

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

June 1, 2012

10:30 a.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

V. Paine-Mantha (chair), H. d'Entremont, B. Keech, C. Cooper, C. Richardson,
J. Graham, R. Vanderlee

B. Carpenter , K. McCullough

A. Burk, N. Colborne, J. Dech, R. Gendron, T. Koivukoski, N. Kozukanich,
F. Noël, S. O'Hagan, G. Phillips, S. Renshaw, A. Weeks, S. Winters

S. Elliott-Johns, K. Eyre, D. Franks, B. Hatt, D. Jarvis, M. Kariuki,
J. McAuliffe, MA Parr, C. Ricci, T. Ryan, J. Scott, A. Steele

J. Vitale (Brantford)

M. Berube

K. Fitzsimmons, T. Hanna, S. Laplante

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

G. Brown, P. Millar

A. Karassev, C. McFarlane, G. Morrell, P. Radia, V. Valov, H. Zhu

N. Maynes

A. Wagner

R. Don, J. Valin

K. Chutko

L. McLaren

T. Bachelder

D. Thompson

N. Brady

The minutes of the Senate meeting of May 18, 2012 were adopted with no objections.

READING and DISPOSING of COMMUNICATIONS

The Senate Speaker advised that he had received the following correspondence from Dr. James Murton dated May 31, 2012 regarding the library reviews of the ENST courses. It was agreed that the content of the letter will be spoken to under the Motions of the Graduate Studies Council Report. The following letter was read:

“To: Blaine Hatt, Speaker of the Academic Senate of Nipissing University

May 31, 2012

From: James Murton

Re: Communication for Senate

Senator Hatt: Please accept the following as a communication to Senate.

Dear Senators,

I can't be at Senate today but I would like to draw your attention to the library reviews of the ENST courses before Senate. I was struck by how carefully and thoroughly done they were and would like to thank the librarians for providing Senate with such solid and specific information. I was disturbed to have it confirmed that the library has not received any of the additional funding identified in the MES/MESc program brief that was approved by OCGS. The reviews are clear that, as a result, the library is lacking key resources to support many of these courses. It is unethical to offer students courses that we do not have the resources to teach. As someone who will be teaching in this program, I urge Senate not to pass these courses without guarantees of funding for the library adequate to support them.

Thank you.”

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILS**Senate Executive Committee Annual Report**

MOTION 1: Moved by V. Paine-Mantha, seconded by T. Hanna that the Annual Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 16, 2012 be received.
CARRIED

Senate Executive Committee Report

MOTION 2: Moved by V. Paine-Mantha, seconded by A. Burke that the Annual Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 24, 2012 be received.
CARRIED

Planning and Priorities Annual Report

- MOTION 3: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by C. Cooper that the Annual Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated May 17, 2012 be received.
CARRIED

Undergraduate Studies Committee Annual Report

- MOTION 4: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by C. Cooper that the Annual Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated May 18, 2012, be received.
CARRIED

Undergraduate Studies Committee Report – May 14, 2012

- MOTION 5: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by B. Carpenter that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated May 14, 2012 be received.
CARRIED

- MOTION 6: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by B. Carpenter that Senate approve the changes to the admission regulations for students in the Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) and Bachelor of Commerce (BComm) degrees by modifying advance standing thresholds for students possessing postsecondary education and to include the Edexcel BTEC Higher Nationals Level 5, as outlined in the attached document.
CARRIED

Undergraduate Studies Committee Report – May 24, 2012

- MOTION 7: Moved by R. Vanderlee, second by T. Hanna that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated May 24, 2012 be received.
CARRIED

- MOTION 8: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by T. Koivukoski that Senate approve the deletion of POLI2905 – Canadian Local Government and the addition of POLI 2906 - Canadian Local Government to the Political Science program.
CARRIED

Graduate Studies Council Annual Report

- MOTION 9: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Berube that the Annual Report of the Graduate Studies Council dated May 16, 2012 be received.
CARRIED

Graduate Studies Council Report

MOTION 10: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Kariuki that the Report of the Graduate Studies Council dated May 14, 2012 be received.

CARRIED

MOTION 11: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Berube that Senate approve the title change for EDUC5516.

CARRIED

MOTION 12: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by D. Jarvis that Senate approve the attached proposed MEd Degree requirement changes.

CARRIED

MOTION 13: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by J. Dech that Senate approve the attached MEd/MES Comparative Data, Descriptive Data and Library Evaluations for courses previously included in the OCGS Brief.

- ENST 5116 Perspectives on the Environment
- ENST 5117 Methods of Inquiry in Environmental Research
- ENST 5118 Major Research Paper
- ENST 5126 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
- ENST 5216 Selected Topics in Environmental Sciences
- ENST 5217 Seminar in Environmental Studies
- ENST 5316 Remote Sensing for Environmental Monitoring
- ENST 5317 Topics in Forest Ecology and Management
- ENST 5327 Topics in Aquatic Behavioural Ecology
- ENST 5336 Topics in the Environmental History of Land and Subsistence
- ENST 5346 Advanced Topics in Water Policy and Management
- ENST 5347 Special Topics in Environmental Sciences/Environmental Studies

CARRIED

MOTION 14: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by H. d'Entremont that Senate approve the attached MEd/MES Comparative Data, Descriptive Data and Library Evaluations for courses not previously included in the OCGS Brief.

- ENST5027 Spatial Computing
- ENST5656 Chemical Approach to Air and Water Pollutants

CARRIED

Student Appeals Committee Annual Report

MOTION 15: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by R. Vanderlee that the Annual Report of the Student Appeals Committee dated May 2, 2012 be received.

CARRIED

Teaching and Learning Committee Annual Report

MOTION 16: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by T. Ryan that the Annual Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated May 16, 2012 be received.

CARRIED

Research Council Annual Report

MOTION 17: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by R. Gendron that the Annual Report of the Research Council dated May 15, 2012 be received.

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

The interim President, Senator Paine-Mantha, presented the 2012-13 Budget summaries, and noted that the summary package is available on the website. She indicated that there is a planned deficit of \$1.245M. The budget will be presented at the next Board of Governor's meeting on June 7, 2012 for their consideration.

The shortfall between the revenues and expenditures for 2012-13 is larger than anticipated due to a number of factors. Most significantly, is the reduced number of spaces that will be fully funded in the Faculty of Education and a number of specific areas that the government is no longer funding. The full value of the decreased funding will be felt in 2012-13. Cost increases continue to outstrip allowable increases to tuition and flat lined grants, therefore adding pressure to balancing the budget by year end.

The provincial budget handed down in March 2012 was a major determining factor in setting the budget capabilities and decisions for the upcoming fiscal year. The government will use policy levers to enhance productivity and innovation by reducing our operating grants by approximately \$28M system wide for 2012-13 and \$55.5M for 2013-14. This will impact Nipissing in the order of \$900K over the two year period. There will also be a slowing down of the graduate expansion funding and the number of spaces to be funded each year. The tuition framework is still in place, but there will be some changes within the next year. The interim President advised that she has attending meetings with the Ministry and cabinet members and discussions continue on how to adjust to the changes outlined.

ELECTIONS

MOTION 18: Moved by T. Koivukoski, seconded by C. Cooper that Senate receive the slate of Senate Committee/Subcommittee faculty membership for 2012-13 as attached.

CARRIED

- Elect one Education Senator to serve on the Student Appeals Committee commencing July 1, 2012.

ELECTED: A. Kulnieks

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Board of Governors

Senators were advised that effective June 30, 2012, Mr. Paul Belanger had completed a six year term of which the last two years were served as Board Chair. Mr. Colin Dennis was elected as the Board Chair for the next two years. Mr. Greg DuCharme and Ms. Marianne Berube were elected as Vice-Chair and Vice-Chair Pro Tem respectively.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION 19: Moved by J. Graham, seconded by R. Gendron that Senate consider receipt of the Report of Graduate Applicants dated May 31, 2012.
CARRIED

MOTION 20: Moved by J. Graham, seconded by S. Renshaw that Senate approve that the graduates listed in the Report of Graduate Applicants dated May 31, 2012 and that they be granted their respective degrees and diplomas.
CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The interim President, Senator Paine-Mantha, reminded Senators of the five convocation ceremony dates and times as well as the Honorary degree and Professor Emeritus/a recipients. Since this is an important day for our students, she encouraged Senators to try and attend as many ceremonies as possible in the new air conditioned venue.

The Vice-President Academic and Research, Harley d'Entremont, announced that the search for VPFA position was moving along with interviews scheduled for early June. He also reminded senators that the reviews for the reappointment of the Dean of Arts & Science and the Dean of Applied and Professional Studies have commenced and hope to be wrapped up by the end of June. Your feedback is important and would be appreciated.

The Dean of Applied and Professional Studies was pleased to announce that the SIFE – Nipissing team, won the National Rookie Championship at the National SIFE competition in Calgary. Also congratulations to Professor Dianne Davis, Faculty Advisor for SIFE – Nipissing, on receiving the John Dobson ACE Fellowship Award in recognition for her outstanding contributions to ACE.

The Dean of Arts and Science offered congratulations to Dr. Susan Srigley who has published a new book titled, *Dark Faith: New Essays on Flannery O'Connor's The Violent Bear It Away*. He also announced that Dr. Tzvetalin Vassilev is holding his third annual workshop on Algorithmic Graph Theory, aimed at industrial problem solving.

Senator Hanna of the NUSU Executive reported that Senator Brady attended a Shinerama conference and returned with the "The Bronzed Boot's Tour of Canada" award, which is literally a bronzed boot. This trophy signifies first place for best swag and was last won by Nipissing since 2002. He also advised that the Student Union is in discussion with the Muskoka Campus to have one week of Frosh activities instead of one day.

Senator Ryan advised that Simon Fraser University has increased their international student enrolment and that there is an opportunity to grow our international student base. Senator Paine-Mantha responded by saying that the province has removed the \$825 from the base operating grant for each international student. Since the only funding is tuition, we must look at priorities and develop an international growth strategy.

Senator Renshaw advised that we do a good job with retention, but we need to do a better job for students who are struggling. We need to invest money in academic writing as our student body really needs it.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

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V. Paine-Mantha (Chair)

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C. Jenkins, Senate Secretary