

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MINUTES

**OPEN SESSION**

June 2, 2016

The Open Session of the regular Board meeting was held on Thursday, June 2, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room (F303).

The following members were present:

T. Bachelder  
M. Berube (chair)  
T. Curry  
C. Dennis  
G. Durnan (vice-chair)  
G. Jodouin  
C. Miller (video conference) – (left at 7:01 p.m.)  
T. Palangio  
J. Zimbalatti  
D. Forget  
M. Webster  
D. Shogren,  
S. Minor (left at 7:01 p.m.)  
C. Pigeau  
D. Geden  
R. Gendron  
N. Maynes  
M. Saari  
J. Dempster  
M. Hawko  
J. Andrews  
D. Ratcliffe  
M. DeGagné, President & Vice-Chancellor

Board Officers: H. d'Entremont, Provost Vice-President Academic & Research

Board Secretary: K. Murphy

Recording Secretary: C. Zimba

Guests: J. Graham, C. Richardson, M. Tuncali, C. Sutton, C. Phillips, U. Boyer,  
R. Vanderlee

Absent with Regrets: S. McLeod, J. Evans, P. Cook, S. Portelli

## **Welcome/Special Guests**

The Chair welcomed all to the Board meeting.

## **Adoption of Minutes from the May 5, 2016 Board meeting**

**Resolution 2016 -06-01:** Moved by Derek Shogren and seconded by Nancy Maynes, that the minutes of the Open Session of the meeting of the Board of Governors held on May 5, 2016, be adopted as amended.

**CARRIED**

## **Presentation**

A presentation was given by Emily Oldreive about the upcoming 2017 Nursing Games to be hosted by Nipissing University. Ms. Oldreive explained that this is a weekend long event which includes academic and athletic components as well as a contribution to charity.

Ms. Oldreive remarked that this event will help to promote North Bay and our unique culture, and it will endorse northern communities and northern living. Some of the partners for this event are NUSU, the Nursing faculty, and the Nursing Society.

This event is scheduled to take place from March 17 – 19, 2017 at the Athletic Centre and the Best Western hotel. Fundraising is planned.

## **CHAIR'S REMARKS**

The Chair of the board thanked the Board members for their time and dedication to Nipissing University over the past year. The Board Chair recognized the board members that have terms expiring. She also thanked Colin Dennis for his dedication to the Board as past chair and presented him with a gift.

In May 2016, Ms. Berube attended CCOU meetings in Toronto. She reported that the Stewardship Working Group held their first meeting.

Ms. Berube also reported that a sector-wide Strategic Communication Plan was discussed. The Executive Compensation and the University Funding Review is still ongoing.

The CCOU Governance Conference will be held on October 28 and 29, 2016. Ms. Berube will be assuming the chair role.

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## **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

The President remarked that the new Chancellor has been very well received, noting that his style and connection with North Bay will be an advantage.

Dr. DeGagne reported that he spoke at an event of Aboriginal leaders, as well as signed an agreement with AFOA that will open up opportunities for the BCOMM program. We have fundraising meetings with the TD Bank.

The President was also a keynote speaker at Fulbright Canada in Ottawa to promote student exchanges, aboriginal students and more indigenous scholars. He also attended a lobbying session in Ottawa with

Presidents of four other small universities in an attempt to get the value of research investment on the public agenda.

Dr. DeGagne also noted that the COU Funding Framework will be completed by the fall, and they are also working on a sector-wide Strategic Communication Plan.

The President explained that next year's plan will have the senior team focus on the Strategic Plan, while operationally focusing on implementing some recommendations from the PWC report. He noted that we will pay attention to capital investment as to not let it stagnate.

Dr. DeGagne asked Casey Phillips to elaborate on the results from the Residence Life Conference. Mr. Phillips noted that at the OACUHO spring conference, Nipissing's Supervisor of Residence Life won an award and was invited to make a presentation at the international conference.

Dr. DeGagne reminded Board members of Convocation next week, and reviewed the list of the Honorary Degree recipients.

### **VICE-PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Harley d'Entremont handed out the Celebration of Scholarship 2015 booklet. Dr. d'Entremont noted that we have a strong research culture at Nipissing University.

#### **Renewal of Research Ethics Board (REB) Members**

**Resolution: 2016-06-02:** Moved by Matti Saari, seconded by Trevor Bachelder, that the Board accept the recommendation of the following individuals including the terms, for membership on the Research Ethics Board:

Dana Murphy, Associate Professor, Psychology – Chair position (second term renewal)

- 2 year term – August 2016 – August 2018; not renewable.

Jennifer Gordon, Community Representative (second term renewal)

- 3 year term – August 2016 – August 2019; not renewable.

**CARRIED**

### **DEAN'S REMARKS**

The Dean of Applied and Professional Studies, Rick Vanderlee reported that they have hired a director for the School of Business. Dr. Prasad Ravi is most recently from Thompson Rivers University and comes to us with extensive experience. Applied and Professional Studies are still in the process of hiring for Social Work, but Dr. Vanderlee noted they currently have a highly qualified applicant.

## **QUESTION PERIOD**

A board member asked if members could have the motions from the Senate report. The Chair responded that there had been no Senate report submitted.

## **ENROLMENT UPDATE**

Registrar Jamie Graham reviewed the handout that was distributed entitled “Nipissing University Funding and Enrollment Issues.”

The Registrar stated that with the phasing out of the old Education programs and implementing the new, we should show recovery by 2020/21. The transition to the two year program has also influenced students’ decisions to stay closer to home; therefore, more distant schools show a decrease in applications.

A question was raised regarding the AQ courses, noting Nipissing University’s courses are more expensive than others and asking if there is anything being done to reduce our costs. The Dean of Education spoke to this, indicating that we lowered the cost of our AQ courses four years ago, and that we are now watching what other Universities are doing. Dr. d’Entremont also noted that we cannot reduce the cost any further unless we reduce the cost of running the program.

## **Committee Reports**

### Executive Committee

Chair, Marianne Berube, reported that the new Executive Committee for 2016/17 was appointed. Ms. Berube advised that the date for the Board Retreat has now been set for September 30 & October 1, 2016, and will take place at the Canadian Ecology Centre near Mattawa. She encouraged all Board members to attend as this will include the first Board meeting of the year.

The Chair requested that the form for committee preferences be filled out and given to her or the Board Secretary that day.

### Audit and Finance

It was reported that the budget had been worked on for many months at the advisory group level as well as being reviewed by the Audit and Finance Committee several times. It was presented to Senate on May 13, 2016.

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It was noted that we are currently working with KPMG for debt restructuring.

A board member asked why the budget line for Student Services was the only cost centre that had shown an increase. The AVP, Finance and Human Resources clarified that this was due to provincial funding that allows for three new contract positions to implement new software, etc. It was also noted that this cost centre also reflects the increase in financial aid.

A number of specific questions were raised regarding the budget, questioning variances in cost centre and accuracy of numbers. These were answered by Ms. Sutton and Dr. d’Entremont.

The Audit and Finance annual report was included with the agenda.

**Resolution 2016-06-03:** Moved by Gary Jodouin, seconded by Tom Palangio, that the Board of Governors accepts the recommendation of the Audit & Finance Committee that the 2016-2017 Operating Budget, which includes a planned deficit of \$4,711,333, be approved as presented.

A board member asked how much is the total deficit that we will have to pay back. The AVP, Finance and Human Resources clarified that our reserves have covered the debt so far.

A question was raised as what the actual deficit for 2016/17 would be. Dr. d'Entermont noted it would be too difficult to make that assessment.

The Chair of the Board advised that the Board will receive regular updates on the budget throughout the year and recognized the Budget Committee for doing a great job.

Mr. Shogren asked how the budget is communicated publicly, Dr. DeGagne indicated that a press release has been prepared and will go out at the end of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

**Resolution 2016-06-04:** Moved by Tom Palangio, seconded by Derek Shogren that the Board of Governors accepts the recommendation of the Audit and Finance Committee that the 2016-2017 Ancillary Budget be approved as amended.

Clarification was requested as to where parking revenues appear. Ursula Boyer noted that parking revenues are in the operating budget.

A Board member asked why the residences appeared to be losing money. Casey Phillips noted that \$400,000 was transferred to the operating budget.

A number of questions were raised as to the increase in various cost centres, it was clarified that multiple reclassification of expenses had occurred.

**CARRIED - 1 opposed**

The Chair offered to schedule individual meetings to ensure all questions about the budget are answered. They will also try to ensure that meetings are scheduled around lecture times.

**Resolution 2016-06-05:** Moved by Gord Durnan, seconded by Trevor Bachelder that the Board of Governors accepts the recommendation of the Audit and Finance Committee that the "Investment Policy and Guideline for Trust and Endowment Funds" be approved as presented.

A Board member inquired if there would be an ethical component to the Investment policy. The Chair noted that this had been discussed and after weighing the pros and cons, it was decided not to.

The Chair noted that there would be ongoing reviews of investments which will include a presentation to the Board every six months.

**CARRIED - 1 Opposed, Janet Zimbalatti**

Advancement Committee

The Chair, Gord Durnan was reappointed as chair. Mr. Durnan reviewed the annual report outlining the changes that have been made as well as the plan for the upcoming year.

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER COMMITTEES**

Plant and Property

The annual report was included with the agenda

University Governance Committee

The annual report was included with the agenda.

Academic Senate

No report was received.

Alumni Advisory Board

Mark Webster advised this would be his last Board meeting as a new Alumni President was elected.

Aboriginal Council and Education

Donna Forget advised that this would be her last Board meeting as a replacement will be selected. Report was distributed at the beginning of the meeting.

Brantford Regional Campus

Nothing to report

Bracebridge Regional Campus

Nothing to report

Nipissing University Student Union

Jordan Andrews, President of NUSU, reported that they have moved into their new space and handed over their keys to the Wall. They have reached out to community partners to secure space for students in the fall. He also reported that the new building is still on schedule with the tentative ground breaking scheduled for October 2016. Current community sponsorship initiatives have reached \$25,000.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Nothing reported.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution 2016-06-06**: Moved by Nancy Maynes, seconded by Gary Jodouin that the Open Session of the Board of Governors' regular meeting now adjourn at 7:36 p.m.  
**CARRIED**

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Board Secretary

  
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Board Chair