

**Nipissing University**  
**Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting**

**February 12, 2021**

**2:30 p.m.**

**Zoom Remote Conferencing**

**Members Present:**

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

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

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

C. Irwin, O. Pokorny

K. Wilcox, B. Ray

E. Lougheed

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

**Absent With Regrets:**

P. Maher

K. Lucas

S. MacCarthy, A. Locke

**Approval of the Agenda of the Senate Meeting of:** February 12, 2021

Motion 1: Moved by N. Kozuskanich, seconded by S. Winters that the agenda of the Senate meeting of February 12, 2021 be approved.  
Carried

The Speaker announced that a Special Meeting of Senate will take place on February 19, 2021. The approval of graduation applicants will be the only agenda item.

**Adoption of the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of:** January 15, 2021

Motion 2: Moved by S. Winters, seconded by N. Black that the minutes of the Senate meeting of January 15, 2021 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 began her report by extending heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Muriel Sawyer. Dr. Sawyer, the Deputy Chief of Nipissing First Nation and a Nipissing University honorary degree recipient, was a great friend to the University and will be dearly missed.

She was pleased to report that another important milestone has been reached in terms of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) at Nipissing University. The RFP has closed and an evaluation of the proposals is underway. It is anticipated that work will begin with the chosen firm in March.

The Interim President acknowledged the challenges faced throughout the Stay At Home order and the uncertainty in terms of our on-campus instruction plans. An announcement is expected today advising what color zone we will be moving to next week and this decision will have implications on our campus. Plans will be communicated as soon as they are available.

Over these past few weeks, the situation unfolding at Laurentian University has been closely watched. Laurentian and Nipissing University are similar in many ways. Both are small schools in Northern Ontario, both have a history of low international enrollment when compared to other Ontario universities and both have been running deficits for several years. Laurentian and Nipissing are also different in many ways. Laurentian has exhausted the reserves while Nipissing continues to have positive reserves (although they are not significant); LU has a defined benefit pension plan which is a significant liability where NU has a defined contribution pension plan; and LU has been drawing approximately \$15M on their line of credit over the past few years to fund ongoing operations, while NU has had enough cash on hand and therefore has not accessed our line of credit of \$5M to date. The LU situation brings our situation into sharper focus as we strive towards balanced budgets and financial sustainability.

The Interim President discussed the sustainability of the university advising that our recovery and projections were heavily reliant on increased revenue from international student tuition. The global pandemic has significantly curtailed our efforts and we will need to turn to expense reduction in the short-term to meet our goal of a balanced budget. The Audit & Finance Committee met earlier this week and a special Board meeting will be held next week to discuss our situation further. We are waiting on a response from the Ministry on the new tuition framework as well as a response to our request for additional COVID-19 related relief funding. While there is no immediate threat of insolvency, the university must continue to strive for balanced budgets to ensure we maintain our reserves.

The Provost and Vice-President Academic and Research also acknowledged the passing of Dr. Muriel Sawyer, a friend, a colleague, a custodian of language and culture, and an irreplaceable advocate for Indigenous education.

She advised that Canadore College was recently granted permission to offer its first four year degree, an Honours Bachelor Degree in Advanced Manufacturing Technology Management. As well, that the notice on the dissolution of Collaborative Nursing has gone to CASN and CNO.

She reported that sabbatical letters have gone out, and reminded that all university travel requires VP level approval. She also reminded of the importance of completing the Cyber Security training. If it has not been completed, please contact the UTS Dept. to request the link.

The Provost informed of the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) ([https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/policies-politiques/DORA-DORA\\_eng.asp](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/policies-politiques/DORA-DORA_eng.asp)). “DORA recognizes the need to improve the ways in which the outputs of scholarly research are evaluated, beyond the widely used journal impact factor. The declaration is comprised of a set of recommendations developed by a group of journal editors and publishers at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Cell Biology in San Francisco in 2012. Over 1,500 organizations and 15,000 individuals have signed DORA, including research funders, research institutions, publishers, metrics providers, and researchers. DORA recognizes that scholarly outputs are not limited to published journal articles but can also include article preprints, datasets, software, protocols, well-trained researchers, societal outcomes and policy changes resulting from research. DORA aims to advance practical and robust approaches to research assessment globally and across all scholarly disciplines. It draws attention to the problem of the overreliance on journal-based metrics in hiring, promotion, and funding decisions, and encourages a community-driven change.” (NSERC website)

The Provost was pleased to announce that on February 1, 2020 the Co-Op Program in Business was launched. She was also pleased to extend congratulations to the faculty members that achieved tenure and/or promotion this year. The report is attached to the minutes.

The Provost discussed scheduling for FW2021, and provided the following report: She advised that her goal was to be able to create predictability in the next academic year and its associated calendar. To do this, two (well attended) consultations with faculty on AQAPC and TLC were organized. The results of this consultation were presented in the December Senate meeting. The commitment was that “everything and everybody would have a schedule”. What was decided then continues to result in discussion, which is welcomed. Further feedback was received and we now have to make sure all our systems can support the changes. It is possible that the changes will result in delays in planning.

At this moment we currently have the following:

- On-site: Hybrid courses (3) and normal sections (3) of courses with multiple sections;
- Outdoor synchronous (3 hours);
- On-line: Courses (1x90, 2x90, or 1x3). Students cannot be required to attend. Faculty will need to indicate whether there are synchronous opportunities.

The Chairs and Directors will receive a clarifying message once it has been determined that the system can support the changes. In response to frequently asked questions as to why students can't just be expected to attend a course when it is scheduled, the Provost advised of two reasons; technology and connectivity, and that the students' lives have changed during the pandemic. Our students have always worked outside the university, but now have to compete for a diminishing number of opportunities. This puts extraordinary pressure on students' schedules. The hybridity of the on-site courses allows them to move entirely into the on-line environment should that be required. They would maintain their scheduled 3 hour slot in doing so. It also allows us to make shifts towards being back on campus.

We are preparing for a safe return back to campus. Our goal is to transition to full use of our campus and provide as many students as possible options to choose how they access their learning. We are trying to ensure that learning opportunities are available to more students not less. The assumption is that we are scheduling everything we possibly can on-site (the fall term is like this current term but only more so). We are planning on being a face-to-face institution. The only constraint we have is the physical plant, but what physical plant we have, is expected to be fully scheduled at full capacity within pandemic protocols. The expectation is that the vaccination program will be, if not completed, at least well on its way, and that while the pandemic protocols will be in place to manage low levels of COVID-19 in the community, the Nipissing/Parry Sound district will be in green/yellow/orange zone and thus there will be no expectation of further restrictions to class sizes.

The departments are being asked to consider which courses are gateway courses to their programs, and to think about the first year experience of a student at a university. Also, to think about 2<sup>nd</sup> year students who have already had one pandemic year. While, many students will still choose to study on-line, our goal is to be on campus as much as possible within whatever the public health framework allows us.

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The Assistant Vice-President Finance and Infrastructure was recognized by the Speaker and provided a Budget Update. The presentation is attached to the minutes.

The Senate representative on the Board of Governors, Bobby Ray, reported that the Board of Governors had not met since the last Senate meeting. He introduced Board member, Kathy Wilcox. Ms. Wilcox advised that she has been a member of the Board of Governors for 3 years, and she has been the Board Senate representative since September 2020. She has met some Senators and looks forward to meeting everyone in person. She noted that constituencies are very well represented and that she appreciates the intelligent conversations and all that she learns at Senate meetings. She commits to reading and learning what she can to be prepared for Board meetings.

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

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

### **Question Period**

Following a request from the Caucus of Racialized People (CRP) regarding when a response to letters submitted to the Office of the President might be expected, the Provost advised that an email and attached letter was sent to the CRP on February 11, 2021.

Appreciation for the financial update was expressed, and further updates will be anticipated. Following a question as to how our financial situation will affect the Collective Agreement, the Provost advised that we will bargain in good faith, and that the CA is does not fall under the purview of Senate.

Following a question regarding Tri-Council funds, the Assistant Vice-President Finance and Infrastructure advised that currently we hold most of our cash in one bank account, and use accounting practices to separate funds. Since many other universities use similar practices, we expect there may be changes to best practices regarding cash management processes.

In response to a question as to whether a maximum of 30% of courses could be offered in person, the Provost advised that 30% of each classroom's capacity could be used. Once course requests from faculty have been received, the idea is to accommodate how the program wishes to deliver their courses. The Registrar advised that the 30% capacity is advised by Public Health. The goal is to identify the faculty preferred option and figure out what will work best.

In response to a question as to whether labs could be expected to reopen on campus in the fall if the vaccine is available, the Provost advised that decisions can't be made until we know the outcome of the vaccine and further discussion would then take place at the department level. Suggested ideas included, rotating students through the lab space and offering courses in the evening and on weekends. The Provost encouraged the sharing of innovative ideas and suggestions and requested that options and preferences be added to loading sheets for consideration.

Following a request from the NUSU President regarding concerns expressed by students, a discussion took place regarding the timely submission of final grades in accordance with the academic policy. The Provost advised that NUSU had requested data on the number of students and courses where final grades were received late. The academic policy states that final grades must be submitted into the student information system within 7 days of the date a final exam was written or due for on campus courses, and within 14 days of the date a final exam was written or due for alternative delivery courses. For courses where no final exam was scheduled, final grades must be submitted by the last day of the examination period. It was reported that in the fall of 2020 about 12% of students received grades within 7 days, and 50% of students received grades later than 7 days. These numbers did not include students in the Education program. The Provost advised that there are many reason why grades might be submitted late occasionally, but the key piece is communication with students. Students are well within their rights to expect grades to be received according to the policy.

The NUSU President advised that good conversations have been held regarding large class sizes and the time required for the Deans to review all of the grades submitted for courses in their faculties before grades are published. NUSU would like to reach out to faculty for further discussion and start a dialogue with clear shared communication and understanding to identify barriers and supports that could be put in place for faculty and students.

The Teaching and Learning Committee Chair suggested that these issues could be discussed further at a future meeting of the TLC. The Provost suggested that discussion could also take place at Faculty Council meetings.

In response to a question regarding the faculty to student ratio, the Director of Institutional Planning and Analysis reported that based on the Maclean's calculation, the ratio is 24 to 1 including F/T and P/T faculty. The Provost advised that teaching releases must also be taken

into consideration. A request was made that this item be discussed further at the March Senate meeting.

It was noted that the timeframe that faculty are expected to submit a final exam is getting shorter. In response to a question regarding at what point the scheduling of final exams and final grades were linked, the Registrar advised that the Registrar's Office schedules exams for faculty that wish to have a secure exam in the exam period. When the exam is finalized is independent as to the scheduling of the exam.

Following a request for an update on BPHE practical's and whether students would be able to come back to complete them, the Dean of Education and Professional Studies advised that a decision cannot be made until further information is received regarding the lift of the lockdown.

In response to a question regarding how the students perceive the Lockdown Browser platform for secure assessment, the NUSU President advised that students don't like it and have started a petition to remove it. A different modality, such as a take home exam, would be preferred. A meeting has been held and student recommendations will be brought forward at the next Senate meeting. The Provost informed that extensive discussions regarding the Lockdown Browser platform have been held, and two workshops were put on by the Dean of Teaching.

## **Reports of Standing Committees and Faculty or University Councils**

### **Senate Executive Committee**

Motion 3: Moved by C. Sutton, seconded by M. Litalien that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated February 4, 2021 be received.  
Carried

### **Academic Curriculum Committee**

Motion 4: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Campbell that the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated January 21, 2021 be received.  
Carried

### **Faculty of Arts and Science**

#### **English**

Motion 5: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Campbell that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2523 "The Lullaby" to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.  
Carried

Motion 6: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. McFarlane that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2533 "Songs of Personal Struggle" to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.  
Carried

Motion 7: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. McFarlane that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2543 "Songs that Tell a Story" to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.  
Carried

- Motion 8: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Campbell that Senate consider Motions 10 to 17 as an omnibus motion.  
Carried
- Motion 9: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve Motions 10 to 17 as an omnibus motion.  
Carried
- Motion 10: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2553 “Protest Songs” to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.
- Motion 11: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2623 “The Nursery Rhyme” to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.
- Motion 12: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2653 “How to Write for Well-Being” to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.
- Motion 13: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2723 “Playground Poetry” to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.
- Motion 14: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2733 “How to Read Poetry” to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.
- Motion 15: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2743 “How to Read Prose Fiction” to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.
- Motion 16: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2753 “How to Read Drama” to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.
- Motion 17: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve the addition of ENGL-2763 “How to Read Non-Fiction Prose” to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.  
Motions 10-17, as omnibus, Carried
- Motion 18: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. McFarlane that Senate approve the modification to the Honours Specialization, Specialization, Major, and Minor in English Studies to allow students to count a maximum of 6 credits of 1-credit ENGL courses to their program requirements.  
Carried

Faculty of Education and Professional Studies

School of Business

**Non-substantive (for information only):**

- That the course title for ADMN 3406 change from Work Placement I (iLEAD) to Work Placement I (Co-op).

Motion 19: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Campbell that Senate approve that the course hours for ADMN 3406: Work Placement I change from "36 hours of work placement per term" to "420 hours of work placement in a 12 week term". Carried

**Non-substantive (for information only):**

- That the course title for ADMN 4406 change from Work Placement II (iLEAD) to Work Placement II (Co-op).

Motion 20: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Mackie that Senate approve that the course hours for ADMN 4406: Work Placement II change from "36 hours of practical work per term" to "420 hours of work placement in a 12 week term". Carried

**Non-substantive (for information only):**

- That the course title for ADMN 4407 change from Work Placement III (iLEAD) to Work Placement III (Co-op).

Motion 21: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. Anyinam that Senate approve that the course hours for ADMN 4407: Work Placement III change from "36 hours of practical work per term" to "420 hours of work placement in a 12 week term". Carried

**Non-substantive (for information only):**

- The prerequisite for ADMN 4606 Business Strategy & Policy I change from, "ADMN 2167, FINC 3116, and MKTG 1126" to "ADMN 2167, FINC 3116, and MKTG1126, or enrolment in a Post-Baccalaureate Program in the School of Business."

Motion 22: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Litalien that Senate approve that the requirements for the BBA Co-op Option change as outlined in the attached document. Carried

**Non-substantive (for information only):**

- The description for ADMN 4407 Work Placement III change from:

Students may complete a third and optional semester-long work placement; however, the specific length may differ based on the nature of the placement. The placement may be located in the city of North Bay or elsewhere depending on opportunities. To continue with the Co-op option in their BBA degree, students must pass their work report and performance evaluations. To:

Students ~~may~~ **must** complete a third ~~and optional~~ semester-long work placement; however, the specific length may differ based on the nature of the placement. The placement may be located in the city of North Bay or elsewhere depending on opportunities. To continue with the Co-op option in their BBA degree, students must pass their work report and performance evaluations.

**Non-substantive (for information only):**



- The course title for ADMN 4915 change from Entrepreneurship to Entrepreneurship (iLEAD).

### **Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee (AQAPC)**

Motion 23: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by C. McFarlane that the Report of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee dated January 22, 2021 be received.  
Carried

Motion 24: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by J. McAuliffe that Senate approve the attached School of Graduate Studies Supervisory Committee Policy.  
Carried

Motion 25: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve the attached revised NU-IQAP Manual for Major Modifications.  
Carried

### **Teaching and Learning Committee**

Motion 26: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by A. Burk that the Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated January 19, 2021 be received.  
Carried

### **Amendment of By-Laws**

- **Notice of Motion that the Senate By-Laws, Article 8.1 General Committee/Ad Hoc Committee Procedures, be amended as outlined below:**

Rationale: As no language currently exists in the Senate By-Laws in regards to approving motions over email and email voting, language was discussed at the September 30, 2020 and November 3, 2020 By-Laws and Elections Committee meetings and the following revisions were agreed upon:

#### 8.1 General Committee/Ad Hoc Committee Procedures

- (g) Committee business, including the passing of motions to be conveyed to Senate, shall normally be done in regular meetings. In the event that a time-sensitive motion must be considered before the next scheduled meeting of the committee, a vote over email is permissible under the following conditions:
  - (i) all members of the committee must be provided the motion and all supporting documentation;
  - (ii) the motion must be moved and seconded;
  - (iii) members must be given a minimum of two business days to ask questions and discuss the proposed motion before votes are cast;
  - (iv) members must be given a minimum of two further business days to respond with their vote;
  - (v) a simple majority of votes is sufficient to approve a motion over email but the total number of votes cast must make up a quorum of the committee;
  - (vi) motions passed over email will be included in supplemental minutes at the next in-person meeting of the committee and clearly marked as motions passed over email.

**New Business**

- Motion 27: Moved by D. Iafrate, seconded by M. Saari that Senate consider receipt of the Reports on Graduation Applicants dated February 4 & 12, 2021.  
Carried
- Motion 28: Moved by D. Iafrate, seconded by D. Campbell that Senate receive the Reports on Graduation Applicants dated February 4 & 12, 2021.  
Carried
- Motion 29: Moved by D. Iafrate, seconded by D. Campbell that Senate grant approval to graduate the students listed in the Reports on Graduation Applicants dated February 4 & 12, 2021.  
Carried

**Announcements**

The Deans read out the February 4 & 12, 2021 graduands by faculty and degree and congratulated the students and faculty on their achievements.

**Adjournment**

Senate was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.



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



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

# Provost's Annual Tenure and Promotion Report

2020-21

March 2, 2021

In accordance with the Tenure and Promotion Procedures of Nipissing University, I am forwarding this report to the next meeting of Senate and the next meeting of our Board of Governors for information.

Article 26.32 (a) of the Collective Agreement states that, "Every year by May 20, the Provost of the University will prepare a Report on Tenure and Promotion which will be appended to the September Senate agenda and submitted to the Board around the same time". Article 26.32 (b) defines the dimensions of the report as follows:

<b>TENURE</b>				
<b>Applications</b>	<b>Granted</b>	<b>Denied</b>	<b>Deferred</b>	<b>Withdrawn</b>
1	1	0	0	0
<b>Applicants Awarded Tenure (Tenure &amp; Promotion Process):</b>				
Dr. Reade Davis				

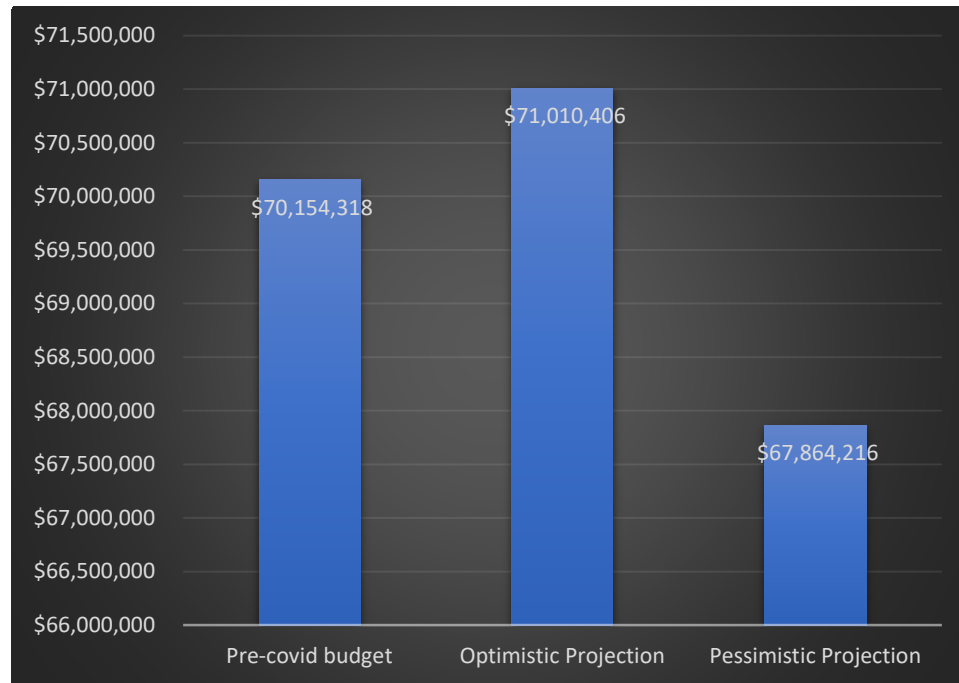
<b>PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR</b>				
<b>Applications</b>	<b>Granted</b>	<b>Denied</b>	<b>Withdrawn</b>	<b>URAC</b>
1	1	0	0	0
<b>Applicants Awarded Promotion to Associate Professor:</b>				
Dr. Louela Manankil-Rankin				

<b>PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR</b>			
<b>Applications</b>	<b>Granted</b>	<b>Denied</b>	<b>Withdrawn</b>
8	8	0	0
<b>Applicants Awarded Promotion to Professor (T&amp;P Process):</b>			
Dr. Jamie Murton		Dr. Kathy Mantas	
Dr. Nathan Kozuskanich		Dr. Lorraine Frost	
Dr. Rosemary Nagy		Dr. Glenda Black	
Dr. Justin Carré		Dr. Kristen Ferguson	

<b>No. of Applications heard by the University Review Appeals Committee</b>	0
<b>No. of Grievances heard by the University Review Appeals Board</b>	0

<b>No. of Job Candidates awarded Tenure upon appointment</b>	0
<b>No. of Job Candidates awarded Promotion to Associate Professor or Professor upon appointment</b>	0

# Operating Revenues



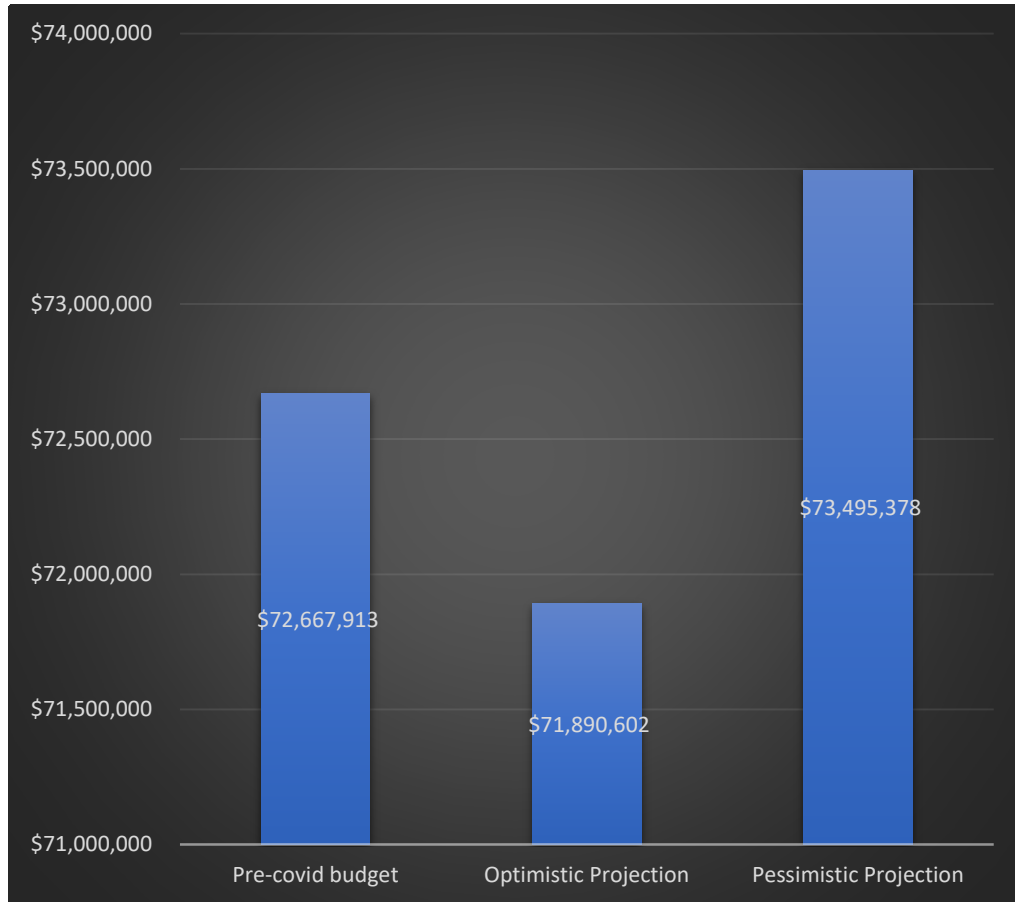
**Optimistic: \$850K better than budget (\$200K better than last report)**

- \$4.2M additional funds
  - \$1.2M additional FRP funds to be spent on FRP projects
  - \$3M additional Covid relief
- \$3.4M revenue shortfall
  - \$2 million shortfall in international tuition (100 students \* \$20,000)
  - \$500k shortfall in domestic tuition compared to budget
  - \$900k shortfall in other revenues such as cafeteria commissions, summer camps, etc...

**Pessimistic: \$2.2M shortfall from budget**

- \$1.2M additional FRP funds to be spent on FRP projects
- \$3.4M revenue shortfall
  - Same shortfalls as above

# Operating Expenditures



## Optimistic: Approx. \$800K better than budget

+ \$2.5M savings in salaries & benefits due to savings in PT Academic delaying of filling vacant positions and contracts

+ \$2.1M savings in various budget lines

- \$1.4M estimate of total COVID related expenses

- \$1.2M additional expenses related to FRP spending

- \$1.2M budgeted ancillary surplus transfer

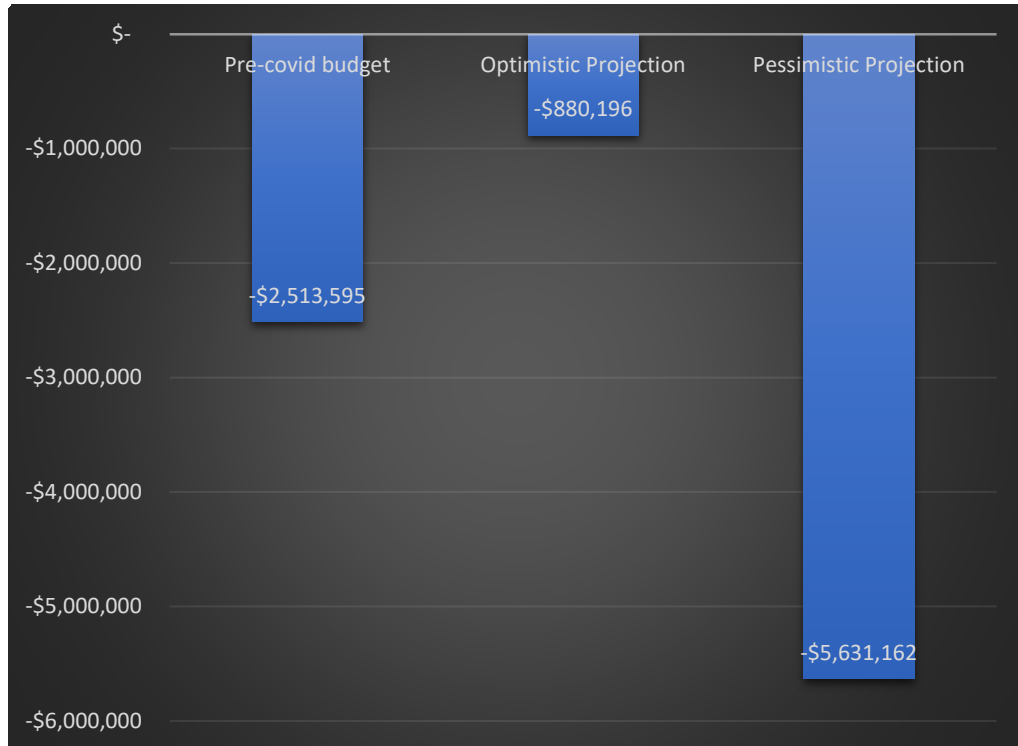
## Pessimistic: Approx. \$800K over budget

- Same net savings as above

- \$1.6M ancillary deficit to be absorbed by Operating

- \$1.6M deficit - \$800k savings = \$800K over budget

# Net Operating Budget Impact



**Optimistic: Approx. \$1.7M better than budget**

**Pessimistic: Approx. \$3.1M over budget**

**\$4.8M difference reconciled:**

- \$3M Covid relief funding
- \$1.6M Ancillary deficit
- \$100k additional revenue shortfall



### **NU Café**

- January's Mentoring Month event with RBC Olympian and Professional Athlete, Sam Effah, and RBC's Executive Vice President & Chief Marketing Officer, Mary DePaoli, went very well. Almost 1000 people across Canada joined in to listen as they shared industry tips for landing a job at a top brand like RBC, and how to stand out in a pile of resumes. The next major event hosted by Ten Thousand Coffees will take place in March for International Women's Day and will include a panel of women talking about this year's theme: Choose to Challenge.
- Book club launch – The new NU Café Book Club launched in January through the alumni e-newsletter. We have created the book club event in the hub and invite all internal and external guests to sign up and read along. Our first book is *Ridgerunner* by Gil Adamson. You can find more information [here](#) about the club.
- Career fair hosted by Student Learning and Transitions and supported by the alumni office – planned for Feb 9-11. Open to students and alumni to network with various industry partners and submit job applications and resumes.

### **NUAAB**

The NUAAB met on January 19<sup>th</sup> in its first meeting of 2021. Our annual call for membership is live on social media and we have encouraged any alumni interested in applying to submit an application to the link [here](#).

### **Affinity**

- MBNA - Our new landing page is now [LIVE!](#) We will be promoting this new and updated program on social media and through the e-newsletter in the coming weeks. Hopefully a better program with relevant and competitive rewards will encourage new accounts and in turn increased revenue for NUAAB.
- TD Insurance – Beginning Feb 5 and again on Feb 8, alumni will receive an email to enjoy a promotional discount on Home & Auto insurance. New marketing is being developed for the Life & Health products which will launch via an email campaign in the spring.
- Graduation photography – Bridgette is working on a template for putting a call out to tender for this service. She is aiming to complete this process shortly and then submitting it to finance for review. Our contract with the current provider expires in April. All graduation photography in any format has been placed on hold for the current academic year due to COVID-19.



**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

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**NUSU Senate Report**  
**Friday, February 12th, 2021**

**Executive Elections**

NUSU held its executive elections in January. We would like to congratulate the following students who will be next year's executive team:

President - Joe McIntosh  
VP Finance & Administration - Joseph Gagnier  
VP Advocacy & Awareness - Sarah Pecoskie-Schweir  
VP Student Life - Emily Wilson

We look forward to working with them and helping them transition. NUSU will be reaching out to different departments over the next few months to set up meetings and introductions to the new team.

**Office Administrator**

We have also welcomed a familiar face to the role of NUSU's Office Administrator. As of this month Armaan Dattani is our Office Administrator. We know that his extensive knowledge and experience of the Lakers community will help support students greatly.

**Mental Health and Food Bank**

Due to the extended stay at home order students are struggling with their online courses, and of course, their mental health. We have had a number of students reaching out to us expressing how they are struggling to cope with the lockdown restrictions while trying to keep up with their schoolwork.

We have also seen a higher number of students using the student food bank. We want to extend thanks to the University through the SDS department for their generous donation to the food bank to support students, and to every person in our lakers community who has individually contributed as well.

**Clubs Week**

We held virtual Clubs and Societies Week in January. This is a reminder that students can create their own club and start their own society should there not be one already in place. If faculty hear from any students they are looking to connect or get involved, please send them our way!



## **Black History Month**

One student group that has recently been created is NUBASE: The Nipissing University Black Association for Student Expression. This club is to be a supportive network which exists for Black students at Nipissing University.

Although they have recently formed they have created considerable initiatives. NUBASE has partnered with NUSU on one of these initiatives called "Time To Educate" for Black History Month. This project highlights influential Black Canadians through a series of videos presented by members of the Lakers community. The first individual to be featured was Dr. Desmond Anthony who was instrumental both in North Bay and at Nipissing University.

To support this project and view these educational videos please go to NUSU's Facebook and Instagram pages.

Due to their hard work YourTV North Bay, CTV Northern Ontario and Radio-Canada CBC have been speaking with them about the importance of Black History Month, education, and the need to have dialogue and action for greater change.

We encourage you to support this group as they look to create safer spaces for all students but especially for the Black community.

## **Student Centre**

We are also currently working closely with the University administration on the opening of the student centre. Obviously, the pandemic continues to create delays for our opening, but have appreciated the support in getting safe and thorough measures in place for the students and rest of the community when we are able to welcome you all.