

Nipissing University
Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting
December 11, 2020
2:30 p.m.
Zoom Remote Conferencing

MEMBERS PRESENT:

C. Sutton (Interim Chair), A. Vainio-Mattila, P. Maher,
J. Nadeau, P. Radia, D. Iafrate, N. Black

A. Ackerman, A. Burk, D. Campbell, N. Colborne
(Speaker), H. Earl, A. Hatef, L. Hoehn, N. Kozuskanich,
M. Litalien, K. Lucas, S. Renshaw, M. Saari, S. Srigley, M.
Tuncali, R. Vernescu, H. Zhu

J. Allison, C. Anyinam, K. Ferguson, C. Greco, D. Hay,
R. Hoffman, T. Horton, A. Kociolek, T. McParland, L.
Peachey, P. Ravi, G. Raymer, A. Schinkel-Ivy, T.
Sibbald, A. Wagner, P. Zou

C. Irwin, O. Pokorny

B. Ray, K. Wilcox

E. Lougheed

H. Mackie, M. King, C. Foster, A. Locke, S. Pecoskie-
Schweir

ABSENT WITH REGRETS:

J. McAuliffe

S. Connor, C. McFarlane, S. Winters

D. Lafrance Horning

S. MacCarthy

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF THE SENATE MEETING OF: December 11, 2020

The Speaker requested that the elections for four tenured faculty members to serve on the Committee for the Search/Appointment/Reappointment of the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research be removed from the Senate Agenda. Policy 3.1.2012.B states that the Search Committee for a non-faculty Dean or an Associate Dean shall be chaired by the PVPAR (or designate). The Chair will work with the Director of Human Resources to develop a representational search committee. Nominations from faculty members, including active faculty members of research programs, and self-nominations are welcome.

MOTION 1: Moved by N. Kozuskanich, seconded by N. Black that the agenda of the Senate meeting of December 11, 2020 be approved with the above revision.
CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SENATE MEETING OF: November 13, 2020

MOTION 2: Moved by S. Srigley, seconded by T. Sibbald that the minutes of the Senate meeting of November 13, 2020 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.

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

The Interim President was pleased to acknowledge that on December 10th, Nipissing University celebrated its 28th anniversary as a university. She thanked Sandra Managhan for reminding of this important milestone. She noted that upon reflection of our growth throughout the past 28 years, she couldn't help but think we've done more than our share over the past 8 months.

In regards to the COVID-19 outbreak experienced several weeks ago, she acknowledged all of the hard work and efforts of the COVID-19 Response Team, for the work they did over the summer to prepare for an outbreak and for the hours of work over the past several weeks responding to it.

Following a request to provide an update on the search for the President, she advised that the posting is available on our website. The Search Committee, with the assistance of the search firm Boyden, have completed an extensive consultation period. The committee is now receiving expressions of interest and there are plans to long and short list, with interviews to be held in early 2021.

The Interim President reported that feedback has now been received from the NUICE Committee and the Honorarium Policy is currently being reviewed. An update will be provided in early 2021.

The Request for Proposals regarding our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Review will be posted within the next few weeks.

The Interim President encouraged everyone to have a peaceful, restful holiday season, and advised that she is looking forward to the New Year.

The Provost and Vice-President, Academic and Research provided the 2020 Report on Active Adjunct Professor Appointments. The report is attached to the minutes.

The Provost advised that the Animal Care facility and program participated in a virtual assessment by the Canadian Council on Animal Care to ensure good animal practice. She thanked the Animal Care Committee Chair, Dr. Dave Hackett, and the members that serve on the committee for their work preparing for the assessment.

The Provost shared strategies of academic course delivery from the COU COVID-19 Reference Table meeting. She advised that other universities in the more seriously affected zones have been offering 5% of courses on-site this fall term. A poll around the table confirmed that by following protocols, no universities in Ontario can trace a COVID-19 case back to transmission from a university.

The Provost reported that in January, we will have approximately 300 students on campus (80 students in the Athletic Centre) Monday-Thursday registered in 63 unique courses (most in Nursing, BPHE practicals and Business) and 104 sections of courses. These numbers are changing, and students can add or drop courses until January 26.

The Provost discussed longer term academic planning. A presentation on Planning for 2021-2022 was shared. The presentation is attached to the minutes.

A Return to Classroom Summary presentation was provided. The Director of Facility Services, David Drenth, provided updates on the buildings and classrooms. Michelle Banks, HR Generalist – Health, Safety & Wellness, provided updates on 'Return to Classroom' information sessions for faculty and students, classroom protocols regarding face coverings and social distancing, classroom scheduling, capacity access and cleaning procedures. The Director of Technology Services, Heather Hersemeyer, provided updates on technology upgrades to allow for on campus synchronous teaching and recording, as well as in-person faculty demonstrations, training and feedback sessions being offered. Following the presentation, questions were welcomed. The presentation is attached to the minutes.

The Assistant Vice-President, Finance and Infrastructure (Interim), Renee Hacquard, was recognized by the Speaker and provided an update on the operation revenues and expenditures. The presentation is attached to the minutes.

The Board of Governors Senate representative, Bobby Ray, advised that no Board of Governors meeting had been held since the last Senate meeting and there was no official report. On behalf of the Board, he wished everyone a safe and happy holiday.

The Alumni Advisory Board representative, Erika Loughheed, provided a report. The report is attached to the minutes.

On behalf of the Joint Board/Senate Committee on Governance, committee member, Dr. Susan Srigley provided an update. Following the election of a new faculty member, Dr. Sarah Winters, the first meeting as a newly configured committee was held on November 30. In that meeting the Terms of Reference were reviewed, and an update was received from the Board on the Governance Committee's review of the Extension of the Term of Office for Academic Administrators in the Board hiring policy. Dr. Srigley, was pleased to report that the committee has now implemented all of the recommendations made in the report of the Special Governance Commission (SGC). Now the committee will continue to (from the TOR): "periodically review, on at least an annual basis, the governance structures and practices of the University to foster bicameral communication and collegiality."

The next meeting of the Joint Board/Senate Committee on Governance will take place in late February or early March, where Dr. Srigley will provide a presentation about her work on the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA) Governance Committee.

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

The Board of Governors Senate representative, Kathy Wilcox, congratulated NUSU on engaging students and reaching out. NUSU has done an impressive job in difficult times.

QUESTION PERIOD

The Speaker reminded that it is preferable that substantive questions be provided to the Senate Secretary in writing in advance of the Senate meeting.

In response to a question regarding how the COVID-19 vaccine will impact our planning, the Provost responded that prominent epidemiologists have indicated that there will be an order of priority as to who will receive the vaccine first. Healthy, young adults, which make up the majority of our students, will be at the end of the list to receive vaccinations. As well, effectiveness will vary from 80-90%, and will require a high level of community participation to receive the vaccine. Public health measures are likely to stay in place for the next year if not longer. We are planning conservatively, utilizing what we are learning to ensure health and safety.

Following a request to provide an approximate timeline as to how we will proceed, the Provost advised that planning is already behind schedule. The goal is to have a good final draft of how we move forward by the end of January. The Registrar advised that ideally, planning for spring/summer would take place by the end of January, and planning for fall/winter would take place by the end of February.

In reply to a question regarding Lockdown Browser and how academic integrity can be assured, the Dean of Teaching responded by advising that we need to have checks and balances and that we are trying to make the best of the secure online testing situation. At some level we need to trust our students and how they treat academic integrity. Resources and further discussion will be available through the Teaching Hub.

In response to a question as to why faculty were not involved in the planning of using Lockdown Browser to maintain academic integrity, the Dean of Teaching responded by advising that we are open to a broader discussion for alternative solutions to fall exams. An attempt was made to bring as many people to the conversation as possible, but the message had to be delivered to the students as quickly as possible. A discussion took place regarding alternate methods of assessment, depth and breadth of assessment, standardized assessment and testing, restricted chat and text based communication, an accessible website, unstable internet, use of TA's and the development of learning outcomes. The Dean of Teaching thanked Senators for expressing their input and concerns and committed to holding an open forum to continue discussion on secure online exams.

In reply to a question as to when a policy could be expected to be in place, the Provost advised that NU already has a policy on academic integrity and academic dishonesty which applies to all assessments. We are piloting new processes and procedures. As concerns are brought forward, we need to figure out a balance of assessment and unstable internet connections. Following an open forum and discussion, guidelines will be developed.

In response to a suggestion that a motion be put forward to disallow the use of cellular devices during secure online exams next term, the Speaker suggested that the matter be deferred to the Teaching and Learning Committee. The Dean of Teaching suggested that as the matter is an exam policy, it should be deferred to the Office of the Registrar. The Provost advised that a report will be made to Senate to advise of the processes put in place following discussion with the Deans, Registrar's Office and faculty.

Following a request for an update as to when Graduate students will have access to facilities so they can move forward with their research, David Drenth, on behalf of the Operational Readiness Committee, advised that plans had been received and will be followed up with the Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, prior to the holidays.

In response to an inquiry regarding a point of order and whether proper procedure was followed regarding the suggestion that a motion be put forward to disallow the use of cellular devices during secure online exams next term, the Speaker advised that the motion wasn't in order as the matter extends beyond Senate's capacity to forbid the use of technology for the use of exams.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND FACULTY OR UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION 3: Moved by C. Sutton, seconded by T. McParland that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated December 3, 2020 be received.
CARRIED

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

MOTION 4: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Foster that the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated November 19, 2020 be received.
CARRIED

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

Biology

Non-substantive (for information only):

- Change the prerequisite for BIOL-3227 Nutrition from "BIOL-2706 Human Anatomy and Physiology I and BIOL-2707 Human Anatomy and Physiology II or BIOL-1011 Introduction to Molecular and Cell Biology for Nursing, BIOL-2116 Principles of Microbiology, and registered in the RPN Bridging Program" to "BIOL-2706 Human Anatomy and Physiology I or BIOL-2116 Principles of Microbiology or permission of the instructor".

Political Science

Non-substantive (for information only):

- The certificate in Peace and Violence Prevention Studies be changed to the certificate in Conflict Resolution and Negotiation.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIESSchool of Business

MOTION 5: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Anyinam that Senate approve the creation of ACCT 3816, Personal Taxation, as outlined in the attached template.

CARRIED

Non-substantive (for information only):

- Bank of ACCT 4816 Personal Taxation

MOTION 6: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve the creation of ACCT 3817 Corporate Taxation, as outlined in the attached template.

CARRIED

Non-substantive (for information only):

- Bank ACCT 4817 Corporate Taxation course

Non-substantive (for information only):

- Unbank ADMN 4155 International Internship

ACADEMIC QUALITY ASSURANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE (AQAPC)

MOTION 7: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by N. Black that the Report of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee dated November 20, 2020 be received.

CARRIED

MOTION 8: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by R. Hoffman that the Classical Studies 6-Year Post IQAP Follow-up Report be received.

CARRIED

TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE

MOTION 9: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by N. Black that the Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated October 29, 2020 be received.

CARRIED

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

MOTION 10: Moved by T. Sibbald, seconded by T. McParland that the Senate By-Laws, Article 9.9 Senate Executive Committee, be amended as outlined below:

Rationale: The following revision of Senate By-Laws Article 9.9 Senate Executive Committee is required as the current language will no longer apply due to pending changes to the By-Laws allowing for year round Senate meetings:

9.9 (c) Terms of Reference (*language to be deleted in strikethrough*)

- (vi) ~~when required, to exercise Senate's authority and act on Senate's behalf during the Senate summer recess period, with the understanding that all such actions shall be reported at the September meeting of Senate;~~

CARRIED

MOTION 11: Moved by T. Sibbald, seconded by A. Ackerman that the Senate By-Laws, Article 2.3(a)(iii) Other Non-Faculty Senators, be amended as outlined below:

Rationale: The Nipissing University Indigenous Council on Education requests that the Senate By-Laws, 2.3 Other Non-Faculty Senators (a)(iii) be adjusted to reflect that the NUICE Senator may be chosen by and from or designated by the NUICE. The NUICE passed (with a majority) the following motion via electronic vote on October 21, 2020.

2.3 (a) Other Non-Faculty Senators (*language to be added in bold*)

(iii) one (1) Senator chosen by and from **or designated by** the NUICE.

CARRIED

ELECTIONS

- Elect three (3) tenured faculty members, from the Faculty of Education and Professional Studies, to be elected by Senate to serve on the Committee for the Search/Appointment/Reappointment of the Dean of Education and Professional Studies.

T. McParland - ACCLAIMED

K. Ferguson - ACCLAIMED

G. Raymer - ACCLAIMED

- Elect one (1) tenured faculty member, from a faculty other than the Faculty of Education and Professional Studies, to be elected by Senate to serve on the Committee for the Search/Appointment/Reappointment of the Dean of Education and Professional Studies.

S. Srigley - ACCLAIMED

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NUSU President, Hannah Mackie, congratulated Dr. Rosemary Nagy, Co-Director of the Northeastern Ontario Research Alliance on Human Trafficking (NORAHT) following the conclusion of research on the gaps and barriers to regional services for women experiencing exploitation, violence or abuse in the sex industry.

She also congratulated Dr. Laurie Peachey. Dr. Peachey's manuscript from her PhD thesis, "Shaping clinical imagination as new graduate nurses in maternal-child simulation", was accepted in the Nurse Education Today international journal.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.



.....
C. Sutton (Interim Chair)



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

Active Adjunct Professor Appointments 2020

Arts & Science

Name	Term of Appointment	Degree & Year	Institution	Position	Reason for Appointment
Swayze, James	1-Jun-17 to 31-May-22		Kinickinick Heritage Consulting	Archaeological Consultant	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in Sociology and Anthropology
Procnier, William	15-Jan-16 to 14-Jan-21	PhD 1981	Nipissing University	Lecturer	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Psychology
McNairn, Heather	1-Aug-17 to 31-Jul-22	PhD 1999	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	Research Scientist	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Geography
Ma, Bao-Luo	1-Jul-17 to 30-Jun-22	PhD 1991	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	Senior Research Scientist	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Geography
Liu, Jianguai	1-Aug-17 to 31-Jul-22	PhD 1999	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	Physical Scientist	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Geography
Hango, Darcy	1-Jun-17 to 31-May-22	PhD 2003	Insights on Canadian Society	Senior Researcher	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Sociology
Yoa, Huaxia	1-Jul-2017 to 30-Jun-22	PhD 1988	Dorset Environmental Science Centre	Research Scientist	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Geography
Harrison, Joel	1-Dec-2017 to 30-Nov-22	PhD 2011	North Bay-Mattawa Conservation Authority	Water Resources Specialist	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Geography
Macrae, Merrin	1-Dec-2017 to 30-Nov-22	PhD 2003	University of Waterloo	Assistant Professor	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Geography
Tough, Frank	1-Nov-19 – 31-Oct-24	PhD 1987	University of Alberta	Professor	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Geography
Nojomi, Marzieh	1-July-2020 – 31-Aug-2025	MD 1986	Iran University	Professor	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Sociology and Anthropology
Beauine, Stéphane (1 x Renewal)	1-Jun-20 to 31-May-25	PhD 2008		Consultant	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Psychology and Child and Family Studies

Education and Professional Studies

Name	Term of Appointment	Degree & Year	Institution	Position	Reason for Appointment
Shields, Christopher	1-Apr-18 to 31-Mar-23	PhD 2005	Acadia University	Professor	Research, co-supervision, collaborative teaching in Kinesiology
Martin, Luc	1-Jun-18 to 31-May-23	PhD 2012	Queen's University	Assistant Professor	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in SSoE
Bernardes, Roger	1-Sep-18 to 31-Aug-23	MSc 1995	York Mills Collegiate Institute	Teacher	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in SSoE
Whillians, Wendy	1-Jul-17 to 30-Nov-22	MScN 2009	Canadore College	Faculty	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in Nursing
Stewart, Lynn	1-Dec-16 to 30-Nov-21	PhD 1987	Correctional Services Canada	Senior Research Manager	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in Criminology and Criminal Justice
Page, Aroha	1-Jul-18 to 30-Jun-23	PhD 1997	????	????	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in Nursing
Debrah-Grant, Xavier	1-Oct-18 to 30-Sep-23	MScN 2018	City of Toronto Public Health	Public Health Nurse	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in Nursing
French, Stan (3 x Renewal)	1-Oct-18 to 30-Sep-23	RN 1988	Self-Employed	Consultant	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in School of Business
Geer, Valini (1 x Renewal)	31-Aug-18 to 1-Sep-23	MScN	Toronto Public Health	Public Health Nurse	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in Nursing
Thériault, Krysia (1 x Renewal)	30-Aug-18 to 1-Sep-23		University Health Network	Educator	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in Nursing
Zarins, Baiba (1 x Renewal)	1-Aug-18 to 31-Jul-23	RN, PhD	University Health Network	Educator	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in Nursing
Khorakian, Alireza	1-Jul-19 to 30-Jun-24	PhD	Ferdowsi University of Mashhad	Associate Professor	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in School of Business
Montgomery, Phyllis	1-Nov-19 to 31-Oct-24	PhD 2003	Laurentian University	Professor	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in Nursing
Smith, Lisa	31-Aug-2020 to 1-Sept-2025	RN, BScN (2009) & MN (2015)	University of Toronto	Interprofessional Education Specialist	Research, co-supervision, collaborate in teaching activities in Nursing

Planning for 2021-2022

And beyond



To build on what we do well:

- connection, engagement
- access,
- creating learning environments that support learning,
- supporting student experience



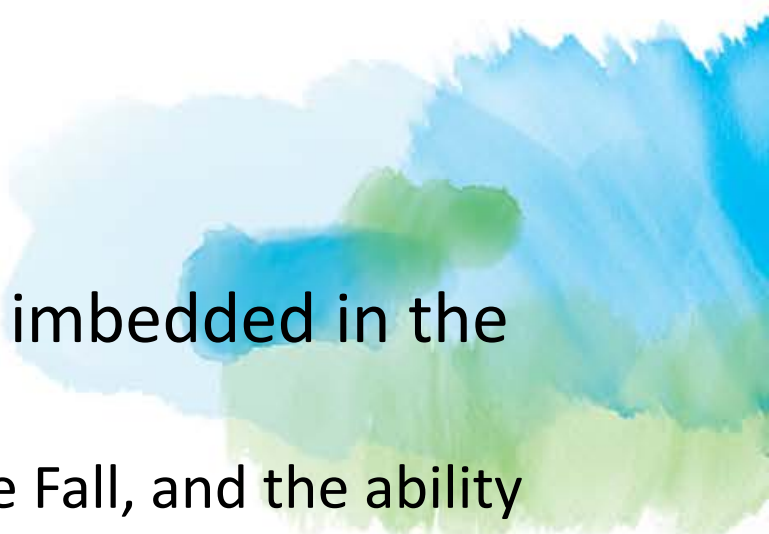
Everyone and
everything will have a
schedule!!



- On-site courses can be scheduled
 - In the usual manner
 - In blocks
 - Indoors or outdoors
- On-line courses will all have a scheduled 1 ½ hour weekly slot



2021-2022

- We will be piloting new opportunities that could be imbedded in the calendar in the future
 - We will add two compressed terms to the calendar in the Fall, and the ability to offer block courses at other times
 - All scheduling indoors and outdoors
 - All courses will have a presence on our LMS
 - Goal the ability for students can take required core programme courses in any term of the academic year
- 

Utilizing the Outdoors

- Trail head: clear out a larger area, Northern Ontario fire pit



Utilizing the Outdoors

Monastery: Party tent
with canvas flaps and
netting

- Netting for blackflies



Utilizing the Outdoors

- Patios near Library



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Courses: Options

1. Courses only outdoors: synchronous, elective, offered SS and early Fall. Low flexibility for both faculty and students. > Plan B = cancellation
2. Courses utilizing outdoor structures some of the time: synchronous, asynchronous access, can be moved indoors, offered SS and FW. Some flexibility for faculty and students. > Plan B = option 4
3. Courses only indoors (onsite/online): synchronicity will be encouraged. Can be accessed asynchronously online. Highest level of flexibility for student, some flexibility for faculty. > Plan B = option 4
4. Online only: mostly asynchronous, with some synchronous elements. Highest level of flexibility for faculty and students.



NIPISSING

U N I V E R S I T Y



Return to Classroom Summary

Return to the Classroom

Purpose

- Provide the NU community with an update regarding the status of planning for the upcoming Winter Term starting this January
- Lots of progress made to date with many preparations underway related to general building and classroom safety for incoming students
- Optimistic that the protocols, physical requirements, and technology abilities will be finalized in the upcoming few weeks



Updates

Protocols – Michelle Banks, HR Generalist – Health, Safety & Wellness

- Required 'Return to Classroom' information sessions for Faculty and Students
- Classroom protocols regarding face coverings and social distancing
- Classroom scheduling, capacity and access procedures
- Classroom cleaning requirements

Physical Requirements – David Drenth, Director – Facilities

- Building and classrooms
- HVAC and air purification

Technology – Heather Hersemeyer, Director - UTS

- Technology upgrades to allow for on campus synchronous teaching and recording
- In-person faculty demonstration, training and feedback sessions being offered

Questions at the end of the presentation for any one of us

Return to Classroom info sessions

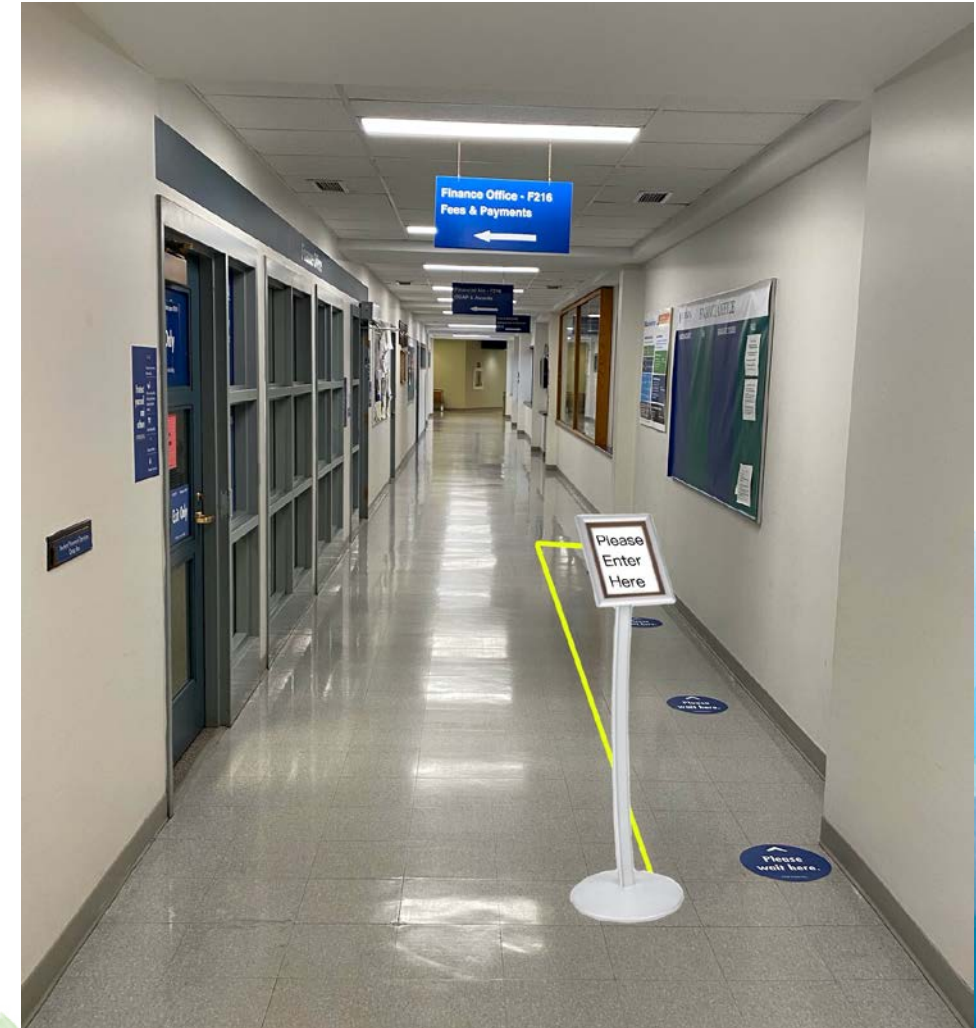
Faculty:

- All faculty who are returning on campus are required to participate in a return to campus info session
- New policies and protocols
- Self assessment requirements
- Changes on campus
- Contact tracing

Students:

- All students who are returning to campus are required to participate in a return to campus info session
- New policies and protocols
- Self assessment requirements
- Campus expectations
- Importance of social bubbles

*Note: classroom policies and protocols apply to anyone accessing learning spaces



Classroom Protocols

Face Covering:

- Required by faculty and students in instructional spaces at all times
- Faculty and students will be provided reusable face masks

Capacity:

- Maximum of 50 students in any classroom space – based on usable square footage
- All available seats are two meters apart to promote physical distancing
- Front of classrooms have six foot allowance for faculty
- Classrooms with two points of entry will have one designated for entrance and other as exit

Scheduling & Access:

- Classes will be offered with 30 minutes gap in between
- Faculty/students advised not to arrive for class any earlier than 15 minutes ahead
- Signage on floor in hallways near classrooms will reinforce physical distancing



Classroom Cleaning

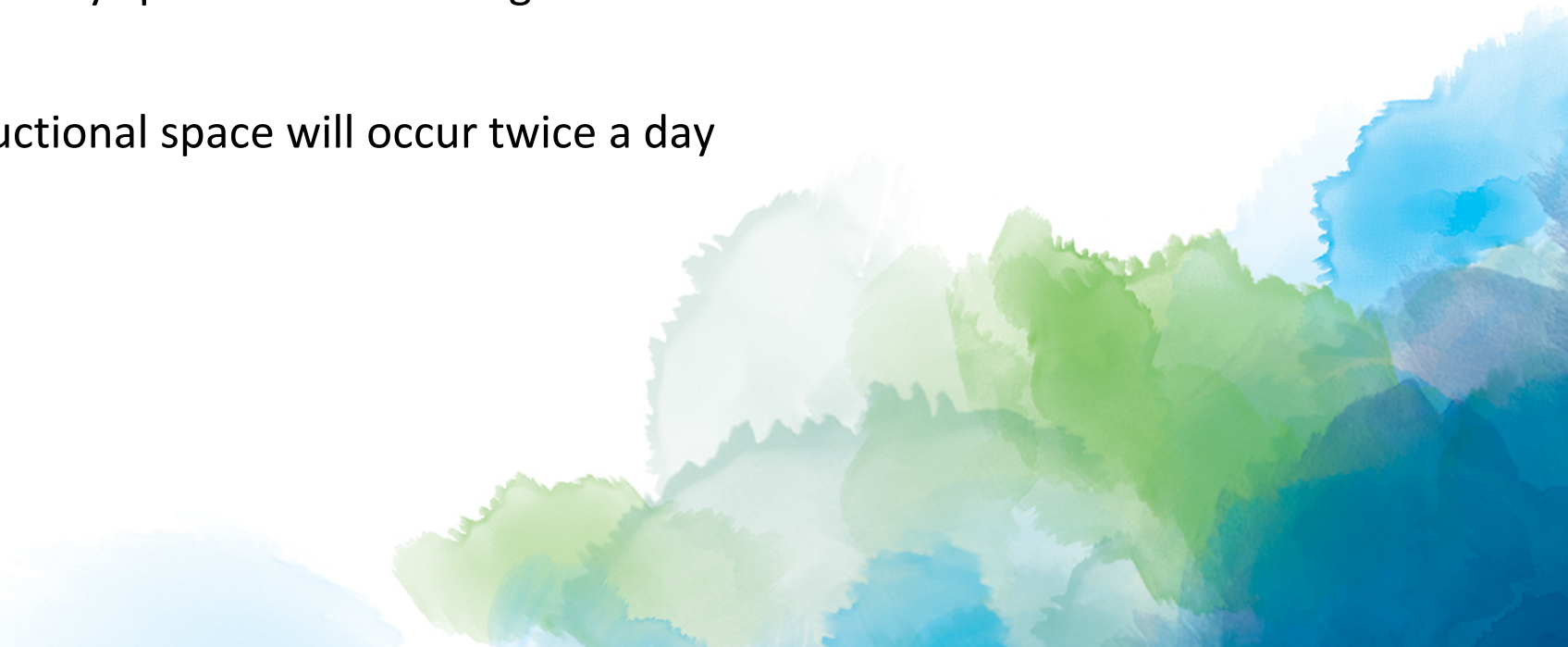
Faculty:

- Cleaning station set up in podium
- Responsible for wiping down touched elements before leaving

Students:

- Cleaning stations will be set up in classrooms
- Responsible for cleaning up study space before leaving

Note: Deep cleaning of all instructional space will occur twice a day



Physical Requirements

Building and Classrooms

- The protocols for main campus building access have now been successfully exercised for months with great acceptance
- In order to comply with Ministry requirements, self assessments and active screening are mandatory for all campus visitors
- Reminder – the Nipissing Safe app is the easiest way to perform your self assessment

Protect against COVID-19



**Please be ready to show
Campus Security your daily
self-assessment on your phone**



Self-assessment must be completed before entering. Please complete the self-assessment form on the NIPISSING SAFE APP



Physical Requirements

HVAC and Air Purification

3 Main Guidelines

1) Fresh Air – Nipissing's rooftop air handling units allow the appropriate amount of fresh air to reduce re-circulated supply

2) Run Times – all of the heating and cooling systems are programmed to run with earlier start times and continue running whether occupied or vacant

3) Filtration – all of the air circulation systems have fresh filters to provide clean air

*Purifiers – we have sourced a number of stand alone air purification units that will be deployed to high occupancy classrooms



Technology

Classroom Upgrades

- Seven classrooms have been upgraded to allow for synchronous teaching through Zoom as well as recording of the lecture
- In-person, individualized faculty education sessions are underway in a demo classroom – to date these sessions have been well received
- Detailed written instructions are being prepared
- Support staff and student employees will be available to assist faculty in all classrooms
- As this is a pilot with plans for improvements, we welcome all suggestions from faculty and students and will incorporate them into future upgrades



The background of the slide is an abstract watercolor painting. It features soft, blended washes of various shades of blue, teal, and green. The colors are more concentrated on the left and right sides, with the center being lighter and more white. The edges of the color washes are irregular and feathered, giving it a painterly, artistic feel.

Thank you

From David, Michelle and Heather



Alumni Report to Senate

December, 2020

NUAAB

The NUAAB met in November to discuss internal nominations for the interim roles of President and Vice-President. We are happy to announce Lisa Snider will fill the role of President and Laurel Muldoon will fill the role of Vice-President. Both individuals will fill the roles until the end of April. The NUAAB will now pause over the holidays and reconvene in January.

NU Café

November was Career Month on the café platform. We hosted several talks and workshops over the month in conjunction with Nipissing's Career Services Coordinator. Introductions will pause over the holidays and resume in January. We are also looking to launch a small book club in January to engage with our members. Join the Café today and join the conversation!

Alumni Office

With the pandemic continuing to be top of mind, the alumni office and the NUAAB will be pivoting to develop a long-term strategy in order to strengthen and maintain connections, events and services that bring our Nipissing community together. We look forward to engaging with you in new ways in 2021.

Alumni Awards

Alumni awards videos will be posted on our social media channels shortly. We're looking forward to sharing this incredible line-up with you. Please share widely and thank you to all those who submitted applications for these awards.

**NUSU Senate Report****December 10th, 2020****Food Bank**

Our student food bank continues to be located at Chancellor's House Residence. Next Wednesday, December 16th will be the last day until we open back up on Wednesday, January 6th.

We are extremely thankful to everyone who has donated this year. Recently, Dr. Kristen Ferguson and her Bachelor of Education J/I 2022 students made a monetary donation. We also received a substantial food donation from Calvin Presbyterian Church. For anyone looking to donate to our food bank please contact us and we will provide you with further details.

Virtual Wellness Week

Our Wellness Week was held virtually and we had great engagement with our students. We shared information about physical, emotional, social, spiritual and intellectual wellness. Undergraduate and graduate students were able to attend events such as Bingo and Trivia, and were able to win prizes throughout the week. Thank you to SDS and Dr. Casey Phillips for donating prizes to our week.

Movember

We would like to thank the Lakers Men's Volleyball Team for partnering with us on our Movember campaign. Thanks to the generosity of many people we were able to raise \$4280 for men's health.

Executive Elections

Our executive elections for the 2021/2022 year will be taking place in January. Students received the election information and package a couple of weeks ago. We are encouraging all students to think about this opportunity over the winter break. All packages are due on January 20th. As faculty, if you know of students who show great leadership potential, or you think would be a good fit, please direct them to our website or the email with information.

COVID

Over the past month or so, we were grateful to participate in spaces such as faculty councils to engage in open discussion around the experiences of our faculty and

students this semester. Topics of discussion included office hours, micro assignments, discussion boards, student/faculty communication, and how content is distributed.

We have recently put out another survey to our students, hoping to create some comparative data points from our previous survey, and also ascertain what is on our students minds for the winter semester. So far the qualitative data has been in line with the mentioned topics.

Students are stressed and struggling with these circumstances, so we are hoping to utilize this data to continue to work together to create a successful environment for all moving forwards and continue to build upwards.

Some student feedback has been wonderful so far, and have mentioned many faculty going the extra mile to make the best of online learning. We also are very thankful for the online but also oncampus support available to our students through SDS and SLT to support our students mentally but academically as well.

12 Days of Giveaways

NUSU has been hosting 12 Days of Giveaways in which we give away a prize each day and highlight an organization for people to give to. We have had tremendous engagement and it has been a fun way to engage in the holiday spirit with our students as we prompt them to answer questions around favourite holiday traditions and more.

Holiday Cards

Each year students write holiday cards which will be delivered to patients at the hospital on Christmas Day. These cards are a way to let people know that someone is thinking of them over the holidays. This year we are proud to partner with residence on this project. Thank you to all of the students who participated in this initiative.

Student Centre

We are now at the end of construction for the long awaited NUSU Student Centre. While the Student Centre is nearing completion, we are not quite ready to welcome students and the university community into the space as of yet. We are working diligently with Nipissing University to create processes and plans to safely host students, and the university community.



NUSU Student Centre

221 College Drive, North Bay, ON P1B 0G1

Tel: (705) 474-3450 ext. 4801 **Fax:** (705) 474-7732

Web: www.nusu.com

While there is not much we can share at this time, we wanted to let you know where the project stands. NUSU will remain working predominantly from home, and email is still the best way to contact us.

NUSU Office

The NUSU Office and student food bank will be closed from Wednesday, December 16th until Wednesday, January 6th. We wish everyone a safe and happy winter break.