NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

May 9, 2008

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

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


L. McLaren

L. Drinkwalter

T. Benevides

M. Den Haan, J. Fortier, AM McKenney, I. Wassink


D. Jarvis, P. Joong, B. Olmsted, J. Pitt, H. Rintoul, L. Vokes-Leduc
ABSENT: D. Lawrence, B. Nettlefold

P. Babady-Bila, E. Berger, W. Borody, G. Brown,
N. Brown, R. Brozowski, P. Chow, A. Clendinning,
T. Curwen, D. Flynn, R. Gendron, J. Grant, D. Hackett,
D. Hall, D. Horning Lafrance, P. Kelly, J. Knox,
U. Kundlerats, E. Mattson, I. Mueller, S. Muhlberger,
D. Murphy, J. Murton, J. Nadeau, R. Nagy, D. Neal,
S. O’Hagan, W. Peters, L. Peturson, S. Renshaw,
D. Rowbotham, M. Saari, B. Schreyer, T. Smith,
A. Sparkes, M. Sroga, K. Stange, M. Wachowiak,
T. Waldock, D. Walters, A. Weeks, S. Winters, W. Young

A. Adler, A.M. Aquino, R. Bernardes, D. Berry,
D. Brakenreed, J. Bumstead, K. Clausen, J. Corkett,
K. Ferguson, R. Graham, A. Grierson, G. Harvey,
J. Humble, C. Jodoin, L. Julien-Schultz, H. Langford,
J. Long, K. MacLeod, K. Mantas, M. McCabe, J. McIntosh,
B. McMahon, K. Noel, M. Parr, R. Phillips, K. Quigg,
S. Reid, C. Ricci, T. Ryan, G. Sharpe, C. Shields,
M. Tessaro

S. Anderson

The minutes of the Senate meeting of April 4, 2008 were adopted with no objections.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Elect four faculty Senators for the search committee for President and Vice-Chancellor. At least one shall be female and one male. Of those elected, only one may be probationary (tenure track) faculty member, and there shall be at least one representative from each faculty.

For the record, it should be noted that the Vice-President Academic and Research, Dr. P. Ricketts, abstained from the vote for this search committee for President and Vice-Chancellor.

The Speaker reminded the Senators that they had to be a voting member of Senate in order to vote in this election. It was stated that the two new NUSU members are technically allowed to vote.

R. Breton and C. Sarlo counted the votes, performing independent calculations twice.
Nominations:

P. Nosko (A&S, tenure track)
C. McFarlane (A&S, tenure track)
F. Noël - female (A&S, tenure track)
M. Tuncali (A&S, tenure track)
D. Franks (Educ, tenure track)
M. Cantalini-Williams - female (Educ, tenure track)
B. Hatt (Educ, professor)
D. Gosse (Educ, tenure track)
T. Ryan (Educ, tenure track)
G. Brown (A&S, tenure track)
D. Hemsworth (A&S, tenure track)
L. Patriquin (A&S, tenure track)


ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President reported that Premier Dalton McGuinty was on campus April 10, 2008 to announce a new program which provides funding for travel costs for post-secondary students from rural or northern communities.

The President advised Senators that the Library Learning Campaign private sector funding currently totals $3M.

The President reported on some of the events happening on campus. Nipissing’s Third Annual Regional Historica Fair took place on May 1 and he expressed his thanks for those involved in the fair. He advised that Nipissing University recently received the Bronze Volunteer Service Award and announced the Topological Methods in Algebra, Analysis & Dynamical Systems 5-day workshops which begin on May 12, 2008. He advised that information on this event is posted on the web site and there will be over 20 graduate students attending.

The Colleagues Paper from COU has been posted on the President’s web and encouraged Senators to view. He advised that copies are also available in the President’s Office.

The Board of Governors approved Nipissing’s 2008-09 budget at their May 1, 2008 meeting. He reminded Senators that at the last Senate meeting he indicated that the funding policy framework review will be coming from the MTCU, which could have a significant impact on Nipissing. This policy will be defining institutional categories and will impact the distribution of funding to universities and colleges. The new funding formula on BIUs and the recommended one-time funding is expected to affect colleges
next year and universities the year after. As a result, Nipissing is not able to count on this funding for next year and will have a structural deficit.

The President then invited the Vice-President, Finance and Administration, Ms. Paine-Mantha, to report on Nipissing’s budget for 2008-09.

Ms. Paine-Mantha announced to Senators that copies of the Summary Budget are available. She stated that the budget is operating at a $2.6M structural deficit and that tuition and grants are the main form of revenue. The Board of Governors agreed to go forward with a deficit in anticipation of reducing it via the MTCU funding which is expected to be received in the last three weeks of April, plus using cost containment and fiscal frugality of $750K, leaving a deficit of $735K by year-end. She stated that this amount would be covered from reserves if it is not already exhausted by year-end. The budget is a result of input from everyone. There were $5.5M in requests and $2.7M was accommodated, which includes 28 new faculty and staff positions. The budget allowed for the maximum in tuition increases at 4.5% for first-year students, 4% for years 2-5, an 8% increase for A&S professional programs and, for others that are not funded by BIUs, competitors in the system were reviewed. Ms. Paine-Mantha referred Senators to the Tuition Revenue Model chart of the Budget Summary. She stressed that Nipissing is growing and that new staffing is necessary. The remainder is operating costs.

The Vice-President, Finance and Administration advised that there are detailed budget packages in her office and that the budget will be on the web site by May 12.

The Vice-President, Internal asked when students could expect any tuition relief. Ms. Paine-Mantha advised that there are only two sources of revenue: government funding and tuition. Unfortunately, tuition must increase, to offset costs. She advised that Nipissing’s tuition is $200 less than other universities and stressed that it is the reality of university growth and functioning with operating deficits.

The Vice-President, Academic and Research, Dr. Peter Ricketts, announced that implementation of the new faculty workload is taking place as per the faculty agreement. He thanked the members of the special committee and all those who worked on and participated in the process. He stressed that it is admirable that Nipissing was able to implement such a major change within the tight timeframe.

With regard to research funding, Dr. Ricketts indicated that Nipissing is improving every year in relation to external research grants. He advised that we have exceeded $558K in external funding from major grants and peer-reviewed research activities so far this year and it is only May. He congratulated R. Gendron and M. Plumberfield on their new SHERC grants. He advised that there are a record number of faculty applying for research grants. He also reported that J. Kovacs has received a $100K grant from the Japan Aerospace & Exploration Agency and J. McAuliffe has received $10K from NSERC.
The Vice-President, Academic and Research reported that NSERC is undergoing some significant changes and they have released an international review of the Discovery Grants Program which can be viewed on their web site. He pointed out that there is an Executive Summary of the major recommendations proposed by the Grant Review Committees.

Dr. Ricketts announced to Senate that he recently sent out two emails in relation to the new tenure and promotion deadlines for 2008-09. He stressed that the second email is very relevant and it is very important for faculty to read it. It outlines new dates for submitting names, references and dossiers required under the new process. He stated that this information comes from the special joint committee on tenure and promotion. It is anticipated that Nipissing will be moving toward this new process, which will be going to relevant stakeholder groups next week, and will be brought to Senate at the June meeting.

The Dean of Arts and Science congratulated all those who applied for SHERC grants. All applications were of excellent quality and there are wonderful researchers in the faculty. It shows how under-funded SHERC is as there is not enough money in the system to sustain all of the applications.

The Dean of Education, R. Wideman, announced that there has been a high uptake in the offers in admission to the P/J Division; therefore, two additional sections have been added and, in co-operation with Wilfrid Laurier and our Brantford campus, we have offered to locate those additional sections in Brantford.

The Vice-President, Internal, I. Wassink, announced the new NUSU Executive: Anna Mary McKenney, Vice-President External, and Marianne Den Haan, Vice-President Student Life, which took effect May 1. Senator Wassink advised that NUSU just returned from their retreat in Orillia. He announced that NUSU has painted Muskoka chairs which they are raffling off for Shinerama. He also congratulated the new Dean of Arts and Science.

QUESTION PERIOD

Senate observed that the June Senate meeting will be considering three major documents, each of which proposes significant changes to practice and policy. It was suggested that Senate Executive consider holding Special Senate meetings to allow these important documents to receive adequate attention.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Speaker advised the Senators that some additional reports have been added to the agenda and that copies of these reports can be found on the back table of the room.
Senate Executive Committee

MOTION 1: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Annual Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 1, 2008 be received. CARRIED

MOTION 2: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 1, 2008 be received. CARRIED

MOTION 3: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by R. Bergquist that Senate consider receipt of the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 7, 2008. CARRIED

MOTION 4: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by B. Hatt that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 7, 2008 be received. CARRIED

MOTION 5: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by B. Hatt that Senate accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee that a new Appeals Committee of the Senate Academic Standing Appeals and Petitions Committee be struck consisting of Michelann Parr (Chair), Glenn Brophey, Susan Srigley, John Allison, Rebecca Roome-Rancourt, Anna Mary McKenny and Erin Rowe. Doug Parker and Greg Pyle will be non-voting members. CARRIED

Academic Planning Committee

MOTION 6: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by I. Wassink that the Annual Report of the Academic Planning Committee dated April 30, 2008 be received. CARRIED

University Curriculum Committee

MOTION 7: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by A.B. Graff that the Annual Report of the University Curriculum Committee dated April 30, 2008 be received. CARRIED

Library Committee

MOTION 8: Moved by D. Tabachnick, seconded by M. Tuncali that the Annual Report of the Library Committee dated April 30, 2008 be received. CARRIED
Student Affairs Committee

MOTION 9: Moved by K. Srigley, seconded by M. Tuncali that the Annual Report of the Student Affairs Committee dated April 29, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

Appointments, Promotions and Tenure Committee

MOTION 10: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by D. Gosse that the Annual Report of the APT Committee dated April 29, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

By-Laws and Striking Committee

MOTION 11: Moved by R. Breton, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Annual Report of the Senate By-laws and Striking Committee dated April 11, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

Honorary Degrees Committee

MOTION 12: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by A.B. Graff that the Annual Report of the Honorary Degrees Committee dated April 14, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee

MOTION 13: Moved by R. Bergquist, seconded by I. Wassink that the Annual Report of the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee dated April 8, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 14: Moved by R. Bergquist, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Report of the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee dated April 9, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 15: Moved by R. Bergquist, seconded by A.B. Graff 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
CARRIED

MOTION 17: Moved by R. Bergquist, seconded by K. Topps that the Report of the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee dated April 30, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 18: Moved by R. Bergquist, seconded by H. Earl that students currently enrolled in the Nursing program be allowed to graduate under either new regulations or the regulations that they were admitted under in first year.
CARRIED

MOTION 19: Moved by R. Bergquist, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Policy on Posthumous Degrees outlined in the body of the Report be adopted.
MOTION WITHDRAWN (TO NEXT SENATE MEETING)

CARRIED

MOTION 21: Moved by R. Bergquist, seconded by M. Tuncali that the Report of the Admissions, Promotions and Petitions Committee dated May 7, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 22: Moved by R. Bergquist, seconded by K. Srigley 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 23: Moved by P. Ricketts, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Annual Report of the University Research Council dated April 21, 2008 be received.
CARRIED
Academic Computing Committee

MOTION 24: Moved by K. Waller, seconded by J. Barnett that the Annual Report of the Academic Computing Committee dated April 30, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

Concurrent Education Coordinating Committee

MOTION 25: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by N. Maynes that the Annual Report of the Concurrent Education Coordinating Committee dated April 15, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 26: Moved by O. Ridler, seconded by B. Hatt that the Report of the Concurrent Education Coordinating Committee dated April 14, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

Cultural Affairs Committee

MOTION 27: Moved by T. Dokis, seconded by T. Campbell that the Annual Report of the Cultural Affairs Committee dated April 28, 2008 be received.
CARRIED

ELECTIONS

- Elect four faculty Senators for the search committee for a Dean of Education. At least one shall be female and one male. There shall be three representatives from the Faculty of Education elected by the Faculty of Education members of Senate and one representative from another Faculty elected by the members of Senate from the faculties other than the Faculty of Education. Of those elected, only one may be a tenure track faculty member and this may only occur in the election of the three representatives from the Faculty of Education.

Nominations:

D. Jarvis (Educ, tenure track)
K. Clausen (Educ, tenure track)
D. Gosse (Educ)
S. Elliott-Johns - female (Educ, tenure track)
B. Hatt (Educ, tenure track)
C. Shields – female (Educ)
J. McAuliffe (Educ)
T. Horton (Educ)
M. McCabe (Educ)
T. Campbell – female (Educ, tenure track)
T. Ryan (Educ)
G. Raymer (Educ)
F. Noël (A&S, tenure track)
G. Morrell (A&S)
G. Brown (A&S)

Elected: F. Noël, T. Horton, T. Campbell

Run-off election between D. Jarvis, D. Gosse and M. McCabe.

Elected: M. McCabe

REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES

Dr. Ted Chase, Consultant to the Senate Review Committee, was asked to speak on the Senate Review Committee’s Notice of Motion (for consideration at the June Senate) that Senate approve the proposed set of Senate bylaws to be effective July 1, 2008.

Dr. Chase gave a brief overview of the proposed Senate Bylaws. He also stated that Senate approval of the bylaws in June would allow for bylaw election committees to be set up over the summer and placed on the Senate agenda for September.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

Teacher Education Advisory Committee

Senator Wideman advised Senate that they would be holding a meeting this week to report on education placements and those strategy discussions are currently being conducted.

ADJOURNMENT

If there is no objection, Senate is now adjourned: 4:52 p.m.