NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

November 9, 2007
2:30 p.m. - Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Mock, P. Ricketts, L. Frost, D. Lawrence, B. Nettlefold, D. Parker, R. Wideman


T. Benevides

G. deBruyn, A. Brown, J. Fortier, C. Fraser, I. Wassink


D. Berry (leave), M. Cantalini-Williams (Btfd), K. Clausen (leave), D. Franks, P. Joong (Btfd), C. Harvey (leave), M. Kariuki (leave), H. Langford (leave), J. Long (leave), J. McAuliffe, M. McCabe (leave), J. McIntosh (leave), K. Noël (Btfd), K. Quigg (Btfd), L. Vokes Leduc

S. Anderson


L. McLaren

L. Drinkwalter

S. Cox

MOTION 1: Moved by D. Gosse, seconded by D. Brackenreed that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Academic Senate dated October 5, 2007 be adopted.
CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President commented briefly on the results of the recent provincial election and noted that the new Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities is John Milloy. Our local MPP, Monique Smith, is the new Minister of Revenue. This government has indicated its five priorities are the economy, post-secondary education, health, energy, and the environment. The provincial government is also looking into the possibility of transformational changes with the creation of a series of polytechniques in the Greater Toronto Area.

November 1 is the official count date for universities and it defines our revenue for the year. The President indicated that Nipissing is below target on FTEs and BIUs. As a result, with the new budget process beginning, we must be sensitive to expenditure patterns.

The President was pleased to report a very successful Board of Governor’s retreat the weekend of October 27 and 28. On Saturday, an informative presentation on changing demographics and enrollment patterns was made by Mr. Herb O’Heron from AUCC and Senator Lawrence, Registrar and Director of Institutional Planning. On Sunday Senator Ricketts and his team presented a report on the critical inquiry initiative.

The annual Maclean’s survey has just been released and this year Maclean’s has included the results of various student surveys. The President was pleased to report that we were ranked first in five of the six surveys.

As a follow up to a request at the October Senate meeting regarding SSHRC eligibility, the Vice-President Academic and Research reported that he spoke with Pat Dunn who is Director of Research and Dissemination Grants at SSHRC. She indicated that faculty who are on a 9 or 10-month contract are not eligible for SSHRC grants unless there is a formal agreement with the institution. The institution must be willing to sign off on such applications, which means that the university is willing to provide the applicant with a formal position and assume all the responsibilities of administering the grant, including any financial, ethical and legal issues. The Vice-President also explained that the Notice of Intent was initiated by SSHRC to gauge the potential volume of applications and not to access eligibility.

The Vice-President advised Senators that version of 2.4 of the Academic Master Plan is now on our website and he invited Senators to review this document. It will be brought to Academic Planning Committee for review at their next meeting.
The search committee for the Dean of Arts and Science had their first meeting and the Vice-President indicated that an advertisement will appear in the December/January issue of University Affairs. The nursing accreditation group from CASN was on campus this week to review that program. At the debriefing meeting held earlier today, the Vice-President felt confident that the review will be positive. He also reminded Senators that there is an upcoming UPRAC visit for Sociology and an OCGS site visit for the graduate program in History.

The Dean of Education (interim) was pleased to announce that Senator Frost is interim Associate Dean and Senator Brackenreed replaces Senator Frost as Chair of Junior/Intermediate.

The NUSU President introduced their new Senate representative, Amanda Brown. She also thanked the faculty who donate food items to the student food bank. Also, Senator de Bruyn thanked those involved with a very successful Relay for Life.

Senator Tuncali announced that he, Senators Valov and Karassev and colleagues from three other universities have received $17,600 in funding from the Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences. This funding will help with the organization of workshops on *Topological Methods in Algebra, Analysis and Dynamical Systems* that will be held at Nipissing in May 2008.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Senate Executive Committee**

**MOTION 2:** Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by AB Graff that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated November 1, 2007 be received. 
CARRIED

**Academic Planning Committee**

**MOTION 3:** Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by AB Graff that the Report of the Academic Planning Committee dated October 26, 2007 be received. 
CARRIED

**MOTION 4:** Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by D. Parker that Senate approve the establishment of a probationary position in Concurrent Education (North Bay) in Education Methods, Language Arts and/or Visual Arts, and/or other specialties effective July 1, 2008. 
CARRIED

**MOTION 5:** Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by B. Olmsted that Senate approve the establishment of a probationary position in Physical and Health Education effective July 1, 2008. 
CARRIED
MOTION 6: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by L. Frost that Senate approve the establishment of a 3-year limited-term position in Methods and Visual Art or Music in the Concurrent Education (Brantford) effective July 1, 2008. CARRIED

MOTION 7: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by B. Hatt that Senate approve the establishment of a probationary position in Curriculum Methods in the Consecutive Education program effective July 1, 2008. CARRIED

MOTION 8: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by D. Parker that Senate approve the establishment of a probationary position in Nursing effective July 1, 2008. CARRIED

MOTION 9: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by I. Wassink that Senate approve the establishment of a probationary position in Fine and Visual Arts effective July 1, 2008. CARRIED

MOTION 10: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by AB Graff that Senate approve a three-year limited-term position in English Studies in either American Literature or Drama effective July 1, 2008. CARRIED

MOTION 11: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by I. Wassink that Senate approve the establishment of a probationary position in Organic Chemistry effective July 1, 2008. CARRIED

MOTION 12: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by B. Olmsted that Senate approve the establishment of a probationary position in Canadian Environmental History effective July 1, 2010, with the proviso that the position could be commenced at an earlier date if there are no budgetary implications of doing so. CARRIED

MOTION 13: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by J. Allison that Senate approve the establishment of a probationary position in Political Science effective July 1, 2009, with the proviso that the position could be commenced at an earlier date if there are no budgetary implications of doing so. CARRIED

MOTION 12: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by B. Hatt that Senate approve the continuation of the following probationary positions in Education effective July 1, 2008:
- Education and Schooling (J/I)
- Social Studies (P/J)
- Computer Education
University Curriculum Committee

MOTION 13: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by D. Geden that the Report of the University Curriculum Committee dated Monday, October 22, 2007 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 14: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by O. Ridler that Senate approve the following changes to the document “Senate Academic Regulations and Policies, September 2007, as approved by the University Curriculum Committee:

a) That progression for students in the BA/BEd, BSc/BEd programs be based on a combined average that includes both Arts and Science and Education grades. This combined average requires a combined average of 67% to proceed from year 1 to year 2 and a combined average of 70% to proceed to years 3, 4, and 5. (Note: Academic awards will be based on separate averages in Arts and Science and Education.)

Below is the revised progression regulation for the BA/BEd and BSc/BEd, as it would appear in the academic calendar:

In addition to the academic standing requirements outlined above, the following pertains to those students in the Bachelor of Arts (Honours)/Bachelor of Education (Concurrent) or Bachelor of Science (Honours)/Bachelor of Education (Concurrent). In the first year of this program, students must achieve a minimum overall 67% and a pass in the Observation and Practice Teaching (practicum) to be allowed to proceed to year 2. **This average is based on arts and science and education grades combined.** Students who meet the academic requirements but fail the practicum will also be considered on an individual basis. Students who fail both the academic requirements and practicum or who have an overall average below 67% will be required to withdraw from this program. In the second, third and fourth years of this program, students must achieve a minimum overall 70% average, as well as a pass in the practicum to proceed to the next year. **Again, this average is based on arts and science and education grades combined.** Students who fail either a practicum course or an education course will be considered on an individual basis and may be allowed to proceed on probation. Students not meeting the overall average of 70% will be required to withdraw from the program. (Practicum courses in education are graded as SAT or FAIL. Academic courses in education require a minimum of 60% for a pass. Averages for students in the BA/BEd or BSc/BEd are calculated using all grades in arts and science and all numerical grades for courses passed in education.) **Please note that academic awards are based on separate averages for arts and science courses and for education courses.**
Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee

MOTION 15: Moved by R. Wideman, seconded by J. Barnett that the Report of the Admissions, Promotions, and Petitions Committee dated October 17, 2007 be received. CARRIED

MOTION 16: Moved by R. Wideman, seconded by D. Lawrence 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 degrees be awarded. CARRIED

University Research Council

MOTION 17: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by B. Nettlefold that the Report of the University Research Council dated October 23, 2007 be received. CARRIED

Concurrent Education Coordinating Committee

MOTION 18: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by L. Frost that the report of the Concurrent Education Coordinating Committee Report dated 16 October 2007 be received. CARRIED

ELECTIONS

- Elect one Senator to serve as Senate representative to the Board of Governors

J. Barnett nominated MA Parr

MOTION 19: Moved by L. Patriquin, seconded by J. Barnett that nominations cease. CARRIED

Acclaimed: MA Parr

- Elect one Senator to serve as Alternate Speaker

B. Olmsted nominated B. Hatt

MOTION 20: Moved by L. Frost, seconded by O. Ridler that nominations cease. CARRIED

Acclaimed: B. Hatt
• Elect one Senator, not from the School of Business and Economics, to serve on the search committee for a probationary position in the School of Business and Economics.

K. Srigley nominated D. Neal

MOTION 21: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by B. Olmsted that nominations cease.

Acclaimed: D. Neal

REPORT FROM REPRESENTATIVE on OTHER BODIES

Teacher Education Advisory Committee

Senator Wideman gave a brief outline about this committee and its membership. He indicated that it provides advice to the Bachelor of Education program. The committee is mandated by the Ontario College of Teachers.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was a presentation by Senators Ricketts and Patriquin on the draft of the Discussion Paper on Tenure and Promotion for Nipissing University. This is the first level of this draft and the makeup of the two review committees was discussed. It was noted that any written comments or suggestions should be made to either co-chairs no later than November 16. The absence of an appeal process for academic administrators, who are not members of NUFA, was noted by the co-chairs and will be redressed in a forthcoming draft of the Discussion Paper.

ADJOURNMENT

If there is no objection, Senate will now adjourn: 4:46 p.m.

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D. Mock, President D. Brackenreed, Secretary