

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

June 6, 2005
2:30 p.m. - Room A246

MEMBERS PRESENT:

D. Mock, R. Common, D. Lawrence, B. Nettlefold,
A. Sparkes, R. Wideman

J. Barker, R. Brozowski, K. Brozowski, T. Chase, E. Cholewa,
P. Cook, T. Dokis, D. Flynn, D. Ford, D. Geden, D. Hackett,
D. Hemsworth, S. High, L. Janzen, T. Jones, D. Jowett, S. Kariuki,
J. Kovacs, L. Kruk, S. Lawlor, J. LeClair, B. Lorezkowski,
S. Muhlberger, D. Murphy, F. Noël, P. Nosko, S. O'Hagan,
A. Page, L. Patriquin, G. Phillips, G. Pyle, R. Pyper, S. Renshaw,
L. Robinson, D. Rowbotham, M. Saari, C. Sarlo, S. Srigley,
D. Tabachnick, K. Topps, D. Walton, A. Weeks, G. Williams,
W. Young

J. Barnett, D. Berry, W. Blair, K. Clausen, E. Duncan, R. Fix,
D. Franks, T. Horton, M. Kariuki, K. Kirkwood, H. Langford,
G. Laronde, J. Long, M. McCabe, G. McEwen, J. McIntosh,
MA Parr, C. Richardson, W. Richardson, O. Ridler, J. Scott,
G. Swanson, H. Vail, S. Van Nuland, K. Waller

T. Condotta, J. deBruyn, K. Marsh, L. McLaren
M. Roycroft

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: R. Hawkins, R. Vanderlee

J. Baffoe, E. Berger, R. Bergquist (on leave), W. Borody (on leave),
K. Boterbloem, A. Dean (on leave), AB Graff, D. Hall,
P. Kelly (on leave), E. Mattson (on leave), G. Olsen, B. Schreyer

T. Campbell, K. Noël, B. Olmstead, M Parr, S. Reid, H. Rintoul,
C. Shields

M. Bowman, M. Cooper, B. Pipe, T. Silveri

ABSENT:

G. Brophrey, G. Brown, P. Chow, A. Clendinning, M. Denike,
A. Karassev, J. Knox, S. Kulkarni, U. Kundrats, C. MacFarlane,
T. Parkes, B. Riome, J. Ryan, K. Stange, M. Tuncali, V. Valov,
H. Zhu

AM Aquino, D. Brackenreed, M. Cantilini-Williams, J. Corkett,

L. Frost, C. Harvey, P. Joong, L. Keuhl, A. Le Sage,
J. Mroczkowski, J. Price, C. Ricci, T. Ryan, R. Weeks

GUEST: A. Fera

MOTION #1: Moved by W. Blair, seconded by A. Page that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Academic Senate dated May 13, 2005 be adopted.
CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President began his announcements by stating that this was a week of celebrations as over 1200 students would be graduating. This is the largest group of graduates in the history of the university. To help our students celebrate their success, he encouraged as many senators as possible to attend. A total of six people will be given honorary degrees during these five convocation ceremonies.

Senator Mock reminded senators that the provincial budget was released on May 11. It was the first budget in 40 years which made post-secondary education a priority. A total of \$6.2B additional dollars will be injected into the post-secondary system over the next four years, with \$192M this upcoming year targeted specifically for financial aid for students. Graduate programming is becoming a high priority as \$220M is earmarked over the next four year period. This is a good news budget for Nipissing as it will finally address the issue of unfunded BIUs and will assist our students who have the highest use of financial aid in the province. Once the money details are known, a supplementary budget will be issued in August. The President also stated that when the new funding formula is established, it will be based on enrollment, and it is believed that next year will be used as part of the benchmark. Senator Mock also discussed the possible changes in BIU values with students in four-year programs being worth more. With more than 40% of our students enrolled in three-year degree programs, the largest proportion in Ontario, we are financially at a disadvantage in this area.

On May 19, with the mayor in attendance, Senator Sarlo released his economic impact study to the local media. A total impact of \$93M into the local economy is realized. Senator Mock indicated that having a university in the city also results in cultural, social and academic spin-offs. On May 24, MPP Monique Smith was on campus to announce funding in the amount of \$1.27M for deferred maintenance and \$790K for graduate student endowment.

The President expressed his delight that Vickie Paine-Mantha will be the new Vice-President of Finance and Administration, effective September 1. As well, Senator Chase will now commence his duties as interim Vice-President of Academic and Research effective July 1 and Senator Vanderlee has agreed to act as interim Dean of Arts and Science for a period of 13 months. Senator Mock was also pleased that Greg Brown will chair the CRC Definition Committee. Senator Mock stated that the rebuilding of the management team was still ongoing and that he was looking forward to all senior management working together.

Senator Mock thanked everyone who had been making phone calls to high school applicants. Because of full funding, competition in the areas of recruitment and admission will be acute. He stated that we should know shortly what the final first-year enrollment will be for September.

Senator Mock was very pleased with the success of the SSHRC and NSERC scholarship recipients. SSHRC had a 100% success rate (six applicants and six successful recipients) and NSERC had a 100% success rate in Biology and Mathematics.

The Strategic Plan implementation process has begun with the formation of the first task group on the recruitment and retention of faculty and staff. Very shortly, the task groups on academic structure, library, profile building and the recruitment and retention of students will be struck.

Senator Sparkes spoke on behalf of Senator Vanderlee, the interim Dean of Arts and Science, who expressed his pleasure with his new appointment. He looks forward to working closely with the department chairs. Senator Sparkes was pleased to note that five out of the six SSHRC scholarship recipients were from North Bay. He also reported that Senators High and Clendinning each received \$70,000 and \$44,000 SSHRC grants respectively. An NSERC grant valued at \$64,500 was awarded to Senator Parkes.

Senator Sparkes indicated that there were upcoming UPAC reviews this fall in Philosophy, Classical Studies and Computer Science. In the winter, Nipissing's UPAC Audit will take place. Senator Sparkes also welcomed senators who were taking on the additional responsibility of department chairs for the first time.

At this time, COU announcements were made by Senator Sparkes. He stated that the province has allocated \$25M for the establishment of Ontario Research Chairs in Public Policy. Eight chairs will be established at a cost of \$3M per chair. This investment will enhance the province's ability to address issues of social importance and economic prosperity.

Senator Common expressed his pleasure that the province has agreed to lift the provisional status for graduating teachers so they may be granted their permanent teaching certificates. The legislation will be rescinded shortly. Recently, at the Ontario Association of Deans of Education meeting, there was discussion about the implementation of a two-year teaching program. Senator John Long was welcomed as the new chair for the primary/junior division.

Senator deBruyn updated senators about the activities of NUSU. NUSU will be hosting a graduation party on Friday, June 10 for the education graduates and on Saturday, June 11 for the Arts and Science graduates. NUSU executive recently returned from the national CFS conference in London. Senator deBruyn was also pleased to inform Senate about OSMOSIS, a leadership seminar being hosted for local high school student councils.

Senator Muhlberger declared that an ad hoc faculty committee was exploring the possibility of a "Great Ideas" program. He invited all faculty to participate in the process.

Senator Lawrence, who is a member of the pension committee, advised fellow senators to take advantage of the visit by the representative from Standard Life who comes to campus once a year.

He stressed the importance of being familiar with your pension plan and its options and that the Standard Life website was a valuable tool.

Senator Lawrence also commented on the value of encouraging more students to enter the four-year programs. It was requested that time be set aside at September Senate to discuss this topic.

QUESTION PERIOD

A number of issues were raised during question period. One concern was the apparent lack of collegial decision-making and specifically who made the final decision there would be a study break in October. There was consensus that a week was required to accommodate the students in the concurrent education program; the concern was that curriculum and course delivery issues should go to Senate and that this decision had not had Senate approval.

It was also discussed that the implementation of the strategic plan must be a transparent process and not primarily centralized with the president. The President responded by stating that the strategic planning process involved hard work by a large group of individuals that represented a cross section of the university community, and that the plan had received approval from both Senate and the Board of Governors. One task group has already been established and several more are being struck this month. He added that he had actively sought volunteers to be task group members and was very pleased with the response. The composition of the various committees would not go to a vote. However, Senator Mock stated he was very conscious of factors such as SSHRC/NSERC, male/female, teaching/research, etc. when forming these task groups. The desire was to create an environment where decisions would be made openly and collegially.

There was apprehension about the appointment of the interim Dean of Arts and Science. The person selected had initially been recruited as chair of the collaborative nursing program. This is the second person to hold this position in the short history of the program. It was felt that nursing is in a vulnerable period as it is still undergoing the accreditation process. Dr. Mock responded by stating that when he arrived at the university, the senior administrative team was already in place. He is in the process of putting a new team together. He feels the new team members bring an ideal combination of experience and fresh ideas to the administration. With respect to the position of chair and director of the nursing program, the decision will be made on how to proceed, in consultation with faculty and with Canadore College.

The process for the review of the reappointment of the Dean of Education was also a contentious issue. There were questions about the process and the short timelines that were established, and the fact that one committee member actively solicited letters of support. The President responded by stating this was a reappointment mandate, not a search, and that he believed the process was open and fair. He also stated that with the new policies recently passed by the Board of Governors, there will be an automatic annual review of senior academic administrators. He reminded Senate that the reappointment committee consisted of seven individuals who collectively report to the President, and that the process was not complete until the President makes the final decision. A comment was also made by a number of senators that representatives on these various committees, as well as any APT forums, must be present at all meetings.

A question was raised regarding OCGS documentation that was not made public. This was part of the review of our graduate program. Senator Mock stated he would bring that question back to committee. There was further discussion regarding the OCGS appraisal and whether the report from the consultant was given to the university and what the university's response was. Senator Common responded by stating that the consultant's report was the purview of OCGS and was shared with the graduate committee of this university. It was stamped confidential. However, the final OCGS report is a public document.

A point was raised regarding the possible establishment of a campus in Barrie as this is the largest city in the province without a university. The President responded by stating that in 1999, Nipissing was invited to work with Georgian College in the Barrie area, and the response given at that time was negative. Presently, Windsor, York and Laurentian, the latter with over 800 students, have set up working relationships with Georgian College.

Senator Langford, a Senate representative on the Board of Governors, reported that at the Board's June meeting, Jack Jones made a presentation about his recent trip to China. She also reported that Valin and Partners have again been retained as Nipissing's solicitors for 2005-2006. Senator Langford was pleased to inform Senate that the revised policy and procedures regarding senior academic appointments and reappointments was passed and the agreement with the student centre operation was reached.

A representative from the Alumni Association announced that the Association was actively recruiting board members. He also indicated that Nipissing would host a provincial alumni conference, on campus, on August 19 and 20.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

MOTION #2: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by D. Ford that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 25, 2005 be received.
CARRIED

Student Affairs Committee

MOTION# 3 Moved by D. Murphy, seconded by L. Janzen that the Report of the Student Affairs Committee dated May 2, 2005 be received.
CARRIED

Research Ethics Committee

MOTION #4: Moved by S. High, seconded by J. Barker that the Nipissing University Research Ethics Policy be amended to add the following clause:

I. Review of Proposals for Course Certification

Article 1.15

Nipissing University instructors wanting to have a course assignment involving multiple student projects with human subjects (involving minimal or low risk research only) pre-cleared for ethics approval must follow the procedure below. To allow time for a ruling before students are issued the course syllabus, the course instructor shall apply for ethics approval at least two weeks prior to the start of the term. Applications for course certification will not be considered once this deadline has passed. In these instances, students doing research with human subjects in an uncertified course would have to apply for ethics approval like any other university researcher.

In addition to the completion of the ethics application form, instructors applying for course certification must include the following information: (1) a thorough description of the assignment that outlines the nature of the research being undertaken as well as the potential research questions, (2) a general consent form to be used by students undertaking research with human subjects, and (3) a short statement of supervision that outlines the measures to be taken by the instructor to ensure that this Research Ethics Policy is being followed by student researchers (e.g. training, supervision, compliance).

Upon the completion of the course, the Nipissing University instructor will file a report with the Research Office using the form available on the web site.

CARRIED

ELECTIONS

Election for one Arts and Science vacancy on the Academic Planning Committee

S. Muhlberger nominated by S. Srigley

MOTION #5: Moved by F. Noël, seconded by D. Lawrence that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: S. Muhlberger

Election for one Education vacancy on the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee

A. Le Sage nominated by C. Richardson

MOTION #6: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by D. Franks that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: A. Le Sage

Election for one Arts and Science representative on the APT Subcommittee (Arts)

J. Baffoe nominated by C. Sarlo

MOTION #7: Moved by S. Lawlor, seconded by S. Renshaw that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: J. Baffoe

Election for on Education vacancy on the Research Ethics Committee

P. Joong nominated by W. Blair

MOTION #8: Moved by D. Lawrence, seconded by S. Van Nuland that nominations
cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: P. Joong

Elections for two Education vacancies on the University Curriculum Committee

J. Allison nominated by R. Common

MOTION #9: Moved by F. Noël, seconded by D. Franks that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: J. Allison
One vacancy remains

Election for Alternate Speaker of Senate

L. Patriquin nominated by S. Van Nuland

MOTION #10: Moved by L. Janzen, seconded by S. Renshaw that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: L. Patriquin

Election for two Arts and Science vacancies on the Board of Governors

P. Nosko nominated by G. Pyle

D. Rowbotham nominated by J. Kovacs

MOTION #11: Moved by S. Lawlor, seconded by D. Jowett that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: P. Nosko and D. Rowbotham

Election for one vacancy for the Alumni Association (either faculty)

MA Parr nominated by R. Common

MOTION #12: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by J. Barnett that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: MA Parr

Election of four tenure track faculty members, two from each faculty, to the Vice-President, Academic and Research Search Committee. Of those elected, one of these members shall be female and one may be a probationary (tenure track) faculty member.

Arts and Science

D. Jowett nominated by S. Muhlberger

D. Ford nominated by J. Barnett

L. Patriquin nominated by G. Pyle

W. Borody nominated by L. Kruk

MOTION #13: Moved by S. Muhlberger, seconded by S. Lawlor that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Elected: D. Jowett and L. Patriquin

Education

M. Kariuki nominated by G. Laronde

T. Horton nominated by D. Franks

H. Langford nominated by D. Jowett

MOTION #14: Moved by S. Van Nuland, seconded by G. Pyle that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Elected: T. Horton and H. Langford

NEW BUSINESS

Concurrent Education Co-ordinating Committee

MOTION #15: Moved by P. Cook, seconded by S. Muhlberger that Senate consider receipt of the report of the Concurrent Education Co-ordinating Committee dated May 18, 2005.
CARRIED

MOTION #16: Moved by P. Cook, seconded by K. Topps that the Report of the Concurrent Education Co-ordinating Committee dated May 18, 2005 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION #17: Moved by P. Cook, seconded by K. Topps that Mathematics BA4 and BSc4 options be added to the P/J and J/I divisions of the Concurrent Education program.
CARRIED

MOTION #18: Moved by P. Cook, seconded by D. Lawrence that the Geography BA4 option be added to the P/J and J/I divisions in the Concurrent Education program.
CARRIED

A motion of no confidence dated June 2, 2005 was withdrawn.

Admissions, Petitions and Promotions Committee

MOTION #19: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by J. Barnett that Senate consider receipt of the Report of the Admissions, Petitions and Promotions Committee dated June 3, 2005.
CARRIED

MOTION #20: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded D. Lawrence by that the Admissions, Petitions and Promotions Committee Report dated June 3, 2005 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION #21: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by S. Renshaw that students listed in Appendix A be granted their respective degrees.
CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #22: Moved by M. Saari, seconded by H. Langford that Senate do now adjourn:
 5:08 p.m.
 CARRIED

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D. Mock, President

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J. Baffoe, Secretary