NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

November 10, 2006
2:30 p.m. - Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Mock, P. Ricketts, R. Common, B. Nettlefold, R. Vanderlee, R. Wideman


P. Gavan, D. Pletzer

T. Benevides

G. deBruyn, S. Feretycki, K. Knapp, K. Marsh


ABSENT: D. Lawrence


MOTION #1: Moved by K. Marsh, seconded by S. Feretycki that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Academic Senate dated October 6, 2006 be adopted.
CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

In response to a motion from the announcements of the October 2006 Senate, the President reported that the Personal Harassment and Discrimination policy is under the purview of the Board. As a result, the President has informed the Chair of the Board of Governors and the Chair of the Human Resources Committee of Senate’s concern on this issue. This item will be coming forward to the Human Resources Committee at their next meeting. He also indicated that a survey of other institution’s policies within the province and across Canada has revealed that similar reporting structures as Nipissing’s are in place in that most institutions do not have a human resources person dedicated exclusively to harassment issues. Complaints are directed to the Human Resources Director.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President began his announcements by thanking all faculty members who participated in the Fall UpClose on Saturday, November 4. He reported that approximately 500 people traveled to Nipissing from various parts on the province. This is double the number who visited at the same venue last year. With the highly competitive market for university students, the President pointed out that historically, once we get students to visit here, we have an excellent chance of keeping them here.

The President briefly commented on the various surveys that were published these past couple of weeks. He indicated that the Globe and Mail survey takes an absolute number of responses and ranks them according to various categories. These results show our positive learning environment and assist greatly in building Nipissing’ profile. Regarding Maclean’s, Senator Mock reminded senators that Nipissing pulled out of this survey as the magazine did not follow through on their promise to include the reputational survey. However, with both surveys, there are a number of common issues from which we can learn and improve such as a new library. The President noted that Ontario universities agreed to participate in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) as a response to the accountability agreements they have signed with MTCU. This survey offers comparative information to all Ontario universities, a US peer group and all universities participating in NSSE. We received many favourable results. The final survey, CUSC, also provided positive feedback. The President thanked the students and alumni who responded to CUSC. All survey results may be viewed on our website at http://www.nipissingu.ca/results/.

Senator Mock also remarked that at the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) meeting in October, funding was still a large issue. Despite the $6.2B that was injected into postsecondary education in the province, the impact has eroded significantly because of the large increase in university enrollment that was not anticipated. As a result, the money available for students is decreasing. Dr. Mock also mentioned that the common data set is now available on the COU website. This allows potential students and their parents to compare universities province-wide in categories that are important to them.
Following the AUCC meeting in mid-October, Senator Mock noted that with the minority federal government, there is much uncertainty. There is concern about funding to the three granting councils and indirect costs. However, he was pleased to note that there will be funds available for internationalization including international practicums, exchanges and international students coming to Canada to study. While in Ottawa, the President also had the opportunity to meet with the federal Minister of Finance, Tony Clement and the Director of Fednor, Luc Fournier.

Advocacy for a new library was also on the agenda with meetings slated with the provincial Minister of Finance and the Deputy Minister of MTCU who were to visit the campus this past week. Unfortunately, weather conditions prevented them from coming to North Bay.

The President also noted that the Ontario Municipal Board hearing regarding the Muskoka campus was held this week. A decision should be forthcoming. Senator Mock reminded senators there will be a Remembrance Day Service at Memorial Gardens on November 11. He thanked the Aboriginal Services Office for hosting a Remembrance Day service in the front foyer.

In conclusion, the President noted that there will be a Senate/Staff/Board barbecue after Senate at the Wall. This will be the opportunity to pay tribute to Ted Chase. Also, the staff Christmas party will be held at the Best Western on December 8.

The Vice-President Academic and Research advised senators that they would be shortly receiving a questionnaire, via e-mail, regarding the search for the Dean of Arts Science. Completed questionnaires should be returned directly to the search consultant to ensure confidentiality. Senator Rickets pointed out that this is an opportunity for the university community to comment on the qualities and characteristics they would like to see in the new dean.

There were no announcements from the Dean of Arts and Science (interim) and the Dean of Education.

Student union President, Kyle Marsh, introduced Genevieve deBruyn, the new social science representative on NUSU. Senator Marsh also asked that senators check the various student satisfaction surveys and make note of areas that could be improved. He also noted that the Student Union was concerned with the decline in the library and food services.

QUESTION PERIOD

A question was raised as to why the university does not have the Canadian and Provincial flags flying on the campus. The President responded that there is considerable protocol regarding flags and that decisions must be made daily regarding this issue. As well, since the land is jointly owned with Canadore College, there must be agreement by both institutions to fly the flags.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

MOTION 2: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by K. Knapp that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated November 2, 2006 be received.
CARRIED
University Curriculum Committee

MOTION 3: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Report of the University Curriculum Committee dated October 23, 2006 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 4: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by C. McFarlane that Senate approve the following changes to the document “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006, as approved by the University Curriculum Committee:
CARRIED

a) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to modify the degree requirements for the MED program as outlined in the attached document.

b) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to modify the prerequisites of EDUC1025, a six-credit course, as outlined in the attached document.

c) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to change the course number of PHED2006 Physical Activity and Sport Leadership to PHED1027, that is from a second year to a first year level course, as outlined in the attached document.

d) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to eliminate PHED2017 Inquiry as a required course in the BHPE program, as outlined in the attached document.

e) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2005” be amended to change the prerequisites of

- PHED 1006 Introduction to Physical Education,
- PHED 1016 Motor Development,
- PHED 1017 Health Concepts in Physical Education,
- PHED 1027 (formerly 2006) Physical Activity & Sport Leadership
- PHED 3007 Wellness and Physical Activity Promotion
- PHED 3016 Coaching
- PHED 3017 Contemporary Health Issues
- PHED 3026 Biomechanics I
- PHED 4017 Research Methods in Physical Activity
- PHED 4016 Injury Prevention and Care
as outlined in the attached document.
f) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to add RLCT3216, Atheism, Scepticism, and Religious Faith, a 3-credit course, to the Religions and Cultures program, as outlined in the attached document.

g) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to add RLCT3105, Special Topics in Religions and Cultures, a 6-credit course, to the Religions and Cultures program, as outlined in the attached document.

h) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to change the course number of PHIL3305 Twentieth Century Continental Philosophy to PHIL4305, that is from a third year course to a fourth year course, as outlined in the attached document.

i) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to add POLI4105 Directed Studies, a 6-credit course, to the Political Science program, as outlined in the attached document.

j) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to modify the calendar course description of POLI1005 Introduction to Political Science, as outlined in the attached document.

k) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to change the prerequisite of POLI4205 Honours Seminar, as outlined in the attached document.

l) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to modify the program requirement for Bachelor of Science (Honours) – Single Major in Computer Science, Bachelor of Science (Honours – Single Major in Mathematics, Bachelor of Science (Honours) Double Major in Computer Science/Mathematics and Bachelor of Science (3-year General) – Single Major in Mathematics to add BIOL1006 Introduction to Molecular and Cell Biology, a 3-credit course and BIOL1007 Introduction to Organismal and Evolutionary Biology, a 3-credit course, as outlined in the attached document.

m) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to add ENGL3145 Studies in Nineteenth-Century Literature, a 6-credit course to the English program, as outlined in the attached document. As a result, ENGL3136 and ENGL3137 will be banked.
n) That the Senate document entitled “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2006” be amended to add ENGL3525 Rise and Development of the Novel, a 6-credit course, to the English program, as outlined in the attached document.

By-Laws and Striking Committee

MOTION 5: Moved by K. Brozowski, seconded by K. Srigley that the Report of the By-laws and Striking Committee dated October 31, 2006 be received. CARRIED

Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee

MOTION 6: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by S. Feretycki that the Report of the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee dated October 16, 2006 be received. CARRIED

MOTION 7: Moved by A. Sparkes, seconded by S. Feretycki that the students listed on Appendix A, who have completed all requirements of their respective degrees, be admitted to their degrees in-course and that diplomas for the degree be awarded. CARRIED

Concurrent Education Co-ordinating Committee

MOTION 8: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by K. Ferguson that the Report of the Concurrent Education Co-ordinating Committee dated October 10, 2006 be received. RECEIVED

REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES

Ad Hoc Committee on the Revision of the Teaching Evaluations

MOTION 9: Moved by R. Wideman, seconded A. Sparkes that the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Revision of the Teaching Evaluations dated October 27, 2006 be received. CARRIED

MOTION 10: Moved by R. Wideman, seconded by A. Sparkes that Senate approve the revised course evaluation instruments subject to testing, with results to be reported to Senate. DEFEATED
MOTION 11: Moved by R. Wideman, seconded by A. Sparkes that Senate approve the revised course evaluation instruments for pilot testing.
CARRIED

Board of Governors

Senate representative, Senator Frost, briefly outlined discussions that were held at the recent Board retreat. There was considerable dialogue regarding the Board bylaws and the Nipissing University Act. The Board has agreed to postpone the rewording of the Board by-laws regarding Senate representation until the Senate review is complete. Senator Frost also noted other discussions including Board membership on Senate committees and changing the term of office for Senate members to the Board from the one year to two years.

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

NOTICE OF MOTION: That Senate amends the membership of the University Research Council to state – Director of Research Services (non-voting) and omit the position Manager of Research (non-voting), and Grant and Scholarship Coordinator (non-voting) and omit the position Research Technician (secretary, non-voting).

ELECTIONS

One Senator to serve on the Search Committee for a tenure-track position in Gender Equality and Social Justice

S. Renshaw nominated D. Gosse
K. Srigley nominated H. Earl
K. Marsh nominated L. Kruk

MOTION 12: Moved by AB Graff, seconded by s. Feretycki that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Elected: D. Gosse

One Senator to serve on the Search Committees for two tenure-track positions in the School of Business and Economic (Marketing)

R. Breton nominated AB Graff

MOTION 13: Moved by S. Renshaw, seconded by P. Ricketts that nominations cease.
CARRIED

Acclaimed: AB Graff
One Senator to serve on the Search Committee for a tenure-track position in the School of Business and Economic (Organizational Behaviour/Human Resources)

AB Graff nominated S. Srigley

MOTION 14: Moved by K. Srigley, seconded by S. Renshaw that nominations cease. CARRIED

Acclaimed: S. Srigley

NEW BUSINESS

Academic Planning Committee

MOTION 15: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by AB Graff that Senate consider receipt of the Report of the Academic Planning Committee dated November 7, 2006. CARRIED

MOTION 16: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by AB Graff that the Report of the Academic Planning Committee dated November 7, 2006 be received. CARRIED

MOTION 17: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by D. Gosse that Senate approve the following positions as an omnibus motion approved by the Academic Planning Committee:

CARRIED

a. That Senate approve the continuation of a tenure-track position in Sociology effective July 1, 2007.

b. That Senate approve the extension of the two-year position in Economics for a further one year effective July 1, 2007.

c. That Senate approve the continuation of the tenure-track position in Business Administration (Human Resources and Organizational Behaviour) effective July 1, 2007.

d. That Senate approve the continuation of two tenure-track positions in Business Administration (Marketing) effective July 1, 2007.

e. That Senate approve the continuation of the tenure-track position in Gender Equality and Social Justice effective July 1, 2007.
f. That Senate approve the creation of a two-year limited term position in Fine Arts effective July 1, 2007.

g. That Senate approve a one-year limited-term position in Consecutive BEd in the area of Music Education effective July 1, 2007.

h. That Senate approve the continuation of the tenure-track position in the consecutive/concurrent B.Ed. in the area of Physical and Health Education effective July 1, 2007.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION 1: Moved by L. Kruk, seconded by K. Marsh that Senate do now adjourn:
4:10 p.m.
CARRIED

D. Mock, President
D. Brackenreed, Secretary