

**Nipissing University**  
**Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting**

**April 14, 2023**

**2:30 p.m.**

**Room F210 & Zoom Videoconference**

**Members Present:**

K. Wamsley (Chair), C. Richardson, C. Sutton, B. Law, C. Mady,  
P. Maher, D. Walters, D. Iafrate

L. Chen, N. Colborne, S. Connor, J. Dech, A. Hatef, K. Lucas, C.  
McFarlane, G. Phillips, S. Renshaw, N. Stevens, L. Thielen-  
Wilson, M. Tuncali, R. Vernescu, R. Wenghofer, S. Winters

J. Allison, C. Anyinam, A. Armenakyan, J. Barker, G. Brown, C.  
Greco, D. Hay (Deputy Speaker), T. Horton, T. McParland, J.  
Muterera, G. Raymer, T. Sibbald (Speaker), R. Vanderlee

C. Irwin, O. Pokorny, L. Sinclair

S. Fiddler

R. Hehn

R. McEntee, P. English, H. Panchal, S. Pecoskie-Schweir

**Absent With Regrets:**

N. Black, H. Earl, R. Gendron, J. Murton, M. Saari, S. Srigley, R.  
Hoffman, L. Peachey, P. Ravi, J. Gagne, C. Phillips

The Senate Speaker offered a Traditional Territory acknowledgement.

**Approval of the Agenda of the Senate Meeting of:** April 14, 2023

Motion 1: Moved by R. Wenghofer, seconded by S. Winters that the agenda of the Senate meeting of April 14, 2023, be approved.  
CARRIED

**Adoption of the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of:** March 10, 2023

Motion 2: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by G. Phillips that the minutes of the Senate meeting of March 10, 2023, be adopted with an amendment.  
CARRIED

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

The Motion regarding approval of the Research Committee Commercialization Policy, deferred at the March 10, 2023, Senate meeting, is included below. Following a request, the Annual Commercialization Plan template has been included with the Commercialization Policy and related documents in the Senate agenda.

Motion 3: Moved by B. Law, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve the Commercialization Policy as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

Following the March 10, 2023, Senate meeting, nominations were sought for two (2) Faculty Senators to participate in small group conversations with the Provost, Vice-President Academic (PVPA) candidates. Dr. Todd Horton (EPS) and Dr. Robin Gendron (A&S) were acclaimed as Faculty Senator representatives.

### **Reports From Other Bodies**

The President provided a report. The report is attached to the minutes.

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

The Council of Ontario Universities Academic Colleague provided a report. The report is attached to the minutes.

The NUSU President provided a report. The report is attached to the minutes. The VP Advocacy and Awareness included an amendment, advising that North Bay is entering the Communities in Bloom competition and NUSU will be the first stop for the judges. This will take place in July. We will be reaching out to different departments to showcase their research regarding sustainability, and the environment, amongst other things. We want to proudly show off all the amazing research faculty and students are participating in. If you are interested in this, please contact [communications@nusu.com](mailto:communications@nusu.com)

### **Question Period**

The following questions were submitted in writing by Dr. Richard Wenghofer for inclusion in the Senate minutes:

*I have several questions pertaining to the financial figures that have been provided as part of the documents included for today's Senate meeting. I have taken a quick look at the figures for my own department of Classical Studies and Modern Languages and a few things jumped out at me. For the year 2017/2018 "Direct Expenses" came to \$248,263 and "Net Admin Expenses" came to \$190,651. For 2018/2019 "Direct Expenses" were \$425,458 and "Net Admin Expenses" were \$280,512. This represents an increase in "Direct Expenses" of \$175,853 and an increase in "Net Admin Costs" of \$89,861.*

*Now, I assume that the increase in direct expenses is the result of Classics taking responsibility for the Minors in French and Spanish, although I don't believe that the part-time French and Spanish contracts totaled almost \$176,000. In fact, the highest year recorded was in 2021 where the contracts totalled \$113,000. But of greater concern is the jump in admin expenses of nearly \$90,000. Just to add some context, for this same period the English dept. saw an increase in admin expenses of \$196,116, GESJ jumped by \$143,675, and Religions and Cultures by \$66,103. **So, my first question then is what accounts for this massive jump in "Net Admin Expenses"?***

*And there is one other unsettling item that I noticed. In 2017/2018 our program showed 9.56 WGU's, 6 Majors, and 60.9 FTE's. In 2018/2019 we had 13.165 WGU's, 11 Majors, and 57.6 FTE's. So WGU's and Majors increased and FTE's declined by a mere 3.3 students, but our operating deficit goes from \$17,421 to a massive \$270,144. I am little confused as to how the loss of three students results in a loss of net income in the amount \$252,723. Puzzled by this, I*

*dug a little deeper and noticed that, inappropriately included as line items in the “Admin Expenses” are a number of revenue items, one of which is an item labelled “Other Admin Revenues.” This item showed a drop of \$139,498 from 2017/2018 to 2018/2019. **This leads me to three other questions: 1. Why are “Other Revenues” allocated to “Admin Expenses”?** 2. What are “Other Revenues”? 3. Why have they dropped so precipitously from 2017/2018 to 2018/2019?*

Dr. Wenghofer requested to note that his questions were not actually answered.

In follow up, the Provost advised that the data from the AQAPC meeting was provided in the Senate agenda to provide an opportunity for questions to be raised and addressed.

The Director of Institutional Planning and Analysis discussed how the profit margin spreadsheet was developed for the Auditor General Report, and how values are generated and allocated. He advised that he would follow up with Senator Wenghofer to address any questions that may not been answered, as well as respond to other questions from the floor.

The VPFA requested that further questions be submitted in writing so that a fulsome and transparent response can be provided.

Senators and faculty members spoke to the proposed departmental changes in the Faculty of Arts and Science, noting restructuring exercises have taken place this past year and that several departments have agreed to merge. One of these recommendations is to merge the Biology, Environmental Biology and Technology, Chemistry, Geography, Environmental Geography, and Environmental and Physical Geography departments to form the Department of Biology, Chemistry and Geography.

It was noted that the merger is not supported by the Chairs or the departments, and that the merger was voted down unanimously by the departments noting the following reservations: lack of faculty support, sufficient information has not been received, concerns about an unreasonable workload, a lack of student consultation, concerns about the timing with the new programs in Env Studies and Env Science, upcoming IQAP reviews, and that the university is currently in a state of flux with ongoing searches for a Provost, AVPRIGS, and an interim Dean of A&S.

Faculty and Student Senators, as well as the Geography and Geology, Environmental Science/Studies, MESC/MES Graduate Program Coordinator voiced their concerns regarding the merger. It was noted that 25 faculty members have voted against this merger, and that students have submitted petitions in support of the faculty. Requests were also made for a risk assessment, a cost-benefit analysis, and an analysis of the pros and cons.

In response to a request for justification regarding the merger of these departments, the Dean of Arts and Science (Interim) advised that if we don't make changes, it could be a top-down approach and decisions may be made for them.

The Provost reported that the Department Chairs provided a presentation and spoke at length at the recent AQAPC meeting advising that they are not in favour of the merger. It was noted that the merger was supported by the previous Dean and is supported by the current Interim Dean, and the plan is to move forward with the merger. If we find in a year that it is not working, then it can be revisited.

The following questions were asked regarding the suspension of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Scholar Practitioner Program (SPP): what will happen to the seats in the program, will

there be an opportunity to explore options with a Northern focus, and is there an opportunity for students to pursue other options? The Provost advised that a thorough discussion had been held at the last AQAPC meeting with questions answered and data provided. An analysis of the SPP was completed and it was determined that given the enrolment and the associated costs, the program could no longer be sustained.

The Provost addressed a common misunderstanding, advising that the BEd program has a cap imposed by the province, but with Nursing there is no such cap. Clinical space is limited and we can't go beyond this space. Within our SPP program our goal was to take 50 students per year, and we had a number of established partners. It was a unique program that started in 2011, but it's been difficult over the years to hit our intake of 50 students. Applications for this year's program have dropped 47%. We have already qualified for government expansion grants, and we have continued to expand in our other nursing programs. It was a difficult decision to make.

It was noted that on March 23, 2023, faculty received an email that the SPP program was being suspended, with no indication that this decision came from the AQAPC. The Interim Dean of EPS advised that the program was being suspended for financial reasons with no consultation with members of the nursing faculty, hospitals, nursing organizations and partners or NUFA. Given the social responsibility of the university to provide nurses, and the fact that strategic planning is not completed, why was this decision made now?

The Provost advised that this decision has been ongoing for a number of years, and that a great deal of discussion has taken place. She informed that the SPP began with 6 partners and a number of MOU's. We now have one partner with one MOU. We continue to have a relationship with Sick Kids and moved forward with a partnership without an MOU. Student numbers were not solid, and we recognized that while we were still able to place students in UHN and Sick Kids they were asking us for a significant investment of \$500,000 for physical classroom space. We have qualified for nursing expansion grants, but we are having difficulty hiring in nursing and we aren't alone in that.

In response to a question regarding the cancellation of the spring/summer course HIST 3306: Canada's Forgotten War: Obwandiyag and the Defence of Turtle Island as only 12 students were registered and the minimum enrollment required was 15 students, the Provost advised that there are specific enrolment requirements for part-time courses to run and that discussion has taken place with the Interim Dean of A&S as well as with NUSU regarding enrolment deadlines. It was noted that history plays an important role in the TRC calls to action, and that this is difficult and important work. We are uniquely positioned to offer this course, and the content has been offered at NU for 15 years by a professor that is an expert in Indigenous Treaties. A respectful request was made that this course be allowed to run with 12 students even if it will run at a loss.

NUSU Student Senators McEntee, Panchal and English, as well as incoming NUSU VPFA Cooke, advised that they will enroll in the course to meet the minimum enrollment requirement, and requested that the course be re-instated.

The following substantive questions were submitted by NUSU in advance for response:  
*Residence has accepted the deposits of a large number of students for next year. This means a large number of students will be on the waitlist. Students won't know until June 1st, this can cause difficulty with the turnaround time to find other accommodations and thus lead to housing concerns. What will the university do to support students through this time?*

In response, the Provost advised that it is not uncommon for campuses to have a residence waitlist. Residence is following the established process, and students are advised of the policy prior to submitting an application and deposit. Residence spaces are limited, and the university makes students aware of the possibilities of off campus housing through our website and through email communications with applicants. Students can and are encouraged to explore other housing options if they are placed on the waitlist. Students won't receive communication regarding placements until after the June 1st deadline passes. Students who wish to be taken off the waitlist at any time, prior to receiving a residence placement, will have their deposit returned less a \$25 administrative fee. If a student wishes to cancel their application, they should log onto their rezlife portal and withdraw their application. The admissions office will receive notice of the withdrawal and proceed accordingly.

*How is the overview of International Student Enrollment? Will there be adequate housing and academic support in place for the number of international students that we will have on campus?*

Yes, there will be support, but we are unable to control housing for international and domestic students. We will continue to work with our international and domestic students to ensure that there is adequate support.

*In follow up to a question from last year's Senate conversations regarding international student tuition, will communication be sent out to students?*

The Provost advised that two years of tuition costs were approved in one year. The Registrar advised that an email had been sent out to current students to advise of changes, and all new students are advised of tuition changes.

Following a request for further information regarding a Director for Education and Nursing, the Provost informed that a decision has not been made that can be communicated publicly yet, but that in the absence of Directors for Education and Nursing, we have extended the Interim Associate Dean of Bachelor of Education Concurrent and Consecutive Programs and created an Interim Associate Dean of the School of Nursing position for the 2023-24 academic year. The importance of filling the role of Interim Associate Dean of the School of Nursing with someone with a nursing perspective was noted.

## **Reports of Standing Committees and Faculty or University Councils**

### **Senate Executive Committee**

Motion 4: Moved by K. Wamsley, seconded by G. Phillips that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated April 6, 2023 be received.  
CARRIED

### **Academic Curriculum Committee**

#### **February 28, 2023 Report**

Motion 5: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated February 28, 2023 be received.  
CARRIED

### **Faculty of Arts & Science**

Biology**Non-substantive:**

To un-bank BIOL 3267 Animal Physiology.

Motion 6: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Dech that Senate approve the revised Note pertaining to the Honours Specialization in Environmental Biology and Technology program.  
CARRIED

Motion 7: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Dech that Senate approve the revised Note pertaining to the Specialization in Environmental Biology and Technology program.  
CARRIED

Chemistry**Non-substantive:**

The title of the course CHEM 2306 Introduction to Organic Chemistry I be changed to CHEM 2306 Organic Chemistry I.

**Non-substantive:**

The title of the course CHEM 2307 Introduction to Organic Chemistry II be changed to CHEM 2307 Organic Chemistry II.

Motion 8: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Dech that Senate approve the creation of CHEM-2316 Green Chemistry for Environmental Sustainability  
CARRIED

Motion 9: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve creation of CHEM-2317 Medicinal Chemistry.  
CARRIED

Motion 10: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Dech that Senate approve the creation of CHEM-2506 Chemistry of Pollution.  
CARRIED

**Non-substantive:**

The prerequisite for CHEM 4347 be changed.

Child and Family Studies**Non-substantive:**

The course description for CHFS 2026 Methods in Behavioural and Social Sciences be revised.

Motion 11: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate approve the learning outcomes for CHFS 2026 Methods in Behavioural and Social Sciences.  
CARRIED

Motion 12: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate approve the current delivery language for CHFS 2026 "Methods in Behavioural and Social Sciences" from "Three hours of lecture and three hours of laboratory work per week for one

term” to “Four hours per week of blended learning format (lecture, practical, technology)”  
CARRIED

**Non-substantive:**

The course title for CHFS 2106 be changed from Human Development: Children & Youth to Applied Human Development: Children & Youth.

**Non-substantive:**

The revision of the course description for CHFS 2106 Human Development: Children & Youth.

Gender Equality and Social Justice

Motion 13: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that Senate approve the creation of GEND-2556 The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Family.  
CARRIED

Motion 14: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that Senate approve that the program requirements for the GESJ Honours Degree be revised to allow 6 credits of GEND 4106 Selected Topics in fulfilment of the Honours degree.  
CARRIED

**Non-substantive:**

The course GEND 2316 Masculinities, Money and Media be banked.

**Non-substantive:**

The course GEND 3316 Race, Murder and Media be banked.

**March 22, 2023 Report**

Motion 15: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated March 22, 2023 be received.  
CARRIED

Faculty of Arts & Science

Child and Family Studies

Motion 16: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by R. Hehn that Senate approve the learning outcomes for CHFS 2106 Human Development: Children & Youth.  
CARRIED

Motion 17: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by R. Vanderlee that Senate approve the current delivery language for CHFS 2106 Human Development: Children & Youth from “Three hours of lecture per week” to “Three hours per week”.  
CARRIED

**Non-substantive:**

The course title for CHFS 4306 be changed from Special Topics: Human Dev & Learning to Topics: Developmental, Behavioural, and Mental Health.

**Non-substantive:**

The revision of the course description for CHFS 4306 Special Topics: Human Dev & Learning.

Motion 18: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate approve the revised learning outcomes for CHFS 4306 Special Topics: Human Dev & Learning.  
CARRIED

**Non-substantive:**

The revision of prerequisites for CHFS 4306 Special Topics: Human Dev & Learning.

Motion 19: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by R. Hehn that Senate approve the current delivery language for CHFS 4306 Special Topics: Human Dev & Learning **from** Three hours of lecture per week **to** “Three hours per week”.  
CARRIED

**Non-substantive:**

The prerequisites for CHFS 4206 “Applied Developmental Neuropsychology” be changed as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 20: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve the change in course delivery for CHFS 4206 Applied Developmental Neuropsychology **from** three hours of lecture per week for one term **to** “Three hours per week”.  
CARRIED

Motion 21: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate approve the change to the title of Group 1 courses in Major, Minor, Specialization, and Hon Specialization CHFS programs from “Human Development & Learning” to “Applied Human Development: Developmental, Behavioural, and Mental Health” and that calendar language is updated to reflect this.  
CARRIED

**English/Indigenous Studies**

Motion 22: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that Senate approve the creation of ENGL 2416/INDG 2416 Indigenous Graphic Novels and Teachings.  
CARRIED

**Geography & Geology**

Motion 23: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that Senate consider motions 11-16 as an omnibus motion.  
CARRIED

Motion 24: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve motions 25-30 as an omnibus motion.  
CARRIED

Motion 25: That the revised program requirements for the Honours Specialization in Geography be approved as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 26: That the revised program requirements for the Specialization in Geography be approved as outlined in the attached document.



- Motion 27: That the revised program requirements for the Honours Specialization in Environmental Geography be approved as outlined in the attached document.
- Motion 28: That the revised program requirements for the Specialization in Environmental Geography be approved as outlined in the attached document.
- Motion 29: That the revised program requirements for the Honours Specialization in Environment and Physical Geography be approved as outlined in the attached document.
- Motion 30: That the revised program requirements for the Specialization in Environment and Physical Geography be approved as outlined in the attached document.  
Motions 11-16, as omnibus, CARRIED
- Motion 31: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve the cross-coding of the following Geography (GEOG) science courses as ENSC as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

**Non-substantive:**

The revision of the course description for GEOG 1016 People, Place and Environment.

- Motion 32: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by R. Wenghofer that Senate approve the learning outcomes for GEOG 1016 People, Place and Environment.  
CARRIED
- Motion 33: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve the change of GEOL-1006 The Earth's Interior hours of contact time from 3 hours lecture and 3 hours lab **to** 3 hours per week.  
CARRIED
- Motion 34: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve to change GEOL 1007 Surficial Geology hours of contact time from 3 hours lecture and 3 hours lab **to** 3 hours per week.  
CARRIED

**Non-substantive:**

The revision of the course description for GEOG 4777 Water Governance.

- Motion 35: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve the changes to the Environment and Sustainability Post-Baccalaureate Degree program as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

**Non-substantive:**

To **delete** GEOL 1031 The Earth's Interior for Non-science from the Academic Calendar.

**Non-substantive:**

To **delete** GEOL 1032 Surficial Geology for Non-science from the Academic Calendar.

**Indigenous Studies**

**Non-substantive:**

The revision course title of INDG 3107 "Indigenous Research Methods" to "Building Our Knowledge Bundles" as outlined in the attached document.

**Psychology**

Motion 36: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve the creation of PSYC 3346 Research Methods in Psychological Science as outlined in the attached template.  
CARRIED

Motion 37: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve the program requirements for the BA Honours Specialization in Psychology be changed as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

**Religions and Cultures**

Motion 38: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve the creation of RLCT 2606 Hospice, Palliative Care and Religion as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

**Sociology****Non-substantive:**

That the course description for SOCI 2016 be changed as outlined in the attached document.

**Non-substantive:**

That the course description for SOCI 2017 be changed as outlined in the attached document.

**Non-substantive:**

That the course title for SOCI 3226 be changed from "Survey Research" to "Survey Design."

**Non-substantive:**

That the prerequisite for SOCI 3226: Survey Research be changed as outlined in the attached document.

**Non-substantive:**

That the course description for SOCI 3226: Survey Research be revised.

**Faculty of Education and Professional Studies****School of Business**

Motion 39: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve that the program requirements for the Post Baccalaureate Diploma in Marketing be modified as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

**Schulich School of Education**

- Motion 40: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. Mady that Senate approve that EDUC 4926 Anishnaabemwin as a Second Language (Intermediate) be added to the offerings for the Bachelor of Education Program.  
CARRIED
- Motion 41: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. Mady that Senate approve that EDUC 4917 First Nation, Metis and Inuit Studies (Intermediate) be added to the offerings for the Bachelor of Education Program.  
CARRIED
- Motion 42: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. Mady that Senate approve that EDUC 4907 First Nation, Metis and Inuit Studies (Senior) be added to the offerings for the Bachelor of Education Program.  
CARRIED
- Motion 43: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. Mady that Senate approve that the additional qualification course: EDUC-1805 *Adapting curriculum for second language learners in a French as a second language setting*, be developed and added to the list of offerings for Additional Qualifications.  
CARRIED
- Motion 44: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. Mady that Senate approve that the additional qualification course: EDUC-1815 *Teaching in a French immersion setting*, be developed and added to the list of offerings for Additional Qualifications.  
CARRIED
- Motion 45: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. Mady that Senate approve that the additional qualification course: EDUC-1825 *Reading Part 1 for a French as a second language setting*, be developed and added to the list of offerings for Additional Qualifications.  
CARRIED

### **School of Graduate Studies**

#### **Master of Environmental Science**

- Motion 46: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve that a new course in Geography/Biology/Chemistry 4516, titled “Biogeochemistry of the Anthropocene” be added to the course calendar.  
CARRIED
- Motion 47: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Dech that Senate approve the creation of ENSC-5516 Biogeochemistry of the Anthropocene.  
CARRIED

### **Admissions**

- Motion 48: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Iafrate that Senate approve that the Bachelor of Education – First Nations, Metis, Inuit teaching subject admission policy be approved as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

Motion 49: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Iafrate that Senate approve that the Bachelor of Education – Indigenous Languages: Anishnaabemwin teaching subject admission policy be approved as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

Motion 50: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate approve that the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Professional Years admission policy modification be approved.  
CARRIED

### **Prior Learning Assessment Recognition (PLAR)**

Motion 51: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Iafrate that Senate approve that Prior Learning Assessment Recognition (PLAR) be considered as a pilot for the Indigenous Foundations Program and BA, Indigenous Studies for Spring/Summer & Fall/Winter 2024 intake.  
CARRIED

### **Banking and Deleting Courses**

For Information Only:

The below listing of courses (Courses to be Banked after 22FW) were not offered in the past five calendar years and will be banked by the Registrar's Office.

Courses to be Banked after 22FW:

ACAD-2901 Academic Writing in the Applied and Professional Studies

BIOL-4887 Internship II

ENGL-2266 Adventurers, Outlaws, or Pioneers, of the Frontier: Early American, Literature

ENGL-3047 Topics in Digital Culture

ENGL-3127 Writing for Digital Media: From Tweeting to Establishing a Professional Online Presence

ENGL-3487 Topics in Poetic Genres

ENGL-4507 Honours Seminar: Advanced Studies in, Eighteenth-Century Literature

ENGL-4527 Honours Seminar: Advanced Studies in, Genre

ENGL-4537 Honours Seminar: Advanced Studies in, North American Literatures

ENGL-4886 Honours Seminar: Advanced Studies, In Digital Culture

GEOG-3707 A Geography of Eastern Europe, (formerly GEOG 2707)

HIST-3276 Topics in Environmental History

HIST-3567 Slavery and the American Civil War

HIST-3627 Post 1945 Europe

HIST-4055 Research Project

HIST-4605 Special Topics

HIST-4625 Special Topics

HIST-4817 The Third Reich

PSYC-4316 Fieldwork on ABA

SWLF-3146 Work

SWLF-3296 Globalization and Social, Inequalities

SWLF-3506 Social Change for Social Justice

EDUC-1205L Practicum, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, I

EDUC-1526 Religious Education in the Roman Catholic Separate Schools

EDUC-2545 Native Languages Part 2

EDUC-3021 NCADP Junior Methods III

EDUC-3041 Children's Literature

EDUC-3051 Music and Drama  
EDUC-4013 Observation & Practice Teaching IV, (junior/Intermediate)  
EDUC-4436 French as a Second Language, (intermediate)  
EDUC-4444 Curriculum Methods II (Primary/Junior)  
EDUC-4484 Curriculum Methods II, (junior/Intermediate)  
EDUC-4486 Science I (intermediate)  
EDUC-4671 Observation & Practice Teaching III (Primary/Junior)  
EDUC-4687 Observation & Practice Teaching V (primary/Junior)  
EDUC-4697 Observation and Practice Teaching V, (Junior/Intermediate)  
EDUC-4771 Environmental Science  
TMGT-4006 Management of Innovation and Technology  
ENST-5656 Chemical Approaches to Air and Water, Pollutants  
MATH-5056 Algebra

The below listing of courses (Courses to be Deleted after 22FW) were not offered in the past ten calendar years and will be deleted by the Registrar's Office.

Courses to be Deleted after 22FW:

CHFS-3007 Selected Topics in Children's Rights  
ORGS-3706 Organization Structure and Design  
ORGS-3837 Organization Development and Change  
TMGT-2807 Project Management  
MATH-5046 Complex Analysis

### **Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee (AQAPC)**

Motion 52: Moved by C. Richardson seconded by D. Walters that the Report of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee dated March 24, 2023 be received.  
CARRIED

A request was made that Senate not accept the Report of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee dated March 24, 2023, as the AQAPC does not have the authority to suspend admission to a program. The Provost advised that the information was provided to the AQAPC, and subsequently to Senate for transparency as a record in the Senate minutes. A wide-ranging discussion ensued.

The Speaker advised that a vote must be held whether to receive the AQAPC report. If the vote to receive the report was not supported, then the other 3 motions could not be received. A vote to receive the AQAPC Report was held, and the motion was carried.

Motion 53: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Walters that Senate approve the Stage II New Program Proposal - BA in Environmental Studies (Honours Specialization; Specialization; Major).  
CARRIED

Motion 54: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate approve the Stage II New Program Proposal - BSc in Environmental Sciences (Honours Specialization; Specialization; Major).  
CARRIED

Motion 55: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Allison that Senate approve the revised Bachelor of Education Program Attendance Policy as outlined.  
CARRIED

**By-laws and Elections Committee**

Motion 56: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. Greco that the Report of the By-Laws and Elections Committee dated March 9, 2023 be received.  
CARRIED

**Research Committee**

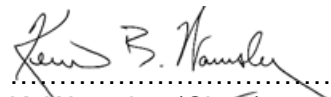
Motion 57: Moved by B. Law, seconded by M. Tuncali that the Report of the Research Committee dated March 24, 2023 be received.  
CARRIED

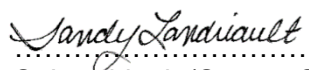
**Announcements**

The Provost announced and congratulated the following successful SSHRC Institutional Grant (SIG) recipients:  
Natalya Brown (\$7,000) The Role of Community Foundations in the Philanthropic Ecosystem in Northern Communities in Canada  
Kirsten Greer (\$7,000) Moving Relationships: Partnership-mobilization across Robinson Huron Treaty and Robinson Superior Treaty (1850) territories  
Joseph Gurgis (\$6,000) Exploring Indigenous Coaches' Perspectives of Enhancing Inclusion in Sport  
Alireza Khorakian (\$7,000) Lessons learned from COVID-19 black swan for the startup, micro, and small firms

**Adjournment**

Senate was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

  
.....  
K. Wamsley (Chair)

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

**University Senate**  
**14 April 2023**  
**President's Report**

Good afternoon fellow Senators. Congratulations to all of you for seeing the home stretch to the Winter term and anticipating celebrating the accomplishments of Nipissing University students during our Convocation ceremonies in June. I know that many of you are grading exams and assignments, and our student Senators still have some work to do. It is also the time of year we look forward to more time for research and presenting our work at conferences. And planning for the arrival of students in the Fall. As we move towards year end in our budget cycle and towards the end of other cycles in June, we can conclude I think that it has been a very, very active year.

We have engaged in Strategic Planning, we have engaged in hiring processes, we are engaging in an Equity Audit, we have survived an Auditor General's extensive analysis, we have weathered shifts in enrolment based on the Pandemic, and continue to weather the issues that arise in teaching, learning, and research within the context of the Pandemic and the changes that it has brought to people's lives. We have been working on significant renovations, we have rebuilt our ancillary services and continue to work on alternative streams of revenue. We have brought back in-person recruitment, digital marketing, we are back in our communities making a difference in person, we are fundraising, and we have been advocating for government support with all of our energy.

With respect to Strategic Planning, we have just finished our extensive round of community stakeholder consultations this week and we are looking at organizing some focus groups and public sessions where we will report back to you on our preliminary findings. In the coming weeks, we will continue to analyze and write and prepare drafts for our community to examine. Our newly established Equity Action Planning Task Force met this week, and we will soon be sending out a request for proposals to third parties to conduct an Equity Audit and we will be encouraging full participation in this audit so that we may develop an action plan for the future. We continue to work on the Auditor General's recommendations but have not heard back on our proposed schedule for these recommendations. As the Provost will report, our in-person recruiting, our events, and digital marketing campaign have been successful for both domestic and international students with significantly increased numbers of applications and confirmations to date – but we recognize that there is still much work to do before September. We look forward to completing the renovations and building for new space in the Surtees Centre, in the new Centre for War Atrocities and Genocide and our new Simulation Centre. We will be hosting grand openings for each of these spaces, probably when our students arrive in September. We continue our processes for hiring a new Provost, hoping with some news in the next couple of weeks. We will be assessing portfolios within the office of the AVP Students and making a decision about that role within the next few months.

I am very pleased to announce that we have received \$207,000 from the Province to purchase some of the equipment for the Simulation Centre. Government support of course is always welcome. I am certain that foremost on your minds is the financial status of our university. As you know, in response to your questions about our future, given the context of Laurentian, I have spoken many times about the way forward and how this university may become sustainable. We know that we need increased government support, we need to best manage a sustainable enrolment strategy, and we need to fundraise, and we need to develop alternative forms of revenue. Otherwise, we will not survive. We asked the government for substantial support to assist us in not only meeting our budget requirements in the short term – we also need assistance to replenish our reserves that have been spent down over the past 5-6 years. These important factors are so important to credit ratings and the relationships between us and our banks and auditors.

The following information that I am providing today is limited because we have not reported to Audit and Finance – that will be Monday, and we have not reported to Board Executive or the larger Board. Full details will be forthcoming to the Senate Budget committee, Senate, and our broader campus. First, I have news about government support. I am very pleased to announce that our advocacy efforts with the Minister, the Deputy Minister, and the Assistant Deputy Minister resulted in one-time additional grant support of \$3.7M for 2022-23. This is the minimum amount of help that we needed but it is good news, nonetheless. You are all aware of the efforts to pursue cost efficiencies and very strict budgets; we have and will continue to ask you to make significant changes to our structures and cost model – we have cost cut for a decade and we are underserved in many areas but the greatest threat to our immediate future is to stop the outflow of our reserve funds. It has been a very difficult time for all of us and it will continue to be challenging. I want to acknowledge everyone on campus - administrative staff, faculty, support staff, and students for working and learning in what is a very challenging fiscal environment. However, and secondly, I am pleased to report that we project that these efforts, our collective efforts, and the one-time funding from the government will place us in a balanced return for the fiscal year 2022-23. This is a piece of good news for us, for our primary lender TD Bank, and our audit firm, KPMG. But the fact remains that we must continue this work to return funds to our reserves and we must continue our annual efforts to build a sustainable university which means balancing our costs of instruction with our tuition revenues and our university operating costs and supports with our government grants. This ship is turning around because of some very hard and difficult work but please know that we have some ways to go.

Third, and finally, within this context of difficult decisions and financial planning, developing alternative revenues, and maximizing sustainable enrolment strategies, I can't tell you how pleased I am to announce that we will be presenting to Audit and Finance the 2023-2024 budget, the first balanced budget for Nipissing University in 10 years.



**Senate Report  
Provost, Vice President Academic and Research (Interim)  
April, 2023**

1. Work continues to finalize the academic structure for the upcoming year.
  - The Dean of Arts and Science and the Dean of Education and Professional Studies positions will remain interim.
  - In the absence of Directors for Education and Nursing, we have extended the Interim Associate Dean of Bachelor of Education Concurrent and Consecutive Programs and created the Interim Associate Dean of the School of Nursing position for the 2023-24 academic year. The search for the Associate Vice President of Research, Innovation and Graduate Studies is ongoing.
2. Discussion of the academic planning continues at the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee with a detailed presentation of data on our programs.
3. Research Month  
Congratulations to all who were involved in all the events for Research Month. The quality and variety of events was outstanding.

At this time of the year, our recruitment efforts are focusing on converting offers to acceptances. Our campus tours continue to be busy, this year we've seen an increase in local schools coming to campus. The admissions team continues to send offers out to applicants as quickly as possible. We're still accepting applications for September for all programs except our 4 year Bachelor of Nursing program.

### **UNDERGRADUATE AND BACHELOR OF EDUCATION CONFIRMATIONS**

On the domestic undergraduate side of things, our 101 and 105 confirmations are up 65% vs. same time last year (316 vs. 191). Confirmations in our BA programs have seen the most growth so far (up 87 confirmations) followed by our BPHE program which is up 23 confirmations from the same time last year.

On the BEd side of things, our Education numbers look strong, and we anticipate an incoming cohort of approximately 520 students. In most years we have 80 or so concurrent education students continue into their BEd years, however this year we have a much stronger continuing cohort - approximately 120.

### **GRADUATE STUDIES APPLICATIONS**

Committees are finalizing their decisions regarding offers into our graduate studies programs. What we can say is that applications are up overall (about 35%). The increased interest for Graduate studies this year can be attributed directly to international applicants. The graduate programs of highest interest amongst our international applicants are our MES and MEd with 15 applicants between both programs.

### **INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS**

To date, we have received applications from approximately 675 International students. While we have interest in our full breadth of program offerings, our Post-Bacs are the major area of interest, capturing nearly 75% of our International applicants. At this time, things appear to be on track for us to meet our International admissions target of 160FTE for 2023/24.

## A Brief Report on the Meeting of COU Academic Colleagues on April 4-6

Submitted by Lanyan Chen with Sarah Winters  
(More detailed meeting notes will be shared later.)

The AC meeting was largely focused on a discussion of AI and the way forward for universities. The group shared concerns about AI in terms of its impacts on academic integrity, the lack of contribution to original research, and inability to create new knowledge, especially knowledge about promoting equity, diversity and inclusion, etc. It came up with a suggestion of pro-active response to AI's influence on post-secondary education by way of short-term, medium-term, and long-term strategies.

**Framing Question: What changes will the ubiquity of AI-driven tools force in the short vs long-term, what opportunities does this present, and what should we be thinking about as we move forward?**

- **Short (upcoming fall term)**
  - Increase student use on assignments;
    - Challenges of "garbage in, garbage out" (verbal image of garbage bin with "misinformation", "biased sources", "misleading information"); **opportunity** to reinforce need to return to primary sources, understand bias, understand need to question \*all\* software and model outputs, not just what ChatGPT spits out
    - Challenge of students delegating writing of text to the AI; **opportunities** to learn how to critically review and edit work (e.g. colleague who teaches research grant writing and has students prompt ChatGPT to write proposal based on inputs and then has them role play a reviewer role to critically evaluate what was written. (Students learn how to assess and refine work, not unlike what we do when we mark)
    - Use of ChatGPT can shift both the process and the output; **opportunity** to have students think critically about how the use of a tool can introduce constraints or bias as an outcome
  - Increased adoption by private sector may lead to immediate term expectation of student acumen with use of AI as tools; they will use it - we have the **opportunity** to teach them to use it critically
  - Huge discrepancy in Faculty awareness of and acumen using the tool; **need** for guidance and support from learning and teaching offices (not unlike pandemic pivot to remote learning)
- **Medium (next 2-5 years)**
  - More widespread adoption by Faculty and administration to speed up or support repetitive or high effort tasks (e.g. literature reviews, drafting communications, analysing data); opportunity to decrease busywork and free up time for creative thought (ideal); threat of increased output expectation (perhaps more likely reality)
    - Knock down effect of changing TA/RA role to leverage AI tools to speed up marking or research tasks; need to consider how this should impact training and ensure this does not negatively impact Graduate school affordability
    - Financial implications: license costs, increased IT support costs, etc.
  - Need to meaningfully incorporate critical use into curriculum - opportunity to do this in English, Engineering Concepts, and other foundational courses OR new course offering

- Will require changes to course and program learner outcomes and degree level expectations, at least in those programs that emphasize writing and communication skills in their learner outcomes. But will also require rethinking of other outcomes related to research skills etc. Facility with AI tools may become a core competency in many programs.
- Consideration of structural changes to adopt more critical pedagogy enabled/forced by the technology shift
- Consider shifting away from written work as proof of knowledge; more oral examinations, knowledge demonstrations, interactive assessments.
  - Such a shift may lead to changes in how classes are structured and require different resources to implement. For example, may require smaller class sizes in order to provide more meaningful interaction between instructors and students
- Institutions, programs, and disciplines that fail to engage with and incorporate AI tools will struggle in the years to come as they will come to be seen as increasingly irrelevant given work-place expectations and the fact that such tools will become increasingly embedded in everyday life. Universities should play an important role in teaching how to use those tools effectively and productively, and to provide a space to think through the implications of their use. In other words, universities have a key role in teaching AI literacy and critical engagement with AI.
- **Long (5+ years)**
  - Use of these tools in practice to speed up/optimize routine or mundane tasks makes this a core expectation from employers
    - Need to consider how to address these
  - Increased range of tools (beyond image, text, and code generation) - what's next?
  - Improved (hopefully) information curating to increase reliability of information

## **Academic Senate Report**

April 14th, 2023

### **Relay for Life**

Congratulations to the Nipissing University Relay for Life Club which has raised almost \$25,000 for cancer research. This is their fifteenth year as a club and in that time they have raised over \$200,000.

### **Research Month**

Congratulations to the organizers of Research Month including NU360 and the Undergraduate Research Conference. We were happy to host both events at the NUSU Student Centre. It was great to see so many in attendance and we are excited for next year's events.

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the Undergraduate Research Conference and the Three Minute Thesis Competition. We are exceedingly proud of each and every student.

### **Bay Bistro**

The Bay Bistro will be open from 11:30am to 8:30pm from Monday to Friday. This is open also to the general public. The restaurant is located within the NUSU Student Centre. When entering through the front doors individuals head to the right hallway and go to the end. Reservations can be made by going to [linktr.ee/baybistro](http://linktr.ee/baybistro).

### **Student Senators**

Thank you to Sarah Pecoskie-Schweir, Jared Gagné and Chantal Phillips for their time in being student senators this past year. We would like to recognize Sarah specifically as she has been the Education & Professional Studies Student Senator since 2019. We are thankful for her tireless work in supporting students academically.

We would like to welcome Sam Greco who will be the new Education & Professional Studies Student Senator. We will be running a by-election in the Fall for the remaining Arts & Science and Graduate Studies student senator positions.