NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

October 7, 2005
2:30 p.m. -- Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Mock, T. Chase, R. Common, D. Lawrence, R. Vanderlee


B. Pipe, A. Williams

T. Condotta, K. Marsh

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: B. Nettlefold

J. Barker (on leave), R. Bergquist (on leave), E. Cholewa, P. Cook, A. Dean (on leave), M. Denike (on leave), D. Ford, D. Hall, L. Kruk (on leave), U. Kundra, J. LeClair, F. Noël (on leave), M. Saari, S. Srigley, K. Stange, K. Topps, D. Walton


M. Cooper

L. McLaren

ABSENT: A. Sparkes, R. Wideman

R. Fix, C. Harvey, B. McMahon, M. Parr, C. Richardson, W. Richardson, J. Scott, G. Swanson, K. Waller

J. deBruyn

MOTION #1: Moved by W. Blair, seconded by T. Campbell that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Academic Senate dated September 16, 2005 be adopted.

CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements by the President began with his comments on the high level of activity occurring at COU. Two key areas of activity are the lifting of the tuition freeze this year and the pressing issue of unfunded BIUs. It is expected that there will be a modest 2-3% increase in tuition fees. Senator Mock indicated that the provincial budget would not be announced until early to mid-November.

Senator Mock was pleased to state that there are more than 6500 students taking courses for the 2005-06 academic year at Nipissing University. This translates into more than 3800 FTEs. He also indicated that the new recruiting for the fall season was launched with the recent Ontario University Fair in Toronto. Forty-five faculty, staff and students worked at the Nipissing booth. He stressed that our strength was our people and this was evident at the fair which attracted more than 83,000 people.

Senator Mock was delighted to report that the Muskoka campus has grown to more than 100 FTEs. As a result of this increase in enrolment, alternate campus sites are currently being investigated. Other highlights of the past month include the official opening of Governor’s House residence on September 30. This brings the total number of students living in residence to 1007. As well, faculty and staff with 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of service were recently honoured for their service. The President concluded his announcements by stating that seven of the 22 objectives of the strategic plan were currently being addressed. Six more task groups should be started in the next six weeks.

The Vice-President, Academic and Research announced that the program reviewers were now in place for classical studies, computer science and philosophy. History will be reviewed next semester and there will also be a UPRAC audit. Senator Chase indicated that a subcommittee of the University Research Council was close to bringing a draft strategic research plan back to URC for approval. This subcommittee includes Senator Kirkwood representing education, Senator Graff representing SSHRC and Senator Pyle representing NSERC. Once this plan is approved by Senate, it will be filed with the Canada Research Chair secretariat. Senator Chase also announced a new ad hoc committee on the teaching evaluation instrument. The current instrument is to be reviewed. Currently, the process is labour intensive as all evaluations must be scanned. It is hoped that the new instrument will be an on-line process. Since this is a Senate instrument, the recommendations from the ad hoc committee will go before Senate for approval. It is hoped this new instrument will be in place for spring 2006. Senator Chase concluded by displaying a new booklet issued by 3M Canada for the 3M teaching fellowship nominations. The deadline is March 2006.

The Dean of Education was pleased to announced that Senator Gosse’s book Jacky Tar had recently been published.
The Vice-President External of NUSU requested that faculty encourage their students to write for the Hibou. Senator Condotta was please to announce that there were now 13 clubs at the university including Biology, Habitat for Humanity and Students on Stage. He was also pleased that there was now a position on the NUSU executive for an education student. Recent elections for student representation were held. There were two disciplines for which there were no candidates, so elections will be held later. The student union expressed its concern with the lifting of the tuition freeze and the potential for tuition hikes. Senator Condotta conveyed NUSU’s desire for increased availability of bursaries and OSAP. The NUSU representative also commented that there should be more student representation from faculty and students at the Ontario University Fair. He added that many potential students like to hear about university from a current student’s perspective.

**QUESTION PERIOD**

A question was brought forward regarding the lack of a budget to hire graders for the school of nursing. The response was there was no current provision in the nursing program for that cost, but it was hoped that following the supplementary budget from the province, there would be a provision made for nursing faculty to hire graders.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Executive Committee**

**MOTION #2:** Moved by D. Mock, seconded by T. Jones that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated September 29, 2005 be received.
CARRIED

**Academic Planning Committee**

**MOTION #3:** Moved by T. Chase, seconded by AB Graff that the Report of the Academic Planning Committee dated September 15, 2005 be received.
CARRIED

**By-Laws and Striking Committee**

**MOTION #4:** Moved by J. McIntosh, seconded by D. Gosse that the Report of the By-Laws and Striking Committee dated September 20, 2005 be received.
CARRIED
Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee

MOTION #5: Moved by D. Lawrence, seconded by A. Le Sage that the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee Report dated September 20, 2005 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION #6: Moved by D. Lawrence, seconded by K. Marsh that Senate grant degrees to those students listed in Appendix A.
CARRIED

University Research Council

MOTION #7: Moved by T. Chase, seconded by M. Tuncali that the report of the University Research Council dated September 8, 2005 be received.
CARRIED

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

Senator Langford, a Senate representative on the Board of Governors, advised Senate there would be a retreat for Board members on October 22 and 23, 2005. Key issues to be discussed will be governance and fundraising.

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

Notice of Motion

That Senate amend the composition of the Senate Academic Planning Committee to state: four tenured or tenure-track Senators representing four departments of the Faculty of Arts & Science, who have at least two years previous experience at Nipissing University, elected for a two year term (two to be elected each year); four tenured or tenure-track Senators representing each division of the Faculty of Education program, who have at least two years previous experience at Nipissing University, elected for a two year term (two to be elected each year).

ELECTIONS

MOTION #8: Moved by T. Chase, seconded by R. Vanderlee that Senate strike an Ad Hoc Committee on the Course/Teaching Evaluation Instrument composed of one NUFA representative, one CASBU representative, one NUSU representative, Registrar or designate, Director of Finance or designate, Associate Dean of Arts and Science, Associate Dean of Education, one tenured Arts and Science senator and one tenured Education senator to report to Senate by December 2005.
CARRIED
Election for one tenured Arts and Science senator and one tenured Education senator on the Ad Hoc Committee on Course/Teaching Evaluation Instrument

L. Patriquin nominated P. Chow (for Arts and Science)
K. MacLeod nominated L. Frost (for Education)

MOTION #9: Moved by D. Franks, seconded by M. Tuncali that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: P. Chow, L. Frost

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #10: Moved by H. Langford, seconded by A. Page that Senate do now adjourn:
3:15 p.m.
CARRIED

D. Mock, President  T. Jones, Secretary