student Development Services and the Office of Indigenous Initiatives have now joined the Provost's group.

Student Development & Services

- Over the past academic year, SAS conducted research into best practices held by other Ontario universities and found that the vast majority of institutions operated primarily a volunteer-based program. As a result, SAS has moved to a 2-tiered model of supporting students through note taking services, which includes Peer Note Sharing and Professional Note Taking.
- Sexual Violence Prevention Training and Awareness: In July and August over 525 students participated in Bystander intervention and Consent+ training. Ongoing training includes Online Safety & Digital Consent offered by Amelia Rising Sexual Violence Support Centre throughout September.

- *Sexual Violence Prevention/Response Certificate Pathways (NEW)* offers students the opportunity to receive two certificates that focus on building awareness and skills to respond to disclosures and build solidarity for survivors.
- Residence Life currently has 799 students in house.
- 877 1st year students participated in the Nipissing Orientation.
- The Student Learning Coordinators have successfully supported the Academic Advising Office with a Student At-Risk Campaign.
- Career Services launched the first off-campus job board at the institution.
- MCU approved Nipissing University's updated PHAC Readiness Plan to allow for some supervised mental outdoor health break and quarantining in private accommodation for students with pre-arranged suitable accommodation.
- Our sixth sponsored student who we sponsor through the World University Service of Canada (WUSC)'s Student Refugee Program (SRP) arrived in August.
- We have cancelled Winter Outgoing Mobility due to the on-going Government travel restrictions and as our institutional international insurance provider, Guardme, is still not issuing travel and health insurance. Students have been offered the ability to transfer their offers of exchange to Spring/Summer/Fall 2022.
- With the support of external funding, Student Counselling Services has been able to hire and on-board for two new positions. A Counsellor (BIPOC Student Support) will enrich service offerings by providing targeted outreach and support for diverse students. A Peer Support and Outreach Lead will be leading the development and delivery of a peer support service for students with mental or emotional concerns.

Teaching and Learning

- Dr. Charles Anyinam (Nursing) has been named Nipissing Teaching Chair in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.
- Dr. Sarah Driessens (Teaching Hub) was named Senior Editor of Collected Essays on Learning and Teaching (CELT)
- Hired a new Media Design and Development Specialist until end of April 2022
- Hired 2 new Teaching Hub Technologists until end of March and end of April 2022
- Hired 5 Online Learning Partners (student peer support) until the end of April 2022
- Ran many, many workshops and training sessions, including:
 - *A Look Behind the Curtain of Micro-credentials*
 - *Student-centered Course Design*
 - *High Impact Teaching and Learning Practices*
 - *Your Teaching Assistant Toolbox*
 - *An Introduction to OERs*

Academic Planning

- Current Academic Plan 2017-2022, approved by Senate on May 12th, 2017
- Committee of volunteers, call at next Senate
- I am meeting all academic departments to have conversations about plans, ideas, and pressure points that will inform the writing
- So far major themes emerging:
 - Faculty renewal
 - Programme development, conversations vary from very preliminary ideas to draft proposals
 - Minors (structure, marketing, e.g. Death Studies)
 - Undergraduate discussions: Environment, Health, Nursing, Kinesiology....
 - Graduate (approach to SMA 4): Nursing, Interdisciplinary PhD, MBA (in education?), Post-Baccs (Arts and Science, Health)

Report to the Academic Senate
Vice-President, Finance & Administration
Dated: September 10, 2021

- NUSU Student Centre Grand Opening ceremony will be taking place via livestream next Friday, September 17 at 3:30 - <http://live.nipissingu.ca/NULive.html>. If you can, please join us for this momentous event.
- September 30 is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Dr. Wamsley has declared that Nipissing University will recognize this day as a holiday. There will be a webpage created to house information on all of the activities (including a candle light vigil on the evening of September 29), resources, supports and educational opportunities available to the Nipissing community to commemorate the day. Nipissing University community members are encouraged to honour the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation through personal reflection, education and awareness, and participation in events such as Orange Shirt Day, a day to honour Indigenous children who were sent away to residential school in Canada.
- Nipissing University is pleased to announce a partnership with the Canadian Centre for Diversity & Inclusion (CCDI). The CCDI is designed to help employers, diversity and inclusion/human rights/equity, and human resources practitioners effectively address the full picture of diversity, equity and inclusion within the workplace. By providing live and interactive webinars, community of practice events, and an extensive searchable Knowledge Repository, CCDI provides a place to go to meet, discuss, learn about and engage with issues around Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.
- Save the Date for Homecoming which will take place virtually November 8-12, 2021.
- On Tuesday, September 7, Nipissing University officially transitioned to Phase 3 of its [Return to Campus Framework](#): “Limited Campus Access – On-site Academic Program Delivery”. In this phase, campus access is expanded to include additional staff and faculty members who support on-site academic program delivery. Those required to return to campus during Phase 3 will be given two weeks’ notice by their supervisor or Dean.
- Mandatory Vaccinations
 - Throughout the pandemic, Nipissing University has remained committed to providing all members of its community with a healthy and safe working, learning and living environment
 - In accordance with the Ontario Chief Medical Officers of Health Instructions and guidance and recommendations of public health officials, Nipissing University has developed a COVID-19 Vaccination Policy that will take effect on September 7, 2021, which will require faculty, staff, students, contractors, volunteers and visitors who attend campus to provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19.

- Individuals must have received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine no later than **September 7, 2021**, and their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine no later than **October 18, 2021**, and must provide proof of vaccination satisfactory to Nipissing University.
- After October 29, 2021, all individuals will be required to provide proof that they are fully vaccinated by providing vaccination receipts from the jurisdiction(s) where the vaccines were administered, demonstrating that they have received their vaccine(s) and the dates on which those vaccinations were administered.
- Nipissing University will consider, on an individual case-by-case basis, requests for exemption from the vaccination requirement set out above based on medical or other grounds protected under the Ontario Human Rights Code.



Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board Report

NU Café

Did you know, through a partnership with Ten Thousand Coffees, **we offer networking and career conversations** for students, staff, industry partners, faculty and alumni?

How does it work? New members fill out a profile with various education, experience, and interest tags. This information is then used to drive **smart-matched introductions** to someone else in the community every month. [Here's a 60-second video to help you learn more.](#)

1. Students will be automatically matched with an alumnus, staff, faculty or industry partner each month who can answer questions related to their career trajectory, background, degree, and skill set.
2. Once connected, members meet their match for a virtual coffee over the phone or through video conferencing, to have a career-driven conversation.
3. There are regular webinars called Office Hours with industry leaders and professionals for those who don't want to match 1:1.

What do we need from you? Please consider putting information about this program in any student and alumni curriculum, orientation, or info package. We want all of our audiences to have access to this rich programming to help them prepare for their careers!

All members of the NU community are welcome to join!

<http://www.tenthousandcoffees.com/schools/nipissingu>

Homecoming 2021

Our Homecoming team is busy preparing for a virtual Homecoming this fall. After a hiatus last year, we are moving ahead with a COVID friendly version of the annual campus event. We hope to bring alumni and students some great speakers, fun events and new memories. **Save the date for November 8 –12.** There will be something for everyone and it's all free! More information will be communicated in the coming weeks. Stay tuned.



Academic Senate Report September 10th, 2021

We are happy to see faculty, staff, and students back on campus. We know our students are appreciating the in-person classes and being able to engage face-to-face with their faculty.

O-Week

Our orientation week, formerly known as Frosh Week, was successful. We worked collaboratively with many departments including Student Learning & Transitions, Residence, the Equity Centre, International Office and Student Accessibility Services. We would like to thank Kate DeVuono and her team for all their hard work in the Lakers Orientation portion of the week.

Shine

This year was a little different for our Shinerama campaign as we were unable to have car washes; however, we were still able to raise money and awareness for cystic fibrosis. Thank you to everyone who came out to our events and donated in-person or online. If you would like to donate to our cause, you can go to nusu.com/shine.

Federal Election Debate

On Tuesday, September 7th NUSU and the Nipissing University Political Science Program hosted a federal election debate with local candidates. This included Greg Galante, Scott Robertson, Anthony Rota, and Steven Trahan. There is no Green party candidate for this riding. The debate can be found at nusu.com/debate. We would like to thank Dr. Toivo Koivukoski for all the work he put into this debate. Also, thank you to Tanya Matthews who moderated the event. Tanya is a current political science student and did a phenomenal job.

Arts & Science Retreat

NUSU attended the Arts & Science Retreat in which we heard from faculty about a number of topics including community and student engagement. We are thankful to be able to have these conversations and insight. Thank you to Dr. Radia, Dr. Walters, Sarah, Sandra and Diane for their work on this retreat. We encourage faculty to reach out to us if you have any ideas or questions about engaging with students over the next year. We are excited to continue to work collaboratively.

NUSU Student Centre

Faculty, staff and students are invited to join NUSU and Nipissing University virtually next Friday, September 17th at 3:30pm to celebrate the official grand opening of the NUSU Student Centre. The livestream link will be made available at nusu.com/studentcentre. We look forward to celebrating with you.



NUSU Student Centre

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Tel: (705) 474-3450 ext. 4801 Fax: (705) 474-7732

Web: www.nusu.com

The Student Centre will be opening on Monday, September 20th to only Nipissing University students, faculty and staff until further notice. The hours of operation will be Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm. The student food bank will also be open in those times.

Information about booking spaces will be made available later in the month.

This is an exciting time for NUSU and Nipissing University, and we look forward to seeing how this space can be used for social and academic purposes.