

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

November 11, 2005  
2:30 p.m. -- Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

T. Chase, R. Common, B. Nettlefold, A. Sparkes, R. Vanderlee,  
R. Wideman

E. Berger, G. Brophey, K. Brozowski, E. Cholewa, A. Clendinning,  
T. Dokis, D. Ford, D. Geden, D. Hemsworth, T. Jones, D. Jowett,  
A. Karashev, S. Kariuki, K. King, J. Kovacs, J. LeClair, E. Mattson,  
G. Morrell, S. Muhlberger, P. Nosko, S. O'Hagan, G. Pyle, R. Pyper,  
S. Renshaw, J. Ryan, C. Sarlo, S. Srigley, M. Sroga, D. Tabachnick,  
K. Topps, M. Tuncali, D. Walton

J. Allison, J. Barnett, W. Blair, D. Calverley, J. Cardwell, E. Duncan,  
K. Ferguson, D. Franks, L. Frost, D. Gosse, P. Joong, M. Kariuki,  
H. Langford, G. Laronde, A. Le Sage, J. McIntosh, M. Parr, J. Price,  
W. Richardson, O. Ridler, H. Rintoul, J. Scott

B. Pipe, A. Williams

L. McLaren

T. Condotta, J. deBruyn, S. Feretycki, K. Marsh

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: D. Mock

J. Barker (on leave), R. Bergquist (on leave), W. Borody,  
A. Dean (on leave), M. Denike (on leave), AB Graff, D. Hall (on leave),  
P. Kelly, L. Kruk (on leave), C. McFarlane, D. Murphy, F. Noël (on leave),  
A. Page, L. Patriquin, B. Riome (on leave), M. Saari, K. Stange, H. Zhu

M. Cooper

D. Brackenreed, T. Campbell, M. Cantilini-Williams, L. Keuhl,  
K. MacLeod, M. McCabe J. Mroczkowski (on leave), K. Noël,  
B. Olmsted, S. Reid, C. Shields, S. Van Nuland (on leave),  
R. Weeks (on leave)

ABSENT:

D. Lawrence

R. Breton, G. Brown, N. Brown, R. Brozowski, P. Chow, P. Cook, H. Earl,  
D. Flynn, D. Hackett, J. Knox, S. Kulkarni, U. Kundraats, S. Lawlor,  
S. Lechlitner, T. Parkes, G. Phillips, D. Rowbotham, B. Schreyer,  
R. Teigrob, V. Valov, S. Wall, A. Weeks, W. Young

A-M. Aquino, D. Berry, K. Clausen, J. Corkett, R. Fix, C. Harvey,  
T. Horton, K. Kirkwood, J. Long, R. Lynn, B. McMahon, MA Parr,  
K. Quigg, C. Ricci, C. Richardson, T. Ryan, G. Swanson, H. Vail,  
K. Waller

MOTION #1: Moved by T. Chase, seconded by T. Jones that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Academic Senate dated October 7, 2005 be adopted.  
CARRIED

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Vice-President, Academic and Research, made announcements on behalf of the President who is currently in China to sign articulation agreements for possible student exchanges and Faculty of Education placements.

At the AUCC meeting in October, there was a sense that AUCC is becoming outdated. Their role is to accredit universities in Canada. Recently, they have changed their rules for accreditation. When Nipissing received its charter in 1992, accreditation was automatic. Since then, some smaller universities have been given degree-granting authority by their respective province but have not received AUCC accreditation. Institutions must now be a certain size. The President also had a productive meeting with MTCU Minister Bentley, (A)ADM Bill Forward and ADM Janet Mason, where he was able to provide some details about Nipissing University. The Minister appears interested in getting to know individual universities. However, Minister Bentley has not yet made any funding announcements.

Regarding funding, Nipissing responded to MTCU's request by providing a four-page letter which outlined specifically, how we would utilize the unfunded BIU money. To date, there has been no response to that letter. There was a further request from MTCU to prepare a more detailed 8-10 page letter indicating how we would spend any new funding received from the Quality Improvement Fund (\$124M/year base fund – to be divided into three different pots). Senator Chase read an excerpt from the MTCU letter. To summarize, the government will be looking for more detail as current details received from universities will not become the basis for the following year's funding. Therefore, each year we must make our case and be accountable for every dollar received and spent. The result is that senior administrators will be spending a lot of time reporting to the government.

On behalf of the President, Senator Chase spoke of the recent Globe & Mail and Maclean's reports on universities. He stated that when output is measured, Nipissing does extraordinarily well (on page 1 of the University Report Card within the main categories, Nipissing is the only institution with A's and A+'s; 38 universities participated). Senator Mock commends faculty for doing an outstanding job. As for the annual Maclean's magazine university issue, Senator Chase referred to his email which was sent to faculty and staff and reminded Senate that we know what we do well, we will keep doing it well and we will work to let the world know as well.

In his announcements, the Vice-President, Academic and Research spoke of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine's official opening simultaneously at Laurentian and Lakehead Universities on September 13<sup>th</sup>. They are now ready to release publicly, via videoconference, a report entitled "Creating a Sustainable Health Research Industry in Northern Ontario." The five-site videoconference is taking place on November 15<sup>th</sup> and Senator Chase will be participating. It is a chance for Nipissing to be involved as there is a need for a Northern Ontario health research network to do community-based clinical research,

create a national and aboriginal health network and genomics grid that takes into account our unique demographics, as well as bioprospecting (looking for natural pharmaceutical compounds). This also provides an opportunity to collaborate with various institutions and have technology transfer opportunities. The timing is perfect and it is expected to lead to funding through CFI, CFRI, etc. It is a real opportunity for Nipissing to become a participant.

Nipissing has submitted eight SSHRC applications totaling \$763K and eight NSERC discovery grants for approximately \$1.4M. This is encouraging and we are optimistic about position announcements. A proposal initiated by Senator Nosko has resulted in Nipissing receiving its first NSERC industrial fellowship. This partnership will be jointly funded by NSERC and Tembec Forestry Research. Nipissing is providing the space and facilities. Dr. Jeff Dech, a recent PhD from Western and a graduate from Nipissing with a BSc in 1997, will be working with Senator Nosko over a two-year period on the regeneration of red oak.

Senator Chase was pleased to report on a recent government announcement advising of \$48M in CFI grants for 312 projects across Ontario. In a background document in which Nipissing received some great exposure, North Bay was listed as having two grants totaling over \$1M (surpassing Windsor, Lakehead, Brock and Laurier on dollar amounts). We are able to compete now and it is only going to get better.

In other research news, the Leaders Opportunity Fund (LOF) has been disbanded and CFI has created a New Initiatives Fund (NIF) with a number of different funding envelopes for small universities. The NIF, to be allocated in 2006, has no threshold to meet. It was announced at the end of the summer and notices of intent are due November 15<sup>th</sup>. This is our last opportunity until 2010. In the NIF, choices were given for an allocation of \$750K for individual projects or for one single project with no dollar limit. After discussions with the NSERC disciplines, it was decided to go with a single project for the construction of science research space (wing/complex). Funds received from NIF will be matched by the provincial government with Nipissing contributing the balance.

In other announcements, Dan Walters from the Geography Department has received his PhD. Senator Kulkarni is resigning at the end of December to go to Australia and Senator Walton will be retiring.

The student representatives advised that they have had their last by-election and the new Senators are Sean Feretycki, Corby Kent and Justine Simpson. The student representatives commented on their disappointment that there was no Nipissing staff or faculty at their Remembrance Day memorial in the front lobby. It was also suggested that since faculty and students must have stories to share on why they chose Nipissing for their education and/or career, could this not be put up on Nipissing's website to use as a marketing tool. Regarding Maclean's magazine, it was stated that we should not dismiss some of the more obvious areas we did poorly such as the library; however, this particular survey does not reflect the views of the students at Nipissing. BACCUS is promoting alcohol awareness and safe living. Some main events are an AIDS Committee fundraiser, Christmas fundraiser, tuition freeze, leadership series and osmosis with local schools – they held a leadership training day in Mattawa which went well. As well, NUSU has organized two trips to the soccer semi-finals in Guelph and Toronto.

## QUESTION PERIOD

Discussion ensued regarding the need for a policy for Nipissing University to follow in recognizing Remembrance Day. Senator Frost advised that she sent a request in writing last year, but it still needs to be addressed.

MOTION#2:            Moved by Senator Frost, seconded by Senator Ford, that Senate convey to the President the need for administration to prepare a policy regarding Remembrance Day which should be tabled at Senate in two months.  
CARRIED

Senator Pyle asked what the plan is for timing in launching graduate programs at Nipissing. Senator Chase advised that through the Academic Planning Committee, he had announced a master planning exercise – one arm of which is invitation of proposals and discussion around graduate programs, including graduate studies planning. As a result, the President held off on establishing a separate committee. As well, the Ministry asked for graduate projections to 2009-2010. Some approximated numbers were given so that Nipissing could still grow into graduate programs over the next 4-5 years. The Ministry has yet to request that universities provide detailed graduate program implementation plans. It is unknown how many places Nipissing will get of the 14,000. Once a response is received from the Minister, Senator Chase will meet with stakeholders.

Senator Muhlberger requested some insight on how the Faculty of Arts & Science can shape their programs to fit into the government's plans. Since Senator Frost has many years experience dealing with OCGS, Senator Chase will arrange a meeting between Senator Frost and the departments within the Faculty of Arts & Science.

## REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

### Executive Committee

MOTION #3:            Moved by T. Chase, seconded by R. Pyper that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated October 3, 2005 be received.  
CARRIED

### University Curriculum Committee

MOTION #4:            Moved by T. Chase, seconded by L. Frost that the Report of the University Curriculum Committee dated October 3, 2005 be received.  
CARRED

MOTION #5:            Moved by T. Chase, seconded by L. Frost that the University Curriculum Committee recommend to Senate that the Senate document entitled "Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2005" be amended to add EDUC 5417, Alternative Schooling, a 36-hour course, to the Master of Education program, as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

MOTION #6                    Motion should read: that the Senate document entitled "Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2005" be amended *so that the calendar description of the Senior Additional Basic Qualification courses be changed* to conform...

Moved by T. Chase, seconded by L. Frost that the University Curriculum Committee recommend to Senate that the Senate document entitled "Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2005" be amended so that the calendar description of the Senior Additional Basic Qualification courses be changed to conform to the Intermediate Additional Basic Qualification courses and to meet OCT policy guidelines, as outlined in the attached document.

CARRIED

MOTION #7:                    Moved by T. Chase, seconded by D. Ford that the University Curriculum Committee recommend to Senate that the Senate document entitled "Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2005" be amended to bank EDUC4407, EDUC4417, EDUC4427, EDUC4447, EDUC4457, EDUC4467, EDUC4477, EDUC4487, EDUC4497, EDUC4517, EDUC4527, EDUC4537, EDUC4547, EDUC4557, EDUC4567, EDUC4577, EDUC4597 (listed as anti-requisites), as outlined in the attached document.

CARRIED

#### Library Committee

MOTION #8                    Moved by B. Nettlefold, seconded by A. Clendinning that the Report of the Library Committee dated October 24, 2005 be received.

CARRIED

#### Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee

MOTION #9:                    Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by K. Marsh that the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee Report dated October 19, 2005 be received.

CARRIED

MOTION #10:                    Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by K. Marsh that Senate grant degrees to those students listed in Appendix A.

CARRIED

#### REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES

The student representatives announced the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual alumni movie night taking place at the Galaxy Cinemas on Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. The President's Office is assisting with the cost.

## REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

### Council of Ontario Universities

The Senate representative on COU, Senator Sarlo, reported on the October 21<sup>st</sup> COU meeting. He advised that the COU President is frustrated with the funding delays. A COU analyst expects a matching cost of roughly 4% which excludes any readjustment funding formula regarding the BIU inequity. The current government is results oriented. Any money allocated must have clear objectives and must show results. The government is in the early stages of developing a 'results' office. It is clear to COU that post-secondary education is a high priority, with \$6.2B to go to universities over the next 5-6 years; it will be their model of accountability and success. Consequently, universities are being asked to provide information (reports/measures) to show how funding is being used and what impact it is having – they want to hear stories. They want to show voters that the government is committed and accountable so the public is pleased with their management. This system of reporting will occupy senior administration for years to come.

Senator Chase advised Senate that Nipissing, as all other Ontario universities, is participating in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), a comprehensive American survey. The survey is an on-line survey, but the concern is the number of surveys that are being requested of our students. We already have them fill out the Manitoba survey and Nipissing does well. Our students may not want to do both and it is hard to say how Ontario universities will do on NSSE.

Senator Sarlo is advised by the President that Nipissing will be getting BIU inequity funding but we have to be accountable to the government on our priorities (e.g. graduate studies/aboriginal/international students). It is expected that tuition fees will go up 4-5% over the next few years.

### AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

MOTION #11: Moved by J. McIntosh, seconded by J. Barnett 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).

CARRIED

### OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION #12: Moved by T. Jones, seconded by C. Sarlo that Senate approves a modification of scheduling of MKTG3437 for the winter term of 2005/2006.

CARRIED

Discussion ensued regarding Motion #13:

Senator Chase advised that Senate Executive unanimously decided to bring the Strategic Research Plan (SRP) to the November 11<sup>th</sup> Senate. The December Senate date would have excluded education senators as they are practice teaching and there is a December 6<sup>th</sup> deadline for the SRP to be in to CRC. This document replaces a four-page SRP which was approved by Senate in 2002. The CRC website states an SRP should be 8-10 pages in length. The SRP in question was created by a sub-committee (Ted Chase, Paule Laberge, representatives from SHERC and NSERC in Arts & Science and representatives from the Faculty of Education). The document will establish objectives, including how the plan will be monitored and measured. Although it cannot list all research areas, it identifies strategic research themes. The sub-committee tried to create a realistic research plan to serve Nipissing for several years. As research themes evolve, it will be essential that the SRP be revisited every couple of years. In the short-term, the plan needs to be approved because Nipissing needs a Strategic Research Plan filed with the CRC by December 6<sup>th</sup> before we can submit for a Canada Research Chair.

It was stressed that there are no consequences if a particular research area is not listed in the SRP. The CRC drives the bus on what is required of universities and it is an accountability tool.

The five-member sub-committee looked at the research themes from the previous SRP to determine how our research strengths have changed since 2002. They also became more familiar about the CRC Chair nominations. Sub-committee members also discussed, with their colleagues, on how to best describe broad research themes and areas of research strength. The last four-page SRP took two years to get through Senate. Some senators were concerned that their area did not fit into the themes. Senator Chase assured that the SRP was written to be as inclusive as possible for those areas not listed and advised that the granting councils do not endeavor to determine whether your research is included in the plan. He also stated that there was certainly no intention to make people feel excluded, but there is a requirement that the plan be strategic.

MOTION #13: Moved by T. Chase, seconded by K. Marsh that Senate adopt the new Nipissing University Strategic Research Plan, dated November 2005.  
CARRIED

Senator Sarlo requested, once again, that the fans be turned off in F210 during Senate. Senators were informed that the request was put in to Plant & Property and a reminder will go out.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION #14:           Moved by S. Muhlberger, seconded by D. Ford that Senate do now adjourn:  
                          4:25 p.m.  
                          CARRIED

.....  
D. Mock, President

.....  
T. Jones, Secretary