

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

October 12, 2012

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

H. d'Entremont (Vice-Chair), N. Black, C. Cooper, J. Graham, S. Rich, M. Tuncali,  
R. Vanderlee

J. Barker, G. Brown, J. Nadeau

R. Breton, A. Burk, J. Dech, R. Gendron, M. Jha, A. Karassev, N. Kozukanich,  
G. McCann, C. McFarlane, G. Morrell, S. O'Hagan, L. Peturson, V. Valov,  
T. Vassilev A. Weeks

B. Hatt (Speaker), T. Horton, M. Kariuki, N. Maynes, C. Ricci, T. Ryan,

A. Grierson (Brantford)

W. Ingwersen

C. Hachkowski

R. deBernardi

S. Feretycki

N. Brady, K. Fitzsimmons, C. Grist, T. Hanna

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

V. Paine-Mantha (chair), L. Carter, C. Cooper

A. Page

S. Renshaw, S. Winters, H. Zhu

L. Ashworth, G. Black, K. Eyre, J. McAuliffe, M-A Parr, J. Scott, A. Steele

R. Vernescu (Muskoka)

J. Evans

C. Bryan, C. Davidson, D. Richardson

The minutes of the Senate meeting of September 14, 2012 were adopted with no objections.

READING and DISPOSING of COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. April James was presented with a letter and medal from the Prime Minister of Canada for her Canada Research Chair.

**QUESTION PERIOD**

There was a question regarding the amount of time that it takes from submitting expenses to reimbursement. Bob Keech, Vice-President Operations, indicated that a new electronic accounts payable system is currently being implemented and a new person has been hired in that area which should expedite the processing times.

There were several questions regarding the Strategic Mandate Agreement. Senator d'Entremont noted that feedback from HEQCO will not be received until February 2013. He further added that the targets for the number of new online courses or current courses that can move to an online version were based on realistic targets.

Regarding the rate of pay for research assistants, Senator Tuncali commented that he was aware of the problem and that the University is looking at the pay scales.

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

MOTION 1: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by A. Burk that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated October 4, 2012 be received.

CARRIED

**Planning and Priorities Committee**

MOTION 2: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by T. Hanna that the Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated September 21, 2012, be received.

CARRIED

**Undergraduate Studies Committee Report**

MOTION 3: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by G. Brown that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated September 20, 2012, be received.

CARRIED

MOTION 4: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by G. Brown that Senate approve the request for a permanent exemption from final exams for SWLF2995 – Community Service-Learning for Social Development.

CARRIED

MOTION 5: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by J. Dech that Senate approve that the prerequisite for Biostatistics (BIOL 3117) be changed from '*BIOL 1007 and MATH1257*' to '*BIOL 1007 and MATH1000 level (excluding MATH1070, 1911, 1912 and 1922)*'.

CARRIED

MOTION 6: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by J. Graham that Senate approve that the Undergraduate Studies Committee will entertain program changes for the Academic Year 2013/14 until February 1, 2013. Any submissions after that date will not take effect until the Academic Year 2014/15.  
CARRIED

### **Research Council Report**

MOTION 7: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by R. Vanderlee that the Report of the Research Council dated September 25, 2012 be received.  
CARRIED

MOTION 8: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by A. Weeks that the Research Achievement Award Selection Committee, as listed in the attached document, be approved.  
CARRIED

### **AMENDMENT of BY-LAWS**

#### **Notice of Motion**

- That the Vice-President Finance and Administration be removed from the Announcements section of the Senate agenda

### **REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**

#### **Board of Governors**

Senator deBernardi, Board representative to Senate announced that the Board of Governors held its first meeting of the new academic year on October 10. The Board Chair welcomed new and returning Board members, both external and constituent. The board dinner was held on September 20 and attended by 135 guests. This event honoured retired Board members and retired staff as well as employees with 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service at Nipissing University.

As part of the Executive Committee report, a resolution was presented seeking approval of the membership of the Nipissing University Research Ethics Board. The Board members approved the membership as identified. The Board of Governors accepted the recommendation of the Audit and Finance Committee to approve the Consolidated Audited Financial Statements for the year ended April 30, 2012 as well as the Scholarships and Bursaries-Nevada Account Financial Statements.

The Chair of the University Governance Committee informed the Board that progress continues in the recruitment of prospective new Board members for the two vacancies that currently exist.

The Plant & Property Committee report reviewed the status of current construction projects noting that the renovations to the old Library space and Phase II & III of the Active Learning and Health Research Innovation Centre were moving forward.

Some highlights were shared of the various events being planned for the anniversary celebrations in North Bay, Brantford and Muskoka. Nipissing University will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

In Closed Session, a report of the Human Resources Committee was presented for information. One main item was the ratified agreement with NUFA.

Alumni Advisory Board

Senator Feretycki shared some highlights of the various events being planned for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in North Bay and the 10<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively anniversaries in Brantford and Muskoka respectively. He also announced that the activities were being finalized for Homecoming Weekend on October 19 & 20<sup>th</sup>.

Council of Ontario Universities

Senator Nadeau reported that the COU Academic Colleagues group met on September 28 and also met with the COU Executive Heads yesterday. The Academic Colleagues provided Council with their response to the Ministry's paper *Transforming Ontario Universities*. They are in agreement with the Ministry for the need for a higher level of accountability. They also agree with a more open credit transfer exchange and the importance of innovation during these challenging economic times. There was also consensus about offering a wider variety of degree options and the push for experiential learning. Senator Nadeau indicated that the Academic Colleagues felt that the Ministry had an "impoverished" view of universities and tended to ignore research and were lacking in awareness of the innovative practices being used on campuses. There is also concern over the lack of clarity with the term "productivity". The Colleagues found the Ministry's document was full of tensions. For example, there is a push for three-year degrees and for experiential learning yet experiential learning is difficult to fit into a reduced time frame (i.e. Co-Op programs normally take more time).

Senator Nadeau also reported that there was an upcoming paper about to be release from an Academic Colleague about the evolution of faculty members especially the relationship between teaching, research, and service responsibilities.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION 9: Moved by J. Graham, seconded by R. Vanderlee that Senate consider the Report of Graduate Applicants dated October 11, 2012.  
CARRIED

MOTION 10: Moved by J. Graham, seconded by R. Vanderlee that the approval to graduate be granted to the students listed in the Report of Graduate Applicants dated October 11, 2012.  
CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On behalf of the President, Senator d'Entremont thanked all the faculty and staff who were involved with the recent Ontario University Fair. He noted that almost 120,000 attended the fair. The Senator also announced that the Globe and Mail Student Satisfaction Survey will be released October 23, 2012.

The Dean of Applied and Professional Studies extended his congratulations to the School of Business and Economics for the successful business challenge. Forty-five local high school students participated and were tasked with developing a promotional plan for the newly formed Nipissing varsity women's hockey team.

The Dean of the Schulich School of Education congratulated Drs. Terry Campbell and Michelann Parr on their recent selection to be co-editors of the *What Works: Research into Practice*. She was also pleased to share the news that a Nipissing University alumnus, Richard Kennelly has earned the Paul T. Begley International Thesis Award in Leadership and Ethics. Mr. Kennelly's thesis supervisor was Dr. Heather Rintoul.

Senator Hanna, President of the Nipissing University Student Union, announced that the new student senators are as follows: Chris Bryan, Graduate Studies; Cole Davidson, Applied and Professional Studies; Corey Grist, Arts and Science; and Dillon Richardson, Schulich School of Education. He was also pleased to report that Club Days was running next week. This is an opportunity for students to become involved in their area of interest.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

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H. d'Entremont (Vice-Chair)

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C. Jenkins, Senate Secretary