

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

April 12, 2013

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

J. Barker, G. Brown, J. Nadeau, A. Page

R. Breton, A. Burk, J. Dech, R. Gendron, M. Jha, C. McFarlane, S. O'Hagan,
L. Peturson, S. Renshaw, T. Vassilev, A. Weeks, S. Winters,

L. Ashworth, G. Black, K. Clausen, K. Eyre, B. Hatt (Speaker), T. Horton,
M. Kariuki, M-A Parr, C. Ricci

A. Grierson (Brantford), R. Vernescu (Muskoka)

W. Ingwersen

J. Evans

S. Fertycki

N. Brady, C. Bryan, C. Davidson, K. Fitzsimmons, C. Grist, T. Hanna,
D. Richardson

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

L. Carter

A. Karashev, N. Kozukanich, G. McCann, G. Morrell, V. Valov, H. Zhu

J. McAuliffe, J. Scott, T. Sibbald, A. Steele

L. Rossi

C. Hachkowski

R. deBernardi

The minutes of the Senate meeting of March 8, 2013 were adopted.

READING and DISPOSING of COMMUNICATIONS

The following letter was read by Senator Vanderlee on behalf of Senator Vernescu:

One week ago today, at almost precisely this time, a young woman came face to face with a young man with whom she had once had a relationship: A relationship that had ended two years prior. She saw he'd brought a shotgun. Within seconds, this young woman found herself trying to talk this young man out of ending her life ... and his. Within moments, she lay fighting for her breath. Shortly thereafter, she was gone.

This young woman was Lindsay Margaret Wilson, our CHFS student, our Muskoka student, and our Nipissing student. She was 26. Those of us who knew Lindsay, knew her as an intelligent, compassionate, gentle, caring, passionate, and lovely young woman, committed to her friends, her family, and those she cared for and worked with. She went above and beyond what should reasonably be expected of any young person.

But Lindsay had spirit. She believed to her core, that the challenges and pain that we experience in life would make us stronger. She believed that she, herself, was a stronger, better person, for the hurdles she had overcome, for the pain she had experienced in her young life. She believed one could turn hardships into opportunities for change and healing, into opportunities for growth, into opportunities for 'good'.

During her years here, Lindsay captured our minds, our hearts, and she has now changed our worlds forever. Students, staff, and faculty alike at Muskoka are shocked and reeling from the events of this past week. We are humbled by the poignant reminder that what some of us teach and what others of us know 'in theory', is a tragic and sad reality for many women. These women are our friends, our sisters, our mothers, our daughters, and our students.

Some have expressed being unfazed by this young woman's story. Unfazed because they do not know her. Unfazed because "this is the world we now live in". Unfazed because they perhaps do not understand. But, we all need to understand ... we all need to know. We all need to KNOW. Our collective responsibility as educators, as mentors, as friends, as humans, is to not just simply accept 'the world we live in', but to leave it a better place than we find it.

In our own way, each of us here and in the wider Nipissing community is faced with an opportunity to turn the tragic end of a promising young life into an opportunity for change, into an opportunity for growth, into an opportunity for 'good'.

We can all do that in our own individual ways: with our families, with our friends and colleagues, and in our classrooms. We can also do that as an academic community, as a place where our young people find a home away from home...perhaps through a scholarship endowment, a formal recognition upon Lindsay's convocation in June, a ceremonial moment of silence that marks every April 5th as a day to be remembered by our Nipissing community. This is now embedded into the fabric of who we are and we must recognize it in whatever way each of us can.

But we must first begin by acknowledging Lindsay's death for what it is. It is not just a tragic incident, certainly not in the way that an accident would be. It is a violent act, by an aggressive young man, against a young woman ... It is violence against women ... It is murder.

I ask you all to join in a moment of silent reflection on Lindsay's life and the reverberation of her death.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

Senate Executive Committee

MOTION 1: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by T. Hanna that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated April 4, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

Planning and Priorities Committee

MOTION 2: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by C. Cooper that the Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated March 22, 2013 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 3: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by A. Burk that Senate grant Stage 1 approval for the Master of Arts in Sociology as outlined in the attached document.
CARRIED

Undergraduate Studies Committee**February 28, 2013 Report**

MOTION 4: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by A. Page that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated February 28, 2013, be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 5: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by R. Vanderlee that Senate approve that the total hours for NURS3695 be increased from 202.5 to 303.75 hours.
CARRIED

MOTION 6: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve the addition of ECON3056 Economic and Managerial Decision Making to the course offerings in Economics.
CARRIED

MOTION 7: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve the following changes to the Major in Economics.

- That ECON2006 Intermediate Microeconomics be added to the list of required courses for the completion of the Major in Economics.
- That ECON2106 Managerial Economics be removed from the list of required courses for the completion of the Major in Economics.

CARRIED

MOTION 8: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve that graduates of the Computer Engineering Technology (CET) program at Humber are eligible for the following 60 credits to complete a BSc Honours Specialization in Computer Science.
CARRIED

MOTION 9: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve that graduates of the Electromechanical Engineering Technology (EET) program at Humber are eligible for the following 60 credits to complete a BSc Honours Specialization in Computer Science or a BSc Honours Specialization in Science and Technology with streams in Robotics or Service Technology.
CARRIED

March 14, 2013 Report

- MOTION 10: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by A. Burk that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated March 14, 2013, be received.
CARRIED
- MOTION 11: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by A. Burk that Senate approve that “Other Science Requirements” for students pursuing a major (BSc, 3 years general) in mathematics and computer science be modified as follows: “Group V – 6 credits” .
CARRIED
- MOTION 12: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve that the Computer Science Program replace the wording in the BSc/BA Specialization from ‘2000 level or above’ to ‘from Computer Science Options for the Specialization and Major’.
CARRIED
- MOTION 13: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve that COSC1567 Programming in C++ requirement for Honours Specialization and Specialization in Mathematics – Bachelor of Arts (general and applied stream) be replaced with the requirement “One additional course from any of the Groups I, II, III”.
CARRIED
- MOTION 14: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve the addition of the Engineering Technology stream to the Science and Technology Specialization program and Honours Specialization program as outlined in the attached document.
CARRIED
- MOTION 15: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by K. Fitzsimmons that Senate approve that graduates of a three year Engineering Technology program, such as, but not limited to: Electronic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering etc., from an Ontario College of Applied Arts and Technology are eligible for the following 60 transfer credits when completing a BSc Specialization in Science and Technology – Engineering Technology stream or BSc Honours Specialization in Science and Technology – Engineering Technology stream with a minimum 3.2 GPA.
- STEC9205 (27 credits)
 - ACAD1501 (3 credits)
 - HUMA9101 (3 credits)
 - SOSC9100 (6 credits)
 - TRAN9100 (6 credits)
 - TRAN9200 (6 credits)
 - TRAN9201 (3 credits)
 - SCIE9200 (6 credits)
- MOTION 16: Amendment to MOTION 15: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by C. Cooper that MOTION 15 be amended by removing the transfer credit listing, and changing the GPA from 3.2 to 70%.
CARRIED
- MOTION 17: Amended MOTION 15 now MOTION 17: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by K. Fitzsimmons that Senate approve that graduates from a three year Engineering Technology program, such as, but not limited to: Electronic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering etc., from an Ontario College of Applied Arts and Technology, with an overall average of 70%, are eligible for 60 transfer credits

when completing a BSc Specialization in Science and Technology – Engineering Technology stream or BSc Honours Specialization in Science and Technology – Engineering Technology stream.

CARRIED

MOTION 18: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by L. Peterson that Senate approve the addition of UNIV2005 Cross Disciplinary Analysis as outlined in the attached document.

CARRIED

MOTION 19: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by S. Rich that Senate approve the deletion of the following courses as outlined:

- EDUC4316 - Business Studies: Information Management (Intermediate)
- EDUC4317 - Business Studies: Information Management (Senior)
- EDUC4426 - Business Studies: Accounting (Intermediate)
- EDUC4427 - Business Studies: Accounting (Senior)

CARRIED

April 2, 2013 Report

MOTION 20: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by A. Burk that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated April 2, 2013, be received.

CARRIED

MOTION 21: Moved by C. Cooper, seconded by S. Rich that Senate receive the change to the Orientation to Teaching (OTT) Elementary and Secondary streams as outlined.

CARRIED

Graduate Studies Council

MOTION 22: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by C. Cooper that the Report of the Graduate Studies Council dated March 2, 2013 be received.

CARRIED

MOTION 23: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by K. Fitzsimmons that Senate approve the 'Required Withdrawal' from University policy as outlined in the attached document.

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

The President read his annual Tenure and Promotion report. The report was included in the agenda.

ELECTIONS

- Elect three representatives, one from each faculty, to serve on the selection committees for the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching (full-time) and the Nipissing University Award for CASBU Members.

ACCLAIMED: N. Brown – Applied and Professional Studies
C. McFarlane – Arts and Science
M. Kariuki - Education

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Council on Ontario Universities (Academic Colleague)

Senator Nadeau provided an update on COU activities from the Academic Colleague perspective. He reported that Minister Duguid is setting a positive and collaborative tone and is being briefed on issues in the postsecondary sector specifically on tuition and the college of trades. The HEQCO report on the SMAs has now been released after being embargoed for about a month. COU is currently reviewing the report and preparing a response. Senator Nadeau also reported that the Minister wants to be consistent with a strategy on moving forward with graduate space allocations. Senate was informed that in 2012, 56 programs received approval. Within the next few weeks, a status report will be released and will contain a proposal to streamline approvals. COU will assemble a small working group to review the proposed approach.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President began his announcements by commenting on the funeral service for Muskoka student Lindsay Wilson. He noted that Nipissing University was a very important part in Lindsay's life which was evident at the service. Lindsay will receive her degree posthumously in June.

The President reported to Senate that the tuition framework guidelines for publically assisted universities have been released. For the four years beginning in 2013-14, the overall average rate of tuition fee increase will be capped at 3% per year. Graduate and professional undergraduate programs will have a tuition fee increase up to 5% for students who commence their program this year.

There was a breakfast meeting earlier today with Executive Heads and Minister Duguid. The President indicated that the Minister was cautious in his response to the pragmatic questions regarding the 3% tuition cap. The Minister understands there are consequences if funding decreases.

The President acknowledged the successful Ka Na Ta conversation held the evening of April 4. These talks are a series of lectures by prominent leaders that are designed to inspire and encourage conversations among all Canadians through an Indigenous worldview. The following day, Nipissing hosted a national conversation with the theme "*Advancing Change in Aboriginal Education.*" Scholars, First Nation leadership, Aboriginal students and private foundations met to discuss approaches and promising practices and pathways to make sustainable change in Aboriginal education. A report on this conversation will provide informed high-level experiences and perspectives to effectively guide the education system and influence policy change in Canada in regards to improving education for Aboriginal peoples.

At the request of the President, Senator Graham provided an update on applications, offers and acceptances. Despite the 14% decline in the number of offers to students applying to consecutive education, acceptances are up slightly by 21 for the same time period. For the undergraduate programs, offers to date are 11% higher than for the same time last years. Offers to first choice applicants are up 18%, primarily from our 105 applicant pool. Acceptances to date have increased by 143.

The Vice-President Academic and Research was pleased to report that Nipissing has been granted a fourth CRC allocation. The process is now being set up to accept proposals. Senator d'Entremont congratulated the Dean of Arts and Science on his new position at the University of Lethbridge. Dr. Ann Barbara Graff will assume the role as interim Dean effective July 1 while Dr. Dave Hackett will assume the role of Associate Dean of Arts and Science. The VPAR advised Senate that an RFP is going out to hire a consultant to ascertain the viability of offering a civil engineering program. He also reported that he has been named to the board of the Northern Policy Institute.

The Dean of Applied and Professional Studies extended his thanks to the staff and faculty at the Muskoka campus, who not only supported each other but the students during the recent tragic events. He also thanked the senior executive, staff from student services and the Muskoka Victim Services for their prompt response and services.

Senator Cooper thanked his fellow Deans, Senate and faculty for their tremendous support during his tenure at Nipissing.

Senator Hanna, NUSU President, thanked faculty, staff and administration for working together to change the exam schedule for the Muskoka campus students. He noted that this was his last senate meeting and was passing the reins to Senator Fitzsimmons, the incoming NUSU President.

Senator Tuncali outlined the following competition results: of the nine faculty members who applied for the NSERC Discovery Grants, three were successful; none of the seven faculty who applied for SSHRC Insight Grants, no one was successful. However, four were given the 4A rating which means they were recommended for funding but did not receive any money.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 3:19 p.m.

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M. DeGagné (Chair)

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C. Jenkins (Senate Secretary)