

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

October 8, 2010

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

L. Lovett-Doust (Chair), V. Paine-Mantha, S. Rich, A. Robinson,
B. Nettlefold

G. Brophey, K. McCullough, J. Nadeau

J. Abbott, A. Burk, N. Colborne, R. Gendron, D. Jowett, T. Koivukoski,
U. Kundrats, C. McFarlane, J. Murton, R. Nagy, F. Noël, S. O'Hagan,
G. Phillips, S. Renshaw,

C. Brew, J. Corkett, S. Elliott-Johns, D. Franks, B. Hatt (Speaker), D. Hay,
D. Jarvis, N. Maynes, M. Parr, G. Raymer, C. Ricci, A. Steele

J. Vitale (Brantford), A. Wagner (Muskoka)

D. Armstrong, W. Ingwersen, R. Mulligan

C. Dennis, B. Woodford

L. McLaren

D. Thompson

A. Fielding, R. Lahti, I. Laplante, A. Qushair, N. Smart

ABSENCE WITH REGRETS:

K. Bergman (Vice-Chair), A. Carfagnini, C. Cooper, R. Vanderlee

G. Brown, S. Lechlitner

V. Valov, H. Zhu

K. Clausen

M. Adamson

The minutes of the September 10, 2010 Senate meeting were adopted.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Senate Executive Committee

MOTION 1: Moved by L. Lovett-Doust, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated September 30, 2010 be received.
CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION 2: Moved by L. Lovett-Doust, seconded by G. Phillips that Educational Excellence, One Student at a Time, the 2010-2015 Nipissing University Strategic Plan, be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 3: Moved by L. Lovett-Doust, seconded by J. Corkett that the title of the strategic plan be changed to: Academic Excellence, the 2010-2015 Nipissing University Strategic Plan.
CARRIED

Senator Parr asked that if he supported the strategic plan, was he thereby approving a specific program. He wanted assurance that the strategic plan would not be used as a mode of persuasion. The President assured senators that there would be opportunity to discuss, vote, accept or reject any new degree programs and that all processes would be followed.

MOTION 4: Moved by L. Lovett-Doust, seconded by D. Jowett that Academic Excellence, the 2010-2015 Nipissing University Strategic Plan be adopted.
CARRIED

- Teaching and Learning Committee (from report dated May 26, 2010)

MOTION 5: Moved by R. Nagy, seconded by K. Ferguson that Senate approved the revised teaching evaluation forms and its distance delivery variations, for implementations, as outlined.

MOTION 6: Moved by D. Jowett, seconded by S. Rich that the teaching evaluation forms be referred to the Centre For Flexible Learning to work in conjunction with the Teaching and Learning Committee for modifications and be brought to the February 2011 Senate.
CARRIED

- Reports of Grad Applicants (October 7 and 8, 2010)

MOTION 7: Moved by A. Robinson, seconded by D. Jowett that degrees, diplomas and certificates be awarded to the students listed in the Reports of Grad Applicants dated October 7, 2010 and October 8, 2010, who have completed all requirements for their respective degrees, diplomas and certificates.
CARRIED

AMENDMENT of BY-LAWS

- **Notice of Motion (regarding election of Senate Speaker and Deputy Speaker)**
That Article 3.0 (a)(iii) be modified to read “the Speaker of Senate, who shall be elected every two years by Senate from among the faculty Senators, normally at the May senate meeting” and that Article 3.0(a)(iv) be modified to read “the Deputy Speaker of Senate, who shall be elected every two years by Senate from among the faculty Senators, normally at the May senate meeting”.

- **Notice of Motion (regarding change in the Senate year)**
That Article 1.3 be modified to read “the Senate year shall be deemed to commence on 01 July of any given year and end on 30 June the following year.”
- **Notice of Motion (regarding changes in position titles)**
That Article 9.5 (a)(ii) be modified to read “the Director for the Centre for Flexible Learning (non-voting)” and Article 9.5.3 (a)(v) be modified to read “the Director for the Centre for Flexible Learning (non-voting).”
- **Notice of Motion (regarding correction to position title)**
That Article 10.4(a)(ii) be modified to read “Director of Research Services and Graduate Studies (non-voting).”
- **Notice of Motion (regarding re-calculation of Senate allocations to 3 years)**
That Article 2.5(b) of the Senate bylaws be modified to read “the proportions employed in 2.4(c) above in allocating faculty Senate positions shall be re-calculated at least every three years, based on up-to-date full-time faculty distribution data maintained specifically for this purpose.”
- **Notice of Motion (regarding name change of a university committee)**
That the Personal Harassment and Discrimination Committee be changed to Harassment and Discrimination Committee.

ELECTIONS

- Elect one NSERC faculty representative for the University Research Council.

Nominated: V. Valov and M. Wachowiak

ELECTED: V. Valov

- Elect one Senator from the Faculty of Arts and Science to serve on the Academic Planning Committee.

ACCLAIMED: C. McFarlane

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Board of Governors

Senator Dennis, Board of Governors representative to Senate, announced that at the Board’s annual dinner on Monday, September 27, retiring Board members and University staff were thanked for their services. He also noted that preparations for the December 9 installation of the new Chancellor has already begun. Invitations will be sent to all universities across Canada. The University’s audited financial statements were approved. He indicated that the Brown Lounge is being renamed to the Green Lounge in honour of Murray Green.

Alumni Association

Senator Thompson, the Alumni Association representative to Senate, reminded senators of Homecoming Weekend from October 22 to 24. He encouraged all faculty and staff members to sign up for the various activities.

Council of Ontario Universities

Senator Nadeau, COU Academic Colleague, announced that he was elected to serve as the faculty representative on the COU Community and Government Relations Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Academic Planning Committee (October 1, 2010 Report)

MOTION 8: Moved by L. Lovett-Doust, seconded by S. Rich that Senate consider receipt of the Report of the Academic Planning Committee dated October 1, 2010.

CARRIED

MOTION 9: Moved by L. Lovett-Doust, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Report of the Academic Planning Committee dated October 1, 2010, be received.

CARRIED

MOTION 10: Moved by L. Lovett-Doust, seconded by S. O'Hagan that Senate give Stage One approval to the Department of Geography to develop a new program called Bachelor of Science Honours in Environmental Geography, as outlined in the attached proposal.

CARRIED

MOTION 11: Moved by L. Lovett-Doust, seconded by A. Robinson that Senate give Stage One approval to the Department of Computer Science and Mathematics to develop a new program, called Bachelor of Science in Science and Technology, as outlined in the attached proposal.

CARRIED

Academic Planning Committee (May 7, 2010 Report)

MOTION 12: Moved by S. O'Hagan, seconded by J. Abbott the discontinuation of the Bachelor of Arts Honours in Geography of Regional Planning and International Development.

CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President announced that Dr. Jon Dellandrea, the new Chancellor, will be installed on Thursday, December 9, 2010.

She thanked Senator Paine-Mantha for her work in securing two significant grants from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC). On October 1, it was announced that \$1M is being earmarked for the active learning and health research innovation centre and \$410K will be going to the geospatial project.

The President encouraged senators to let Christine Jenkins know of their area of interest in serving on of the strategic plan action groups. She also encouraged senators to participate in Homecoming activities. Many former students have indicated their interest in seeing their "old" professors.

Senator McLaren was congratulated for spearheading the opening of the new Office of Aboriginal Initiatives “Onji giigdoyang.” This Ojibwe term means “where we come to meet, discuss and talk about things.”

The recent Ontario University Fair was a success with approximately 130,000 visitors. The President thanked the faculty and staff who gave up a weekend with their families to promote Nipissing University. She also noted that Nipissing was the only university to have its Board Chair present.

The President also acknowledged the students who participated in the recent Run for the Cure. As of October 4, they had garnered more than \$3K in donations.

The Vice President Finance and Administration advised senators that the university and college are in the process of finalizing the contract for the health centre. Senator Paine-Mantha stated that there will be a rotating team of doctors and Dr. Gooderham will be acting as the coordinator of the new medical health model. The health centre will be supporting a more holistic approach to health with additional specialists on site during the academic year.

The Faculty of Applied and Professional Studies announced the Common Book, Common Ground Project. First-year students have received a copy of Joseph Boyden’s award-winning novel *Three Day Road*. Students will be encouraged to participate in discussion groups and other class-based activities and attend the lecture by Boyden. On Wednesday, October 13, the annual business case competition among the four local high schools will be held. Students will be preparing a marketing plan to recruit and retain volunteers for the Near North Palliative Care Network. On Friday, October 22, the Bachelor of Commerce College Partnership Program will have their first graduation ceremony in Waterloo. More than 70 students from Sheridan and Fanshawe will be receiving their Nipissing degrees.

On behalf of the Dean of Arts and Science, Bob Bergquist was delighted to report that the NOHFC has awarded \$410K to Nipissing University for the project "Integrated Geospatial Data and Visualization Technology for Agricultural Applications". Co-principal investigators, Drs. John Kovacs and Dan Walters will develop and deploy web-based geospatial database, visualization, and decision support services to assist in technology development for the Northern Ontario agricultural sector. Professor Bergquist noted that this is an excellent example of inter-disciplinary collaboration between the Department of Geography (Drs. Sean O'Hagan and April James (NSERC CRC Chair)) and the Department of Computer Science and Mathematics (Drs. Mark Wachowiak and Renata Wachowiak-Smolikova).

The Dean of Education was pleased to report that Drs. Maria Cantalini-Williams, Arlene Grierson, Mary Lynn Tessaro and Nancy Maynes have received a HEQCO award to examine the role of mentorship.

Senator Lahti from NUSU was pleased to report that the Shinerama initiative raised more than \$25K for cystic fibrosis. He also introduced two new student senators, Nathaniel Smart from Arts and Science and Ian Laplante from Graduate Studies. Student club days occurred this week. It was an opportunity for students to see the variety of clubs that are on campus. Senator Lahti also noted that “Movember” is coming up and students are trying to raise more than \$2K to support prostate cancer research.

Senate was adjourned: 4:43 p.m.

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L. Lovett-Doust, President

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C. Jenkins, Senate Secretary