NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

March 13, 2015

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:  H. d’Entremont (vice-Chair), S. Rich, M. Tuncali, C. Richardson, R. Vanderlee, J. Graham
N. Black

A. Armenakyan, J. Barker, G. Brown, M. Litalien, K. McCullough


L. Ashworth, B. Bruner, S. Elliott-Johns, T. Horton, M-A Parr, C. Ricci, A. Steele

O. Pokorny, L. Rossi

K. Chutko, S. Kataoka

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

C. Hachkowski

T. Palangio

S. Feretycki

J. Andrews, C. Burke, I. Hall, K. Sawyer

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:  M. DeGagné (Chair)

T. Vassilev


J. Zimbalatti

B. Fisher

ABSENT:  Y. Benoit
Unfinished Business from the February 13, 2015 Senate meeting

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION 1: Moved by H. d’Entremont, seconded by N. Colborne that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated February 5, 2015 be received. CARRIED

PLANNING and PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

MOTION 2: Moved by H. d’Entremont, seconded by G. Brown that the Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated January 23, 2015, be received. CARRIED

MOTION 3: Moved by H. d’Entremont, seconded by D. Borman that Senate grant approval of a Final Assessment Report of the Native Studies IQAP Review, as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

MOTION 4: Moved by H. d’Entremont, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate grant approval of a Stage II proposal for a Major Modification, MSc Mathematics Thesis Option, as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

MOTION 5: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by G. Brown that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated January 20, 2015, be received. CARRIED

MOTION 6: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by M. Saari that Senate approve that the Senate Exam Policy be updated and amended as attached, and effective as of May 2, 2015.

MOTION 7: Moved by G. Brown, seconded by G. McCann that MOTION 6 be referred back to the Undergraduate Studies Committee for clarity around the role of part-time faculty to determine the need for final exams DEFEATED

MOTION 8: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by M. Saari that Senate approve that the Senate Exam Policy be updated and amended as attached, and effective as of May 2, 2015. CARRIED

RESEARCH COUNCIL

MOTION 9: Moved by H. d’Entremont, seconded by M. Tuncali that the report of the Research Council dated January 28, 2015 be received. CARRIED
AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Notice of Motion  
Changes to Article 9.3(a) of the Senate bylaws (Undergraduate Studies Committee) with the addition of the Associate VP Academic as Chair and ‘or designate’ be included with the Registrar

ELECTIONS

• Elect one Senator from outside the discipline to serve on the search committee for a tenure track position in the BScN Scholar Practitioner Program.

  Dr. Leslie Wardley - ACCLAIMED

• Elect at least one tenured or tenure-track faculty member from each of the designated breadth areas, the Schulich School of Education, the Registrar (or designate) and a student representative, to serve on the ad hoc committee to review the breadth requirement policy, and report back to Senate.

  Humanities – Senator Borman – ACCLAIMED
  Sciences – Dr. Tony Parkes - ACCLAIMED
  Social Sciences – Senator Arnocky - ACCLAIMED
  Student Representative – Senator Andrews - ACCLAIMED
  Schulich School of Education – Dr. Jim McAuliffe - ACCLAIMED

• Elect one representative from the Schulich School of Education to serve on the Selection Committees for the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Nipissing University Award for CASBU members. This representative will serve on both committees.

  Senator Horton - ACCLAIMED

Business of the March 13, 2015 Senate Minutes

The minutes of the Senate meeting of February 13, 2015 were adopted.

QUESTION PERIOD

Question period began with a query as to the precise list of OPSEU positions that have been eliminated. The Provost indicated he should be able to have that list available for the next Senate meeting. About a dozen positions have been eliminated. The Vice-President Administration also added that administration has been working closely with OPSEU and until the bumping mechanism has been completed, a final list will not be available. He reiterated that he cannot talk about individuals.

A concern was expressed regarding the overall maintenance and cleanliness of the campus, especially with the upcoming Open House event. The Vice-President Administration explained that staff have been reviewing problem areas and will be working to address these concerns. He also added that the Operations office should be notified of any areas that need extra attention.
Regarding the search for the Aboriginal Education Chair, a question was asked to see if the Search committee was going to take into account, input from community stakeholders. The Dean of the Schulich School of Education noted that the search committee has not yet been struck- but she appreciated the comment and would take it into consideration.

In response to a media comment attributed to the President regarding the morale at the University, it was asked why he was not at today’s Senate. The Senate Secretary advised that he was out of the country.

As a result of Ministry approval for a Bachelor of Social Work program, a question was raised whether the program will be positioned out of the Muskoka or North Bay campus and whether students will be given advanced standing for it. The Provost indicated that the program would be operated out of North Bay. Although we will be able to start the program this September, it is hoped to launch the professional years for the 2016-17. The search for a Director has yet to be established as the University has only recently received approval for the program. Responding to a follow-up question regarding the inability to offer courses because of cuts to faculty and in what faculty would this new program reside, the Dean of Applied and Professional Studies advised that there has not been enough time to work on the logistics.

A question was directed to the NUSU senators inquiring what rationale or criteria are used when deciding on funding initiatives for its member clubs. The VP internal indicated that the NUSU Board of Directors has no official policy on club funding. However, it takes a number of factors are considered, including fundraising efforts on behalf of the Club, the number of students impacted by the funding, whether we have donated before to the group, how much money is left in the budget line for club funding at the time of the request, and others.

Responding to the question if the graduate programs are nearing capacity, the Associate VP Academic indicated they were.

The final question was directed to the Provost asking when the Deans will have their budgets for 2015-16. He replied that he should be able to advise the Deans what kind of budget they have to work with by late April or early May.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- February 18, 2015 Special Report

MOTION 1: Moved by H. d’Entremont, seconded by N. Colborne that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated February 18, 2015 be received. CARRIED

- March 5, 2015 Report

MOTION 2: Moved by H. d’Entremont, seconded by N. Colborne that Senate receive the Report of the Senate Executive dated March 5, 2015. CARRIED

PLANNING & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

MOTION 3: Moved by H. d’Entremont, seconded by C. Burke that the Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated February 15, 2015 be received. CARRIED
MOTION 4: Moved by H. d’Entremont, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate grant approval of a Final Assessment Report of the Mathematics/Computer Science IQAP Review, as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

MOTION 5: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by R. Gendron that the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, dated February 5, 2015, be received. CARRIED

- Faculty of Applied and Professional Studies

MOTION 6: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by A. Armenakyan that Senate add the Certificate in Human Resources Management to the Academic Calendar. CARRIED

- Schulich School of Education

MOTION 7: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by C. Richardson that Senate approve the minor modifications to the Teacher of Anishnaabemwin as a Second Language Program (TASL) and the Aboriginal Teacher Certification Program (ATCP) as per the attached documents. CARRIED

MOTION 8: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by C. Richardson that Senate receive the following non-substantive course title changes as follows:

From:
PHED 3106 Community Leadership Placement II, and
PHED 4106 Community Leadership Placement III

To:
PHED 3106 Community Leadership Placement I, and
PHED 4106 Community Leadership Placement II
CARRIED

Policies

- Advanced Standing Policies for Advertising and Marketing Communication Diploma Graduates

MOTION 9: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by R. Breton that Senate approve the advanced standing policy for Advertising and Marketing Communication diploma graduates as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

- Advanced Standing Policies for Theatre Arts Diploma Graduates

MOTION 10: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by R. Breton that Senate approve the advanced standing policies for Theatre Arts diploma graduates. CARRIED
• Admission Policy Modification:
  Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) – Scholar Practitioner Program (SPP)

MOTION 11: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by M. Saari that Senate approve the BScN – SPP admission policy modification, as outlined in the attached document.
CARRIED

Review of Policy on Posthumous Undergraduate Degrees (information only)

The Undergraduate Studies Committee reviewed the Policy of Posthumous Undergraduate Degrees and there were no changes.

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Board of Governors

Senator Palangio reported that there was a Board meeting on Thursday, February 5. New Board members Tom Palangio and Derek Shogren were introduced. Senate Speaker, Dr. Sal Renshaw gave a presentation on the role of Senate in a bi-cameral governance system.

The President outlined the University’s continuing advocacy for additional funding from MTCU. He also reported that all Ontario universities are concerned about the proposed funding review of the entire system.

Registrar, Jamie Graham, provided an application update and gave ‘cautiously’ optimistic numbers. It was stressed that the applicants must be converted to registrants with a concerted effort from faculty and administration.

The Provost reported that the tenure and promotion process was almost finished and the budget process for 2015-16 is well underway.

All three Deans applauded the efforts of faculty and staff in promoting the university and working diligently on call campaigns. The Dean of Arts and Science provided an outline of the activities for the Undergraduate Research Conference.

The Board next meets Thursday, May 7.

Alumni Advisory Board

The Alumni representative reported that NUAAB has met twice since the beginning of the year. A number of items that are being discussed is a review of the terms of reference of existing awards and identify any deficiencies; to raise funds to further the objectives of the NUAAB and Nipissing University; to support the University’s student recruitment efforts; and to enhance the reputation and public profile of the University.

Council of Ontario University (Academic Colleague)

Senator McCann reported that the Academic Colleagues had a general discussion regarding First Nations content in university courses. There was general agreement that faculty should make an effort to make connections with the Aboriginal unit at their respective institutions related to Aboriginal education, emphasizing the need for an attitude of listening and learning on the part of faculty For example, Laurentian includes mandatory Aboriginal content in their courses.
The Senator also advised that the provincial government is reviewing a new funding formula. This new formula would be based on differentiation, quality assurance, performance and sustainability. There was also discussion about the need to make communities aware of the full economic and cultural contribution of universities in their respective communities and regions.

Senate was advised that COU is embarking on a search for a new Executive Director. The next meeting for this group is in April at Wilfrid Laurier University. At that time, there will also be a joint meeting with the Executive Heads.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Provost was pleased to report that the approval of the Bachelor of Social Work program was approved by MTCU in the expedited manner. He also reported that the search for the two Associate Deans is under way. The tenure and promotion process in now over and the letters from the President have been sent.

The Dean of Applied and Professional Studies extended his gratitude to Drs. Patriquin and Wagner for their work on the new Social work program. He also advised that there is an Open House this Saturday at the Muskoka campus. Applications to Muskoka programs have increased substantially.

The Dean of the Schulich School of Education announced the results of the 2013 Insight Development Grants. Drs. Callie Mady, Kurt Clausen, and Mark Bruner have received funding. The Dean also reported that the Master of Science in Kinesiology is now before the Ministry for approval.

NUSU Senator Burke welcomed Senator Kerri Sawyer as the new APS student representative on Senate. He also thanked the Alumni Advisory Board for their generous donation to the NU food bank. Senator Burke also reported that he attended meetings earlier this week at Queen’s Park to discuss Bill 128. This bill was designed to protect student union autonomy across the province. Students are advocating for a reintroduction of the legislation as a private member’s bill to help protect student unions. Members of all three provincial parties expressed support and the students look forward to seeing the new bill tabled in May. He summed up his remarks by commenting that NUSU was in the middle of elections.

The Associate Vice President Academic thanked faculty and students who participated in the very successful Research Week. One of the highlights was the 3-Minute Thesis competition. Faculty should also be congratulated for their outstanding list of publications as outlined in the 2014 edition of A Celebration of Scholarship.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.