

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY  
MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

March 9, 2012

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

V. Paine-Mantha (chair), S. Rich (vice-chair), C. Cooper, C. Richardson,  
J. Graham

G. Brown, B. Carpenter, P. Millar

A. Burk, N. Colborne, J. Dech, R. Gendron, T. Koivukoski, N. Kozukanich,  
G. Morrell, F. Noël, P. Radia, A. Weeks S. Winters, V. Valov, H. Zhu

S. Elliott-Johns, B. Hatt, D. Jarvis, N. Maynes, J. McAuliffe, MA Parr, C. Ricci,  
T. Ryan, J. Scott, A. Steele

A. Wagner (Muskoka)

T. Bachelder

K. Chutko, R. Don, J. Valin

M. Allen, N. Brady, J. Doucette. K. Fitzsimmons, T. Hanna, S. Laplante

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

B. Keech, R. Vanderlee

K. McCullough

A. Karassev, C. McFarlane, G. Phillips, S. O'Hagan

K. Eyre, D. Franks, M. Kariuki,

J. Vitale (Brantford)

L. McLaren

M. Berube

D. Thompson

The minutes of the Senate meeting of February 12, 2012 was adopted with no objections.

## READING AND DISPOSING OF COMMUNICATIONS

*The following letter from three Nipissing community members was read:*

Dear Senate Members,

To celebrate the amazing life of Georgia Lyons, the ‘Grammar Granny’, and all her contributions to the success of Nipissing's students, a few staff members would like to establish an endowed bursary fund to honor her memory. They would like to ask that all members of the Nipissing University community to support this initiative to keep the memory of the ‘Grammar Granny’ alive at Nipissing University.

This award would recognize the efforts of a Nipissing University student with a demonstrated financial need who has demonstrated significant effort in overcoming academic challenges such as writing, language or study skills.

We must act quickly. We need to raise \$5000 to ensure this can be an annual award. The government will currently match our donation, but this funding will end March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Donations can be made in the External Relations and Advancement office in F301 or gifts can be made on-line at [www.nipissingu.ca/giving](http://www.nipissingu.ca/giving), indicate Georgian Lyons in the “other” field. Donations are eligible for a charitable donation receipt.

A personal, named endowment bursary fund is like an institutional savings account whereby money is permanently invested and only the interest is spent each year (up to 4%). The minimum requirement needed to establish a named endowment is \$10,000, which would provide an annual award valued up to \$400.

Currently, the Ontario Government will match all gifts to endowments with financial need criteria through the Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS) initiative. This means that the Nipissing University community needs to raise only \$5000 (although more is always welcome) in order to meet the \$10,000 endowment minimum. The most attractive aspect of an endowment fund is that it is a permanent living memorial that gives to needy students in perpetuity. In order to take advantage of the matching, gifts must be received prior to March 31, 2012. Thank you for your support,

Cindy Brownlee, Pauline Teal, Dave Vadnais  
Nipissing University community members

## QUESTION PERIOD

There was a question raised pertaining to the timing of final exams, specifically allowing for one week between the last day of classes and the first day of exams. The Registrar indicated that in April, this is not a problem. However, if a policy should be established, this will mean first semester exams will be extended late into the holiday season. Currently, a three-day period is allowed.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILSSenate Executive Committee

MOTION 1: Moved by V. Paine-Mantha, seconded by A. Burk that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated March 1, 2012 be received.  
CARRIED

MOTION 2: Moved by V. Paine-Mantha, seconded by N. Colborne that Senate move into an in-camera session.  
CARRIED

MOTION 3: Moved by V. Paine-Mantha, seconded by J. Doucette that Senate move out of the in-camera session.  
CARRIED

Planning and Priorities Committee

MOTION 4: Moved by S. Rich, seconded by C. Richardson that the Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated February 9, 2012, be received.  
CARRIED

MOTION 5: Moved by S. Rich, seconded by C. Cooper that PPC request Senate to approve Stage 3 of the 4-year Arts and Culture program at Muskoka.  
REFERRED BACK TO PPC TO OBTAIN SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

MOTION 6: Moved by S. Rich, seconded by C. Cooper That PPC request Senate to approve the development of a strategic plan to promote enrolment at the Muskoka campus.  
WITHDRAWN

Teaching and Learning Committee

MOTION 7: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by J. Valin that the Special Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated February 28, 2012 be received.  
CARRIED

MOTION 8: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by J. Valin that Senate approve that all programs in Faculty of Arts and Science and, where possible, Applied and Professional Studies make ACAD1601 - Academic Writing (3 credits) required for degree completion, to be taken within the first 30 residency credits.  
CARRIED

MOTION 9: That Senate approve that all programs in Faculty of Arts and Science and, where possible, Applied and Professional Studies make ONE of the following upper-year discipline-specific courses required within the next 30 credits:

- ACAD2601 (Academic Writing in the Humanities)
- ACAD2701 (Academic Writing in the Social Sciences)
- ACAD2801 (Academic Writing in the Sciences)
- ACAD2901 (Academic Writing in Applied and Professional Studies).

DEFERRED TO APRIL SENATE

MOTION 10: That Senate approve that as an alternative to Motion #3, that all programs in Faculty of Arts and Science and, where possible, Applied and Professional Studies designate at least ONE course at Second Year as requiring a minimum of 3000 words of evaluated writing and meeting the Learning Expectations for “Academic Writing” including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Students demonstrate reading/writing conventions specific to researching in the discipline
- b. Students develop a suitable research question
- c. Students demonstrate research methodologies specific to the discipline
- d. Students demonstrate skills in academic inquiry and analysis, through writing, specific to the discipline
- e. Students demonstrate skills in information literacy
- f. Students demonstrate skills in appropriate documentations
- g. Students demonstrate skills of effective writing and argumentation specific to the discipline

Academic Units must submit the syllabi of their Academic Writing (AW) courses for periodic review (i.e. every three years) by the Teaching and Learning Committee in order to ensure that they are fulfilling their AW designation.

DEFERRED TO APRIL SENATE

#### AMENDMENT of BYLAWS

Notices of Motion (2)

**Article 9.3.2(a)(i)**

- Addition of Vice-Chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, who shall be Chair (effective July 1, 2012)

**Article 2.1(a)(vii)**

- Addition of Assistant Vice-President Research and Graduate Studies (effective July 1, 2012)

**Non-substantive changes to the Senate Bylaws**

- Change all references of Registrar to Registrar and Institutional Analyst
- Article 9.3.2(a)(v) - change reference of Director of Student Development and Success to Director of Student Development and Services

**ELECTIONS**

- Election for the Search Committee for the Vice-President Finance and Administration  
**ACCLAIMED: G. Brown and R. Gendron**
- Elect one tenured or tenure track faculty member from outside the discipline to serve on the search committee for a shared tenure track position in Physical and Health Education (BE) and the School of Physical and Health Education (BPHE)  
**ACCLAIMED: J. Knox**

**REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES****Council of Ontario Universities (Academic Colleague)**

Senator Elliott-Johns announced that she had received a copy of COU's response to the Drummond Report. It will be filed with the Senate Secretary should anyone wish to view it. She indicated it is not for public information.

**NEW BUSINESS****Undergraduate Studies Committee**

MOTION 11: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Rich that Senate consider receipt of the report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated March 5, 2012.

CARRIED

MOTION 12: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by P. Radia that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated March 5, 2012, be received.

CARRIED

MOTION 13: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by B. Carpenter that Senate approve the addition of ORGS2007 Business & Government Relations in Canada to the School of Business course offerings and to the stream electives of Organizational Studies.

CARRIED

MOTION 14: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Dech that Senate approve the addition of the following courses to the Biology program as outlined:

- BIOL4986: Directed Studies
- BIOL4886: Internship I
- BIOL4887 – Internship II

CARRIED

MOTION 15: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Owens that Senate approve the program requirements for a Minor in Chemistry, as outlined.

CARRIED

MOTION 16: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by A. Burk that Senate approve that CLAS2506 Greek Art and Architecture and CLAS2507 Roman Art and Architecture be cross-listed with FAVA Art History Stream.

CARRIED

MOTION 17: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Owens that Senate approve that POLI2106 Great Political Questions I be cross-listed with Classical Studies.

CARRIED

MOTION 18: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. Cooper that Senate approve the program requirements for an Honours Specialization, a Specialization, a Major, and a Minor in Classical Studies.

CARRIED

MOTION 19: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Doucette that Senate approve the program requirements for an Honours Specialization, a Specialization, a Major, and a Minor in Computer Science.

CARRIED

MOTION 20: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. Cooper that Senate approve that the lab component of COSC2667- Operating Systems I be removed.

CARRIED

MOTION 21: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by P. Radia that Senate approve the addition of the following courses to English Studies (ungrouped) as outlined:

- ENGL2001 - Sex, Death, and Textuality
- ENGL2002 - Culture in Crisis

CARRIED

**Non-substantive changes in English Studies:**

The title and description of ENGL3126 Composition: Theory and Practice I be modified to Professional Writing for Mass Media: Challenging Popular Forms (short title Writing for Mass Media).

**Current Title and Description:**

ENGL3126, Composition: Theory and Practice I

This is an advanced course in composition and is writing-intensive. Some of the questions students might pursue include what do writers do when they write? How does expertise in writing develop? What is the effect of writing well? How do contexts influence writing? Topics may include academic writing; the pedagogy of writing instruction; composition theory; technologies related to writing; electronic writing and publishing; and editing.

**NEW TITLE AND DESCRIPTION:**

ENG3126: Writing for Mass Media: Challenging Popular Forms

This course introduces students to the major forms and genres of professional writing for mass media. The focus is specifically on popular forms such as magazine articles, advertising plugs, writing about global issues and political events, as well as personal columns such as “fashion,” “culture,” and “life.” In this course, we study works by established journalists, reporters, literary writers, and non-fiction essay writers, including professional literature on strategy and leadership.

The title and description of ENGL3127 Composition: Theory and Practice II be modified to Professional Writing for Digital Media: From Tweeting to Establishing a Professional Online Presence (short title Writing for Digital Media).

**Current Title and Description:**

ENGL3127, Composition: Theory and Practice II

This is an advanced course in composition and is writing-intensive. Some of the questions students might pursue include what do writers do when they write? How does expertise in writing develop? What is the effect of writing well? How do contexts influence writing? Topics may include academic writing; the pedagogy of writing instruction; composition theory; technologies related to writing; electronic writing and publishing; and editing.

**NEW TITLE AND DESCRIPTION:**

ENGL3127: Writing for Digital Media: From Tweeting to Establishing a Professional Online Presence

This advanced course in writing for digital media, specifically for the web, examines the ethics of professional writing in the age of Facebook, Twitter, and blogging. While such media platforms constitute an important means of networking, they do not necessarily instigate professionalism. What are the challenges of establishing a professional online presence? Topics of discussion include technology, publishing, manuscript editing, creativity, professional glass ceiling, political activism, and ethics.

**MOTION 22:** Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Doucette that Senate approve a minor in Film, as outlined.

**CARRIED**

MOTION 23: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Renshaw that Senate approve the addition of the following courses to the Gender Equality and Social Justice program, as outlined:

- GEND2026 Makeover Culture
- GEND2047 Gender and Social Media
- GEND3045 Masculinities
- GEND3047 Deconstructing Nature
- GEND3067 HIV/AIDS Health and Social Change

CARRIED

MOTION 24: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Renshaw that Senate approve the deletion of the following courses from the Gender Equality and Social Justice program, as outlined:

- GEND2207 Sex, Body and Identity II
- GEND2007 Gender and Education II

CARRIED

MOTION 25: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Renshaw that Senate approve name changes to the following courses in the Gender Equality and Social Justice program, as outlined:

- GEND2066 from Colonization and Indigenous Peoples to Race, Colonization and Indigeneity
- GEND3506 from Gender and Environmental Justice 1: Issues and Concepts to Gender and Environmental Justice

CARRIED

MOTION 26: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Renshaw that Senate approve that GEND3506 Gender and Environmental Justice be renumbered to GEND2036.

CARRIED

MOTION 27: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Renshaw That Senate approve that GEND3507 Gender and Environmental Justice II: Sustainable Development and Environmental Activism be banked.

CARRIED

**Non-substantive changes in History:**

HIST2166 - course description changed to:

While historians have traditionally ignored it, nature is a player in history, setting out the possible means of survival available to any particular time and culture. Students will consider ways in which peoples in northern North America have shaped nature in order to ensure their survival, and ways in which nature has shaped the variety of societies existing in this place since the last ice age. The global history of key human-nature interactions -- from hunting, fishing, and farming to industrialization -- and their development in the northern North American context, will be considered. Students will gain an understanding of the fundamental environmental bases of Canadian and global history.



HIST2516 - course description changed to:

American history is largely a debate over what it means to be American. Students engage this debate by studying the major events and themes of the American past and exploring how different groups accommodated the forces of change. Students consider how various peoples accepted and resisted institutional change, cultural and social development, and political evolution from Raleigh to Reagan, from colonies to Cold War.

HIST2517 – course description changed to:

The American past has been shaped in part by the construction of racial categories. Whether to colonize, enslave, disenfranchise, or resist one another, the peoples of the Americas often used perceptions of racial difference to justify their actions. Students explore how these perceptions influenced American society, culture, and politics from pre-Columbian times to the election of Barack Obama.

HIST3567 – course description changed to:

Slavery, the great American paradox, caused Americans to take up arms against one another in a civil war that ultimately cost over 600 000 lives. Students explore how slavery shaped the political, economic, and social fabric of the United States, as well as the particular events that caused and shaped the Civil War. They also consider the various ways historians have written about the “irrepressible conflict.”

MOTION 28: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Renshaw that Senate approve the program requirements for an Honours Specialization, a Specialization, a Major, and a Minor in Philosophy, as outlined.  
CARRIED

MOTION 29: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by A. Weeks that Senate approve the addition of PSYC3116 Literacy in Psychology to the Psychology program, as outlined.  
CARRIED

MOTION 30: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by A. Weeks that Senate approve the program requirements for an Honours Specialization, a Specialization, a Major, and a Minor in Psychology, as outlined.  
CARRIED

MOTION 31: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Graham that Senate approve the regulation change to Nipissing's Academic Standing requirements as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The interim President began her announcements by reporting that there will be no fall convocation for 2012. Based on feedback, she cited a number of reasons including the number of graduates and scheduling as the primary factors. She also noted that there will now be one convocation on June 13, two on June 14 and one on June 15, 2012.

Senators were reminded of the annual Student Donor and Awards Social at Chancellor's House Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. Senator Paine-Mantha encouraged department chairs and faculty to attend to recognize our outstanding students.

The interim President was pleased to report that there will be a Lake Nipissing Summit hosted by Nipissing University in the new section of the RJ Surtees Centre on April 3 and 4, 2012. The purpose of the summit is to share, learn and listen to the presenters about Lake Nipissing and the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of Nipissing and Dokis First Nations as they relate to sustaining our resources in Lake Nipissing. This will be an opportunity for stakeholders to learn about each other's needs and perspectives. Participants will include Nipissing First Nation, MNR, MoE, City of North Bay, tourist operators, anglers, etc. Faculty and students are encouraged to attend.

Senators were reminded of the March Open House next Monday, Wednesday and Friday, March 11, 13 and 15, 2012. Many faculty have already stepped forward to participate in this event, and the interim president thanked senators in advance for their involvement. Nipissing has a high rate of converting on-site visiting applicants to registrants so this event is very important for maintaining Fall enrolment numbers.

The interim President thanked senators who provided input for ideas on moving forward with filling the President's position on a long term basis. The information is currently being consolidated and the interim President will be meeting with the Board Chair, Vice-chair and the Vice-chair pro tem next week to review the submissions.

The results report for the 2010 and 2011 Key Performance Indicators was recently released by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and University. The interim President reported that in 2011, the graduation rate for Nipissing was 91.1%, versus the system total of 79.7%. The employment rate after 6 and 24 months after graduation were similarly very good at 91.3% and 96.0% respectively.

The TedX event held at the Muskoka campus was a success. The interim President thanked all participants and those who worked very hard behind the scenes to assist with its launch and implementation. She added that five regional school boards participated. Thirty-five businesses and 6 international companies also supported the event.

The interim Vice-President Academic and Research reminded senators of the Undergraduate Research Conference slated for March 23-24, 2012. Congratulations were extended to the six Criminal Justice students who competed in the recent Osgoode Cup National Undergraduate Mooting Competition. Two of the students advanced to the semi-finals, the only small university to advance this far.

The Dean of Applied and Professional Studies reported that students and faculty from the School of Business and Economics are back from two week trip to Jamaica. The students are assisting two small-scale eco-tourism entrepreneurs in a developing economy.

The acting Dean of Education noted that students involved with international practicums have all safely returned to Canada. Senator Richardson also reported that Nipissing will be receiving a site visit from the Transitional Council of the College of Kinesiologists (TCKCO) to discuss the transition council process. Faculty, staff and students from the BPHE program will be invited to attend.

Senator Doucette from NUSU reported that the 2012 Frosh leaders have been selected. They will be contacting first year students as soon as possible. Jump Rope for Heart was held last Wednesday and almost \$600 was raised for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. The student union is looking forward to participating in the March Open House next week. The trip to Medieval Times slated for March 10<sup>th</sup> is sold out and the Eddie Farewell Pub, with Professor Rob Graham's band will be at the Wall on Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

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V. Paine-Mantha (Chair)

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C. Jenkins, Senate Secretary