

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

April 10, 2015

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

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

A. Ackerman, S. Arnocky, D. Borman, R. Breton, N. Colborne, J. Dech, R. Gendron,
N. Kozuskanich, G. McCann, F. Noël, P. Nosko, M. Owens, G. Phillips, S. Renshaw,
M. Saari, S. Srigley, T. Vassilev, D. Walters, H. Zhu

L. Ashworth, S. Elliott-Johns, D. Hay, T. Horton, D. Jarvis, M-A Parr, T. Sibbald,
A. Steele

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

L. Rossi

C. Hachkowski

J. Zimbalatti

S. Feretycki

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

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

S. Rich

K. McCullough

A. Ackerman, G. McCann, G. Phillips, S. Renshaw (Speaker), D. Walters

B. Bruner, C. Ricci, J. Scott

O. Pokorny

K. Chutko, S. Kataoka

T. Palangio

C. Bidal, B. Fisher, K. Sawyer

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

QUESTION PERIOD

Question period began with a follow up to the query made at the last Senate meeting regarding when a precise list of the OPSEU positions that have been eliminated will be available. The Vice-President Administration advised that a list should be available within 2-3 weeks. The bumping procedure has not yet been completed and they wish to honour the agreement made with OPSEU that information would not be released until the process is complete.

A request was made to receive an update on applications. The Registrar advised that first choice applications are up over last year by 13% overall. Acceptances are also up 13%. The Admissions staff is doing a great job. This is good news and it looks hopeful as we are well ahead of where we were last year at this time.

A question was asked regarding the cuts being made to the part-time budget and how courses would be affected? The Provost advised that there are many components to the part-time budgets, including the Nursing and Education placement budgets. We currently have approximately six million dollars allocated for part-time salaries. Some budgets were reduced to reflect actual expenditure patterns. At this point, the reduction in the budget for courses is in the order of a few hundred thousand dollars. At \$6,000 per course, that would amount to 40 or 50 courses.

Another concern was expressed regarding the impact on programs and whether that was taken into consideration and whether there could not have been more consultation with academic units. The Provost advised that as per usual practice once the final budget is approved at the May Board of Governors meeting, it will be presented for discussion at the May Senate meeting.

A request was made for information regarding student registration. Faculty will have to take this information into consideration as adjustments will need to be made to accommodate how resources are allocated. The Registrar advised that registration information for fall/winter courses should be available by mid-May. The Provost indicated that the Deans will be advised and they will then meet with the Chairs to discuss the part-time budgets.

A question was asked whether the Planning and Priorities Committee and the Research Council were included in the budget process. The Provost advised that they were not as they do not play a role in allotting resources. The 2015-16 Operating Budget will be presented to Senate in May before being brought to the Board for approval.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILS**SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

MOTION 1: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by M-A Parr that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated April 2, 2015 be received.
CARRIED

MOTION 2: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by S. Srigley that Senate move into an in-camera session.
CARRIED

MOTION 3: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate move out of the in-camera session.

PLANNING and PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

MOTION 4: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by G. Brown that the Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated March 30, 2015 be received.
CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

The President advised of a vacancy on the Chancellor's Selection Committee. The position will be filled at the next Senate meeting.

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

MOTION 5: Moved by I. Hall, seconded by M. Tuncali that Article 9.3(a) of the Senate bylaws be amended as outlined below:

Current wording:

- (a) Ex Officio Members:
 - (i) the Dean of each Faculty, or their designates, two of whom, on a rotating basis shall be Chair and Vice-Chair; and
 - (ii) the Registrar.

Proposed wording:

- (a) Ex Officio Members:
 - (i) Associate Vice-President Academic (Chair) (non-voting);
 - (ii) the Dean of each Faculty; or their designates, one of whom on a rotating basis shall be Vice-Chair; and
 - (iii) the Registrar, or designate.

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Board of Governors

The President advised that the next Board of Governors meeting will be held on May 7, 2015.

Alumni Advisory Board

Senator Feretycki advised that the next Alumni Advisory Board meeting will be held on April 13, 2015.

Council of Ontario University (Academic Colleague)

The President advised that Senator McCann was attending COU meetings at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo and therefore unavailable to give a report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President began his announcements by commenting on the COU meeting he recently attended at the Wilfrid Laurier Waterloo Campus. He advised that COU Academic Colleague, Dr. Gillian McCann, did a great job outlining how the

humanities have taken a hit and the collective effort being made to revive and promote them. There was also a model on how research matters and contributes, and a discussion was held outlining the advantages of attending university versus college. The international experience and how we can encourage more international students to attend was also high on the list for discussion. The biggest item in the next two years is a change to the funding system. A retired public servant has been brought in. The MTCU will not discuss centralized bargaining, pension or funding formulas. It is not a cost cutting exercise or an exercise in re-investing. There will be no investment just a re-arranging of funds. The President also advised of the Bachelor of Fine Arts Graduate Exhibition taking place at the WKP Kennedy Gallery from April 10-18. Please come out and support our students.

The Provost was pleased to announce that the Canada Research Chairs Secretariat has confirmed that Dr. Mark Bruner will be receiving a CRC-Tier 2 worth \$100,000 per year. This is good news and highlights the importance of research at Nipissing. The university receives a grant annually from the Government of Canada based on Tri-Council funding to cover the indirect costs to the university. Our grants have gone up 25% to approximately \$350,000 since we have been receiving more research funding. The Quality Council auditors were on campus a few weeks ago. Institutions are reviewed every seven years. We should have the results of the review in the next month or so. The SMA process pointed out that a number of institutions are considering the creation of new engineering programs. The Provost announced that he has been asked to sit on the working table that will review the criteria to be used by the MTCU to approve new programs.

The Dean of Arts & Science (interim) took the opportunity to wish students luck in completing their final exams.

The Dean of Education (interim) advised that the Schulich School of Education’s iTeach Program is proud to present the annual Infusion Share Fair on Saturday, April 11 in the Surtees Athletic Centre. The event showcases BEd students sharing successful educational technology integration ideas. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to share the technology they have learned, so please try to find time to stop by as it would be greatly appreciated by the students.

The new student union executive for the 2015-16 year was announced. They are as follows: Ian Hall, President; Madison Byblow, VP External; Jordan Andrews, VP Internal; Andrew Deugo, VP Student Life and Ruth Cortez-Alvarez will return as the VP Satellite Campus representative. The new executive will take over May 1st. A big thank you was expressed to outgoing VP External, Chris Burke and VP Student Life, Chris Piekarski. A great summer was wished to all.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

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M. DeGagné (Chair)

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S. Landriault (Acting Senate Secretary)