NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

September 16, 2005
2:30 p.m. - Room A246

MEMBERS PRESENT: T. Chase, D. Lawrence, A. Sparkes, R. Wideman, R. Vanderlee


T. Condotta, J. deBruyn, K. Marsh

B. Pipe
M. Cooper
L. McLaren

J. Allen, N. Colborne, C. Franklin, K. King, L. McMaster, I. Mueller, S. Waugh

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: D. Mock, R. Common, B. Nettlefold

J. Barker (on leave), R. Bergquist (on leave), A. Dean (on leave), M. Denike (on leave), D. Ford, D. Hall, A. Karassev, L. Kruk (on leave), U. Kundrats, F. Noël (on leave), M. Saari, M. Sroga, V. Valov

Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting
September 16, 2005
Page 2

S. Reid, C. Ricci, C. Richardson, T. Ryan, C. Shields,
G. Swanson, S. Van Nuland (on leave), R. Weeks (on leave)

M. Ostashewski, K. Srigley

ABSENT:
P. Chow, T. Dokis, H. Earl, D. Flynn, J. Knox, S. Lechlitner,
S. Lawlor, S. O’Hagan, T. Parkes, B. Riome, D. Rowbotham,
J. Ryan, B. Schreyer, K. Stange, D. Tabachnick, A. Weeks,
W. Young

A.M. Aquino, J. Corkett, R. Fix, B. McMahon, K. Quigg

A. Williams

I. Bajewsky, J. Boivin, M. Brewes, P. Clandfield, C. Cook
M. Crane, W. Dew, N. Dunn, A. Failler, S. Hevenor,
W. Ingwersen, M. Jackson, J. Kmiec, J. Kooistra, K. Lee
K. Lucas, J. Madeley, J. Morton, J. Murton, D. Neal, I. Parkins,
M. Quirt, L. Richards, U. Stange, C. Vernescu, D. Walters,
D. Yule, A. Zahorodnyuk

GUESTS:
A. Carfagnini, A. Fera, V. Paine-Mantha

MOTION #1: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by S. Muhlberger that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Academic Senate dated June 6, 2005 be adopted. CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Vice-President Academic and Research made several announcements on behalf of the President who was attending a Council of Ontario University’s (COU) retreat in Toronto. This all-day retreat was held to discuss the government’s upcoming announcements on funding to universities as well as the allocation of money for graduate students. The concern is that the larger universities are attempting to convince the provincial government that they should have exclusive entitlement to graduate student allocation.

The President wished to welcome all new and returning senators to the upcoming academic year. The new Vice-President Administration and Finance, Ms. Vicky Paine Mantha, was introduced to the senators.

The President also wanted to publicly thank all the faculty and staff who assisted with the university obtaining excellent first-year enrollment numbers. The Nipissing University Student Union executive was also congratulated for their successful frosh week and Shinerama.

Senator Mock was delighted to advise Senate of the $800K grant from the McConnell Foundation for the Biidaaban project. Al Carfagnini, Executive Director of Student Affairs, was invited to
speak to Senate and explain that this project was about the service learning component of education where students go out and work in the community and get academic credit for their volunteer work. To date, only six such projects have been approved in Canada. The Faculty of Education has already commenced the first pilot project. Mr. Carfagnini stated that Nipissing has five years to fully implement this project and it is hoped that our institution will become a national model. Senators with ideas for service learning projects regarding Aboriginal students are urged to speak with Ms. Laurie McLaren, Administrator of Aboriginal Services. A handout was distributed that outlines, in more detail, Nipissing’s plan for service learning.

The President also advised senators that the Honourary Degrees Committee was looking to identify good candidates for honorary degrees and requested that names be submitted. A short description of the criteria used to select a honourary degree candidate was discussed.

The President’s seven objectives, jointly established with the Board of Governors, were also stated. High on the list is to build a good working relationship among senior administrators and to foster good relationships with faculty, staff and students. Other objectives include, but are not restricted to, the implementation of several task groups to address at least 12 of the 22 objectives of the strategic plan and to explore all potential public and private funding possibilities and initiate a fundraising campaign for a new Library/Learning Resources complex.

Senator Mock’s announcements concluded with best wishes for a productive semester.

The Vice-President Academic and Research (interim) was pleased to announce the hiring of Dr. Paule Laberge, the new director of research services. Dr. Laberge comes from the University of New Brunswick’s St. John campus. Her plan for the research services office is to provide a full range of pre-grant to post-grant monitoring and reporting, and technology transfers.

Senator Chase was pleased to announce the $1.1M grant to the Ontario Partnership for Innovation and Commercialization (OPIC) consortium, of which Nipissing is a member. This will allow for the creation of a technology transfer position in the research services office. Senator Chase was also pleased that the Community and University Research Alliances (CURA) grant proposal has been submitted. With a potential value of almost $1.0M, Senator Frost will lead this research that will see the establishment of an Aboriginal research centre.

The official opening of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine was on September 20. A summary of Nipissing University’s health-related research is being relayed to the Dean and other key staff at the Sudbury campus in order to introduce NOSM to our researchers and their activities as well as our facilities.

The University Research Council met on September 8 to begin revising the Strategic Research Plan. Universities must have an up-to-date SRP compatible with the proposed CRC. The Mathematics (Topology) proposal and the combined Biology, Geography and Psychology proposals will go forward as the two allocated Tier II CRC Chairs. Funds already in the budget for the existing Mathematics position will be reallocated to support the third proposal submitted by History and Geography.
The Academic Planning Committee met on September 15 to approve the process of an academic planning exercise which, when completed, will result in an academic master plan. This will be a bottom-up process. The concept is for a four-year plan, with on-going evaluation.

The Vice President’s office is currently securing external reviewers for the upcoming UPRAC reviews for Classical Studies, Computer Science and Philosophy. History will be reviewed in the second semester and a UPRAC audit in March.

Senator Chase also announced that the VP’s research luncheon series is starting on October 6. He also thanked all senators who have assisted him in his new position and was grateful to Senators Cholewa and Pyle for the tour of the central analytical laboratory. He further wished the new Senate Speaker all the best.

Senator Vanderlee, Dean of Arts and Science (interim), welcomed the 21 new academic hires in the Faculty of Arts and Science and proceeded to introduce them to Senate. Senator Vanderlee indicated that there were 18 applications for promotion and tenure going forward to the APT Subcommittee. He also reminded faculty of the wine and cheese reception to be held on Friday, September 23 at 3:00 p.m.

The Dean also expressed his appreciation to the Associate Dean of Arts and Science and the department chairs for their patience and insight with this new position. He summed up his announcement by stating that he and Senator Marsh of NUSU were co-chairing a review committee of the grading policy and standards.

Senator Wideman spoke on behalf of the Dean of Education who was at a CURA conference in Winnipeg. He began by welcoming new and returning faculty and proceeded to introduce the nine new members in the Faculty of Education. He provided a brief biography of each new faculty member.

Senator deBruyn, President of the Nipissing University Student Union (NUSU), began his announcements by indicating that students now had increased services under the student health plan. He was also pleased that used books could now be purchased through an on-line book service and through Allison the Book Man. Club Days are being held the week of September 19. The purpose is to encourage students to get involved with extra curricular activities. Student elections will be held the week of October 4. Senator deBruyn was pleased that Shinerama raised $12,000 for Cystic Fibrosis.

Senator Lawrence, the Registrar, prepared a handout for senators and highlighted some of its key aspects. He was pleased with our take-up rate of 23.8% (well above the provincial average) despite the low number of applications. The Registrar was of the opinion that our excellent performance in the Maclean’s Graduate Survey was a factor. Because of lobbying by the larger institutions that did not fare well, it is unlikely Maclean’s will be conducting this survey again. Other observations included the 33 new high school students who had an incoming average of at least 90% and the change in the definition of a full-time student to those carrying a 60% course load.
There are 738 Bachelor of Education students this fall. Applications to BEd will increase over the next three years as the double cohort begins to graduate. For the 2006 intake, the concurrent education program will include English Studies, Mathematics and Geography. The Registrar concluded his comments by encouraging senators to browse the Intranet site (intranet.nipissingu.ca) for statistical data before contacting him for information.

The Alumni Association’s representative, Senator Cooper, was pleased to report that orders were being taken at the Advancement Office for their new wine production. The association was also indicated they now have 15 board members and that the association was embarking on their first strategic plan.

QUESTION PERIOD

Senator Phillips raised the question as to when English Studies was approved as part of concurrent education. Senator Lawrence replied he had received a memo from the previous department chair of English Studies indicating there had been unanimous approval.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

MOTION #2: Moved by T. Chase, seconded by R. Pyper that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated September 8, 2005 be received. CARRIED

MOTION #3: Moved by T. Chase, seconded by J. McIntosh that Senate adopt the Nipissing University Policies and Regulations outlined in the document entitled “Senate Regulations and Policies, September 2005.” CARRIED

Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee

MOTION #4: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by D. Lawrence that the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee Report dated August 29, 2005 be received. CARRIED

MOTION #5: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by S. Muhlberger that Senate grant degrees to those students listed in Appendix A. CARRIED

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

Senator Langford, one of the Senate representatives on the Board of Governors, provided a summary report of the Board orientation for new Board members on September 7 as well as discussions and decisions at the Board meeting that followed. She indicated that the supplementary budget was presented and the President’s objectives were outlined.
Council of Ontario Universities’ representative, Senator Sarlo, reiterated the concern by the smaller universities about the allocation of funds for graduate studies.

ELECTIONS

Election for Senate Secretary

S. Renshaw nominated T. Jones

MOTION #6: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by A. Page that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: T. Jones

Elections for two Education vacancies for the Academic Computing Committee

K. Waller nominated M. Parr
J. Scott nominated K. MacLeod

MOTION #7: Moved by D. Franks, seconded by O. Ridler that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: M. Parr, K. MacLeod

Election for one Education vacancy on the University Curriculum Committee

H. Vail nominated D. Calverley

MOTION #8: Moved by D. Franks, seconded by O. Ridler that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: D. Calverley

Election to replace S. Reid on the APT Subcommittee (Education) for deliberation of her application for promotion
R. Wideman nominated C. Shields

MOTION #9: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by D. Franks that nominations cease. CARRIED

Acclaimed: C. Shields

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

G. Phillips nominated P. Kelly

MOTION #10: Moved by D. Franks, seconded by O. Ridler that nominations cease. CARRIED

Acclaimed: P. Kelly

Election for one vacancy (either faculty) for the Appeals Committee for Ethics

M. Kariuki nominated S. Kariuki

MOTION #11: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by D. Franks that nominations cease. CARRIED

Acclaimed: S. Kariuki

Election for two education senators to sit on the Teacher Education Advisory Committee (these are three-year terms)

G. Laronde nominated M A Parr
K. Waller nominated D. Gosse

MOTION #12: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by D. Franks that nominations cease. CARRIED

Acclaimed: M A Parr, D. Gosse
Election for one senator (tenure or tenure track) to sit on the hiring committee for the Canadian History and American History tenure track positions

S. Muhlberger nominated D. Tabachnick

MOTION #13: Moved by A. Clendinning, seconded by A. Sparkes that nominations cease. CARRIED

Acclaimed: D. Tabachnick

Election for one senator (tenure or tenure track) to sit on the hiring committee for the Children’s Literature and Early Modern Literature tenure track positions

G. Phillips nominated L. Patriquin

MOTION #14: Moved by A. Graff, seconded by C. McFarlane that nominations cease. CARRIED

Acclaimed: L. Patriquin

Election for one senator (tenure or tenure track) to sit on the hiring committee for the Interactive Management tenure track position

T. Jones nominated G. Pyle

MOTION #15: Moved by D. Franks, seconded by O. Ridler that nominations cease. CARRIED

Acclaimed: G. Pyle

NEW BUSINESS

Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee

MOTION #16: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by D. Lawrence that Senate consider receipt of the Report of the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee dated September 7, 2005. CARRIED

MOTION #17: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded D. Lawrence by that the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee Report dated September 7, 2005 be received. CARRIED
MOTION #18: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by S. Renshaw that students listed in Appendix A be granted their respective degrees.
CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #19: Moved by C. Sarlo, seconded by S. Renshaw that Senate do now adjourn:
4:04 p.m.
CARRIED

D. Mock, President

T. Jones, Secretary