

Nipissing University  
Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting

October 11, 2019

2:30 p.m. – Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT:

M. DeGagné (Chair), A. Vainio-Mattila, P. Radia, C. Richardson, D. Iafrate, N. Black

A. Ackerman, A. Burk, D. Campbell, N. Colborne, S. Connor, H. Earl, A. Hatef, L. Hoehn, B. Kelly, N. Kozuskanich, K. Lucas, S. Renshaw, D. Tabachnick, H. Zhu

J. Allison, C. Anyinam, C. Hachkowski, T. Horton, D. Lafrance Horning, K. McCullough, P. Millar, C. Peltier, C. Ricci, A. Schinkel-Ivy, T. Sibbald, M. Sullivan

C. Irwin, O. Pokorny

S. Kidd, B. Ray

B. Perron

H. Mackie, T. Sullivan

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

C. Sutton, J. McAuliffe, P. Maher

O. Atari, L. Chen, M. Litalien, S. Srigley, H. Teixeira, R. Vernescu

D. Hay, D. Jarvis, L. Manankil-Rankin, G. Raymer

C. Foster, S. MacCarthy, N. Muylaert

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF THE SENATE MEETING OF: October 11, 2019

MOTION 1: Moved by H. Mackie, seconded by A. Burk that the agenda of the Senate meeting of October 11, 2019 be approved.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SENATE MEETING OF: September 13, 2019

MOTION 2: Moved by H. Mackie, seconded by D. Iafrate that the minutes of the Senate meeting of September 13, 2019 be adopted.

CARRIED

The Speaker opened the meeting with a welcome to the traditional territory:

As we begin this Nipissing University Senate meeting, I would like to acknowledge that we are in the territory of the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and that the land on which we gather is the Nipissing First Nation Traditional Territory and the traditional territory of the Anishnabek. We respect and are grateful to hold this event on these lands with all our relatives.

### BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

In follow up to questions raised at the September 13, 2019 Senate meeting regarding funding, the President provided further response advising of a recent meeting with the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities. He advised that information regarding the Northern Sustainability Fund should be received within the next 30 days. It is still unknown when further information will be received regarding the Northern Grant.

### REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

The President began his report by thanking all of the faculty and staff that took part in the University Fair. The NU booth benefited from a refresh of presentation and marketing materials and received a solid amount of traffic with approximately 130,000 visitors passing through. He also thanked the organizers of the very successful Homecoming event. It was an outstanding opportunity to celebrate our alumni. The President was pleased to attend the recent launch of the new Sparrow Experiential Learning Centre, made possible by the generous support of the Sparrow family. We look forward to a long standing relationship with the Sparrow family. He advised that positive meetings have been held with some of the local major banks, including topics of interest such as the future engagement of students in the workforce. The President and the Assistant VP Students were pleased to present awards to the graduating senior players of the sports teams that are now finished for the season. The men's and women's Lakers Soccer teams are still going strong and we wish them all the best in their upcoming playoff games. The President also thanked all those who organized and participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Canada-Mexico Round Table on Intercultural/Indigenous Higher Education. The event was hosted in Sault Ste. Marie and had participants (presidents, academics & students) from Canadian regional universities as well as intercultural universities in Mexico. Also in Sault Ste. Marie, the 5<sup>th</sup> National Building Reconciliation Forum, co-hosted by Algoma, Nipissing, Cape Breton, UNBC & Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig, took place. The theme this year was "Working Together to Advance Healing & Reconciliation.

The Provost began her report by congratulating Dr. Cindy Peltier on her recent appointment to Associate Dean in the Faculty of Arts and Science. She thanked all those who expressed an interest in serving on a committee to develop a framework of internationalization for Nipissing University. If anyone else is interested, please send an e-mail to [pvpar@nipissingu.ca](mailto:pvpar@nipissingu.ca). She reported that 50 international students are expected for January 2020, and that 46 students are currently registered. The Provost advised that she had recently participated in the UArctic Council meeting. She informed of the numerous, and often well-funded, opportunities for faculty and students that could be utilized in the future. Information on the Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA3) was included in the September Senate Agenda. A future opportunity for further discussion is anticipated.

The Senate representative on the Board of Governors, Bobby Ray, advised that no Board meeting had been held since the last Senate meeting. He expressed his congratulations on a great start to the year and the great work being done.

On behalf of the Alumni Advisory Board, Office of Advancement and the Homecoming Committee, Bridgette Perron, Alumni Relations Coordinator, thanked all those who attended Homecoming 2019. She was pleased to advise that there was a great turn out for the weekend with hundreds of students, alumni,

faculty, staff and community, coming out to catch the games and events. She expressed a big thank you to the City of North Bay for sponsoring the fireworks after the Women's Hockey Game, and thanked NUSU, RBC, our volunteers and NUSA for helping to make the weekend a success. She also acknowledged and thanked the sponsors for providing their services and time, and advised that next year's Homecoming event has been scheduled for October 2-4, 2020. Please save the date.

The NUSU President, Hannah Mackie, provided a report. The report is attached to the Minutes.

### QUESTION PERIOD

On behalf of the School of Nursing, a Senator forwarded a question in advance regarding when the Nursing program IQAP Report will be received for approval by Senate. The Provost advised that the Nursing program Final Report was received from the Unit and the Dean earlier this week, and that the Implementation Plan has been completed and will be forwarded to the next AQAPC meeting for inclusion in the Senate Agenda.

A Senator requested that the Deans speak to the changes in the faculty structure and advise how the changes have been addressed. The Dean of Education and Professional Studies advised that everyone seems to be adjusting to the new responsibilities. The new EPS faculty had an informal gathering with discussion and questions. The first meeting of the EPS Executive was held on October 8. A draft Constitution was presented, and a second meeting is being planned. The Dean of Arts and Science advised that she has been working with the Dean of Education and Professional Studies to draft a Constitution to ensure that they are both aligned. She advised that the two new programs were welcomed at the Arts and Science Retreat held on May 23, and that further discussions will be held at Faculty Council meetings.

A Senator raised concerns regarding the University's silence on the ongoing political unrest and violence in Hong Kong, noting the shooting of an 18 year old student. The Senator asked if the University will be speaking out against the violence. The President responded that although no advance notice of this question had been received, he acknowledged concerns as well as our limited experience in this area. He advised that he would be happy to share in the broader thoughts and concerns of faculty members, but questioned whether Senate is the appropriate forum as other sources of violence should also be given the same courtesy. In response to a request for further clarity on the partnership with the company in China that we work with in regards to international recruitment, the Provost responded that our partnership is with a Canadian company. Following a request to name the company, the Provost advised that this matter will be discussed.

### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND FACULTY OR UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

#### SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION 3: Moved by M. DeGagné, seconded by N. Kozuskanich that Senate receive the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated October 3, 2019.  
CARRIED

#### ACADEMIC AWARDS, APPEALS AND PETITIONS COMMITTEE

MOTION 4: Moved by D. Iafate, seconded by H. Mackie that the Report of the Academic Awards, Appeals and Petitions Committee dated October 2, 2019 be received.  
CARRIED

**BY-LAWS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

MOTION 5: Moved by T. Sibbald, seconded by H. Mackie that the Report of the By-Laws and Elections Committee dated October 1, 2019 be received.  
CARRIED

MOTION 6: Moved by T. Sibbald, seconded by S. Kidd that Senate approve that Senate Policy 1.3, Guidelines for Faculty Selection Procedures, be amended to include the language of Board Policy 3.12012.B, Search/Appointment/Reappointment of Senior Academic Administrative Officers as outlined below:

If a member of the Search Committee is absent for an interview of one of the candidates, she/he shall not participate in the voting or deliberation process as each voting committee member must be in a position to weigh the merits of each candidate prior to making a recommendation. However, if the search process involves other rounds of interviews and voting, the member may participate in the voting or deliberation for those subsequent rounds.

CARRIED

**OTHER BUSINESS**

MOTION 7: Moved by D. Iafate, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve that Senate Policy 59.0, Accessibility Admissions Policy be revised as outlined below:

Following discussion, the friendly amendments noted below in bold and strikethrough were suggested and approved by the mover and seconder.

CARRIED

*Rationale: Revisions to this policy will provide greater access and equity. As recruiting for 2020 has already started, it would be beneficial to be able to promote the revised policy during this year's recruitment cycle. Otherwise, this policy will not be effectively promoted until the fall 2021 intake. This motion will be presented at the October 9, 2019 Academic Curriculum Committee meeting.*

**Proposed Policy:****Access & Equity Admissions Policy**

Nipissing University welcomes applications from ~~persons~~ **individuals** of diverse backgrounds. We recognize that there are institutional processes and cultural differences that present barriers to some applicants obtaining access to university. Nipissing University is committed to diversity, equity and accessibility and ~~has~~ reserved spaces in our undergraduate programs for students from groups including but not limited to persons with disabilities, economically disadvantaged **individuals**, Franco-Ontarians, Indigenous ~~people~~ **persons**, visible minorities, LGBTQ+ and those from northern/remote/rural areas.

To be considered you must:

- apply to year one of an undergraduate program (application to be submitted through the **Ontario Universities' Application Centre, OUAC**)
- have completed the minimum prerequisite courses for admission
- submit a letter to the Admissions Office outlining your ~~barriers~~ **circumstances** and how you plan to be successful at Nipissing University.

Students admitted under this policy are required to meet the university and program standards for progression and graduation.

### **Current Policy:**

#### **Accessibility Admissions**

### **59.0 NIPISSING UNIVERSITY ACCESSIBILITY ADMISSIONS POLICY**

Each year Nipissing University makes available a number of spaces for accessibility admissions of Canadian citizens and landed immigrants, who apply to the year one undergraduate program from high school or community college, or to the one year teacher education program. This is to give special consideration to individuals from specified groups.

**Year one undergraduate applicants** who have achieved the minimum acceptable average for admission to the University, but whose academic record does not include the higher average required for their chosen program, may apply for consideration as a special applicant under the categories listed below.

**Teacher education applicants** who have met the minimum admission requirements, completion of a bachelor's degree acceptable to Nipissing University, but do not meet the higher admission standard established for the given year, will be granted similar consideration.

At the time of their initial application, applicants requesting special consideration must submit evidence to document their entitlement to be considered under one or more of the following categories:

- the applicant is of Aboriginal ancestry
- the applicant is a member of a visible minority, or
- the applicant is differently abled

Applications are reviewed on an individual basis and interviews may be required. The committee may restrict the number of courses for which an applicant may register.

Students admitted under this policy are required to meet the same standards for progression and graduation as required of all other students.

This policy will be reviewed by the Senate Committee on Admissions, Promotions and Petitions every three years, and more frequently if necessary. The results of such reviews will be presented to Senate.

### **NIPISSING UNIVERSITY ACCESSIBILITY ADMISSIONS PROCEDURES**

1. The selections of applicants under the categories of:

- the applicant is of Aboriginal ancestry
- the applicant is a member of a visible minority
- the applicant is differently abled

Will be determined by faculty committees established by the Dean of each faculty and including one faculty member from the other faculty. These committees will be responsible for establishing their own procedures and implementation schedule. The committee's decisions will be final (i.e., applicants may not appeal the decision to the Senate Committee on Admissions, Petitions and Promotions).

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

MOTION 8: Moved by T. Sibbald, seconded by T. Horton that Senate approve that the membership of Article 9.2 Academic Curriculum Committee be amended as outlined below:

## 9.2 Academic Curriculum Committee

(a) *Ex Officio* Members:

- (i) the PVPAR, or designate (Chair);
- (ii) Faculty Deans, or designates;
- (iii) the Registrar, or designate;
- (iv) the Executive Director, Library Services;
- (v) a Student Senator from the NUSU Executive;
- (vi) two (2) undergraduate student representatives; one elected from each Faculty by NUSU;
- (vii) one (1) graduate student representative from the NUSU Executive.

## (b) Members Elected by Senate, Faculty Council:

- (i) four (4) faculty Senators\*, two from each Faculty elected by Senate;
- (ii) two (2) non-Senator Faculty; one elected from each Faculty by respective Faculty Councils;
- (iii) two (2) Graduate Coordinators/ Graduate Chairs; one elected from each Faculty by Respective Faculty Councils.

\*tenured or tenure-track Faculty preferred

CARRIED

ELECTIONS

- Elect one (1) faculty Senate representative to serve on the Joint Committee of the Board and Senate on Governance for a three-year term effective July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.  
**D. Campbell - ACCLAIMED**
- Elect two (2) faculty Senate representatives to serve on the Senate Budget Advisory Committee for a three-year term effective July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.  
**S. Renshaw - ACCLAIMED**  
**H. Zhu - ACCLAIMED**
- Elect one (1) EPS faculty Senate representative to serve on the Academic Curriculum Committee for a three-year term effective July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.  
**C. Anyinam - ACCLAIMED**
- Elect one (1) A&S faculty Senate representative to serve on the Academic Curriculum Committee for a three-year term effective July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022.  
**A. Ackerman - ACCLAIMED**

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION 9: Moved by D. Iafate, seconded by D. Campbell that Senate consider receipt of the Report on Graduation Applicants dated October 3, 2019.

CARRIED

MOTION 10: Moved by D. Iafrate, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate receive the Report on Graduation Applicants dated October 3, 2019.  
CARRIED

MOTION 11: Moved by D. Iafrate, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate grant approval to graduate the students listed in the Report on Graduation Applicants dated October 3, 2019.  
CARRIED

MOTION 12: Moved by D. Iafrate, seconded by S. Kidd that Senate move in camera.  
CARRIED

MOTION 13: Moved by D. Iafrate, seconded by D. Campbell that Senate move out of camera.  
CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.



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M. DeGagné (Chair)



.....  
S. Landriault (Senate Secretary)



## Senate Report

### Student Centre

On Oct 13th we will be starting week 53 of construction, the project is progressing well and is on schedule. All structural steel and exterior walls have been erected and the roof will be water tight within the next two weeks. The general footprint of the building is all there now and we will be working on exterior finishes (brickwork) in the next few weeks.

### Food Bank

We would like to thank the following people for their contributions to our foodbank:

Nipissing University Faculty Association who donated so we could stock up before reading week and Thanksgiving

Nipissing University Staff who donated from their denim day.

Lakers Volleyball Team who collected food at their Welcome Day.

**Community Funfair and Block Party** On September 21st, we held a Community Funfair in the day for community members and families and a Block Party in the evening for students. We were able to interact with students from Canadore College, Modern College, and CTS Canadian Career College. Special thank you to Dr. Kozuskanich for volunteering at our funfair, and everyone from the university community who came out to support.

### Homecoming

Congratulations to all of our Lakers Athletics teams for a great performance on homecoming weekend, including the Nipissing University Lakers Cross Country Women who won the 2019 Don Mills Open Championships. We are so proud of our athletic teams and to all of our students for supporting their fellow Lakers.

### Books for Brook

We would like to recognize the Schulich School of Education Centre for Literacy and their work in the Books for Brook project. On October 5th, they participated in the Learning Together event at Scollard Hall in which they handed out free books to multiple children in our community.

### Relay for Life Club

Congratulations to the Nipissing/Canadore Relay for Life Club for celebrating 10 years of their club. Over the past ten years, this club has raised \$187,291.37 for the Canadian Cancer Society, with \$27,794.60 of that being raised last year alone. We are so proud of our students taking the initiative to make a change. They are passionate about making a positive impact and do an incredible job bringing awareness to this cause.

### Ontario University Fair

I would also like to say thank you to everyone who attended the Ontario University Fair. It was my first time attending, and it was inspiring to see everyone's passion about education and our beautiful campus.

### Federal Election

We also hosted a Federal Election Debate on campus this month in collaboration with the Retired Teachers of Ontario, and the Canadore Students Council. Thank you to the Political Science faculty who brought their classes to watch politics in action. Working with the Canadian Federation of Students, we have been emphasizing the importance of educated voting to our students and were happy to have on-campus advanced polling. Remember to get out and vote!

Happy long weekend everyone!