

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

May 30, 2014

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

M. DeGagné (Chair), H. d'Entremont, C. Richardson, A. Robinson

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

A. Ackerman, D. Borman, R. Breton, N. Colborne, J. Dech, M. Jha, A. Karashev,
G. McCann, F. Noël, T. Parkes, S. Renshaw (Deputy Speaker), T. Smith, D. Tabachnick,
S. Winters, H. Zhu

L. Ashworth, G. Black, B. Bruner, J. McAuliffe, M-A Parr, T. Ryan, J. Scott, A. Steele

R. Vernescu (Bracebridge)

L. Rossi

J. Zimbalatti

S. Feretycki

Y. Benoit, C. Burke, I. Hall

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

M. Tuncali, AB Graff, R. Vanderlee, N. Black

U. Kundraats, A. Weeks

K. Eyre, B. Hatt, T. Horton, M. Kariuki, T. Sibbald

M. McCabe (Brantford)

K. Ewers, C. Murton-Stoehr, T. Benevides

G. DuCharme

C. Donaldson

The minutes of the Senate meeting of May 16, 2014 were adopted.

QUESTION PERIOD

The first question was regarding the return to scheduling 8:30 a.m. classes. The Registrar indicated that with 1600 course offerings, every constraint that is placed on scheduling represents a challenge for the establishment of the most conflict free schedule. The Registrar agreed to convey to the Associate Registrar of Scheduling and Registration, senators' concerns and added she could have him make a presentation to a future Senate or in another forum.

Responding to the question about having no classes on Fridays so faculty members can attend Senate, the Registrar noted that their office makes every effort to ensure that senators do not have Friday afternoon classes.

There was a question raised about the status of a motion that was passed at Arts and Science Council that is to allow all the data determining the ranking of academic units to be shared among all academic units that are being or will be ranked. The VPAR responded by noting that there are currently some technical issues regarding how certain expenditures are treated (e.g. sabbaticals) but the intention remains to make that information available when the issues have been resolved.

REPORTS of STANDING COMMITTEES and FACULTY or UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

Senate Executive Committee

Annual Report

MOTION 1: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by S. Winters that the Annual Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 15, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

May 22, 2014 Report

MOTION 2: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by D. Borman that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated May 22, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

Planning and Priorities Committee

Annual Report

MOTION 3: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by Y. Benoit that the Annual Report of the Planning and Priorities Committee dated May 20, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

Admissions and Enrollment Subcommittee

Annual Report

MOTION 4: Moved by A. Robinson, seconded by A. Page that the Annual Report of the Admissions and Enrollment Subcommittee date May 20, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

Undergraduate Studies Committee

MOTION 5: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by Y. Benoit that the Annual Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated May 20, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

Teaching and Learning Committee

MOTION 6: Moved by C. Hachkowski, seconded by C. Richardson that the Annual Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated May 20, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

Graduate Studies Council

MOTION 7: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by J. Dech that the Annual Report of the Graduate Studies Council dated May 16, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

Research Council

MOTION 8: Moved by H. d'Entremont, seconded by A. Ackerman that the Annual Report of the Research Council dated May 15, 2014 be received.
CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS

The Vice-President Academic and Research provided an overview of the 2014-15 operating budget. This budget will go before the Board of Governors on Thursday, June 5, 2014.

ELECTIONS

- Elect one Senator to serve as Speaker for a one-year term effective July 1, 2014.
ACCLAIMED: S. Renshaw
- Elect one Senator to serve as Deputy Speaker for a one-year term effective July 1, 2014.
ACCLAIMED: N. Colborne
- Elect one Senator to serve on the Board of Governors for a two year term effective July 1, 2014.

T. Ryan nominated M. Saari
J. Scott nominated T. Horton
M-A Parr nominated D. Jarvis
S. Winters nominated G. Phillips
ELECTED: M. Saari

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

Alumni Advisory Board

Senator Feretycki announced that the Alumni Advisory Board is undertaking a new initiative by offering free admission to 2014 graduates to the Homecoming Event in October.

Council of Ontario Universities

Senator McCann, Academic Colleague, provided a brief update on COU activities. She indicated that discussions between COU and the provincial government are effectively at a standstill since the election was called. COU has sent out questionnaires on issues in higher education to all the candidates. The issue of intellectual property in relation to on-line courses also continues to be a concern. As a group, colleagues seemed in agreement that the idea of on-line learning needs to be thought out carefully in terms of issues of revenue, pedagogy and the idea that students choose universities for their particular character.

Because of the election, many of the topics of discussion were put on hold so most of the meeting was taken up with discussions of the push from colleges to offer three year degrees.

NEW BUSINESS

- MOTION 9: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by T. Ryan that Senate consider receipt of the Strategic Plan 2014.
CARRIED
- MOTION 10: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by T. Parkes that Senate receive the Strategic Plan 2014.
CARRIED
- MOTION 11: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by A. Page that Senate approve the Strategic Plan 2014, with the inclusion of the word “environment” and “sustainable” where appropriate.
CARRIED
- MOTION 12: Moved by A. Robinson, seconded by Y. Benoit that Senate consider receipt of the Report of Grad Applicants dated May 29, 2014.
CARRIED
- MOTION 13: Moved by A. Robinson, seconded by Y. Benoit that Senate receive the Report of the Grad Applicants dated May 29, 2014.
CARRIED
- MOTION 14: Moved by A. Robinson, seconded by Y. Benoit that the approval to graduate be granted to the students listed in the Report of Grad Applicants dated May 29, 2014.
CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTSPresident

The President acknowledged the comments and questions that were given during the budget discussions. He noted that there are challenges ahead and that Nipissing is not the only institution with financial issues. It will take the university community to work together to overcome this challenge. The President indicated he will hold internal town hall meetings this fall to provide an opportunity for discussions.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

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M. DeGagné (Chair)

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C. Jenkins (Senate Secretary)