

Nipissing University
Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting

January 15, 2021

2:30 p.m.

Zoom Remote Conferencing

Members Present:

C. Sutton (Interim Chair), A. Vainio-Mattila, J. McAuliffe, P. Maher, 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, K. Lucas, S. Renshaw, S. Srigley, M. Tuncali, 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, G. Raymer, A. Schinkel-Ivy, T. Sibbald, A. Wagner

C. Irwin, O. Pokorny

K. Wilcox, B. Ray

E. Lougheed

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

Absent With Regrets:

M. Litalien, C. McFarlane, M. Saari, R. Vernescu

P. Ravi, P. Zou

H. Mackie, S. MacCarthy

Approval of the Agenda of the Senate Meeting of: January 15, 2021

Motion 1: Moved by A. Ackerman, seconded by N. Black that the agenda of the Senate meeting of January 15, 2021 be approved.
Carried

Adoption of the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of: December 11, 2020

Motion 2: Moved by A. Wagner, seconded by N. Black that the minutes of the Senate meeting of December 11, 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.

Business Arising From the Minutes

In follow up to discussion from the December 11, 2020 Senate meeting, the Provost advised that the following conversations will be held:

A Conversation on Secure Online Testing - January 27 from 2-3:00 p.m.

A Conversation on Alternative Assessment - February 9 from 10-11:00 a.m.

The office of the Dean of Teaching will provide further registration information. These conversations will be open to all interested faculty and staff.

Reports From Other Bodies

The Interim President was pleased to share an exciting announcement regarding a partnership with the McConnell Foundation. She advised that since last spring NU has been in conversations with the McConnell Foundation and universities across the country about the value of community engagement and how to “Build Back Better” from COVID-19. The pandemic has been considered as a ‘pivotal moment’ and a ‘rehearsal’, only one of many upcoming crises (pandemics, economic recessions, and climate related disruptions) which universities and society will likely have to face. The decisions we make today will help with preparations for tomorrow. Through these conversations, we envisioned the stories we want to tell in 2030 about how our institutions and our communities worked together to tackle the challenges of the next ten years, and we explored what we needed to do to get there. Finally, we agreed that our first step was to deepen relationships with our community members and identify actions that we can work together on. It is therefore with a spirit of collaboration, and an aspiration of increased social impact, that in partnership with the McConnell Foundation, NU will be inviting our community stakeholders to a community/university dialogue on “building back better”. This is part of a series of dialogues taking place across the country that are nationally relevant and locally specific. The intent is to receive feedback from the community on its expectations of the school as we build back better. The session will be guided by NU’s social impact and community engagement strategic directions. The outcome will summarize specific actionable next steps for us to Build Back Better and we believe this will be a valuable session as we look forward to strategic planning in the coming year. External Relations and the President’s office will collaborate to send invitations out to key stakeholders over the coming weeks, with an aim to host the dialogue in March. Further information will be provided once details are finalized.

The Interim President spoke to the communication that went out to the university community following the Stay-At-Home order that came into effect January 14. While it was hoped to have a student presence on campus in January, that will have to be delayed until at least after reading week. Classes will be delivered online until then.

The Interim President reported that the Library is offering curbside pickup and Residence remains open.

In response to questions that have recently arisen regarding the role of the Operational Readiness Committee (ORC) and the COVID-19 Response Team, the Interim President advised that the ORC was created last summer for the purposes of providing input and

recommendations to the President and Provost regarding the safe return to campus in the fall. The ORC was also integral in the development of the plans for on-campus learning this January. The COVID-19 Response Team was developed to respond to the communication requirements of the COVID-19 outbreak. Since then, the roles of the committees have been blurred. We continue to fine-tune the roles of these two groups in an effort for more clarity.

The Interim President advised that the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion RFP has been posted and we look forward to evaluating proposals in the coming weeks. Nipissing University is seeking a proponent to conduct a university-wide equity audit & stakeholder audit. This audit would be the foundation for a consultation process and action plan to be completed separately. The goals of the consultation and action plan are to embrace diversity and inclusion as core Nipissing values and take action to eliminate systemic barriers to inclusion. The results of the equity audit will help inform the university's next strategic planning process. The Provost has been leading a team to complete a significant funding application to support this work.

The Provost and Vice-President Academic and Research provided an admissions report advising that overall applications are up 7.5% vs. last year (2,827 vs. 2,630). The increase in applications is coming from the BEd program. Admissions are up 34% and 105 applications (mature & transfer students) are up 36%. The Ontario High School application deadline is January 15. In regards to enrolment, FTE's are up this year 4,735 vs. 4,684 (undergraduate FTE's are down, however, BEd and Graduate Studies are up). The distinct head count is also up, 5,943 vs. 5,881.

The Provost was pleased to announce the selection of Dr. Douglas Gosse as the Associate Dean of Education and Professional Studies. As well, the announcement of two new Teaching Chairs in Online and Virtual Lab/Studio Experiences, Dr. Sandra Goldsworthy, Associate Professor in the School of Nursing, and Dr. Mark Wachowiak, Department of Computer Science and Mathematics. Their terms started January 1, 2021 and will run until June 30, 2022. The committees for the two decanal positions are almost finalized. Candidates for the CRC Climate and Environment search, are being selected. In regards to the CRC Health search, the area is being determined.

The Provost advised of the successful rollout of the interim Student Opinion Survey through Blackboard Learn. As well, The Teaching Hub hosted a live YouTube session on "Trauma-informed Pedagogy"; part of ongoing workshop offerings. The recording has been posted to our YouTube Channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCawLcDd9ch27b1z55Gcawg/videos>

She was also pleased to advise that 29 NU instructors participated in our "Online Teaching and Learning 101: A Primer for Instructional Staff" course which included the following six modules that covered: Planning with the End in Mind; Identifying Learning Outcomes; Assessment; Learning Activities & Course Content; Accessibility and Student Engagement. The course was facilitated in two, 2-week blocks, with cohorts of up to 20 instructors/cohort. Although all six modules will be available asynchronously for the duration through Blackboard Learn, synchronous opportunities to discuss the topics with Dr. Sarah Driessens and your peers will also occur by Zoom conference.

The Provost informed that Ontario has published a \$50 million opportunity for development of proposals relating to a Virtual Learning Strategy. She also advised that Library curbside service starts up again on January 18 and is available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 11-3. As well, classrooms are being prepared for face to face courses for winter 2021.

The Senate representative on the Board of Governors, Bobby Ray, reported that the Board of Governors last met on January 14. The Dean of Teaching provided an informative presentation on, "*The Teaching Hub: Moving from a pandemic present to a strategic future*". The Board also approved a resolution for the revision of the Search/ Appointment/Reappointment of Senior Academic Administrative Officers Policy limiting the length of any potential extension beyond a second term for a senior academic administrator to a maximum of 18 months.

It was noted that the Board of Governors' open agenda and supporting documentation uploaded to the university website was informative and detailed, and appreciation was expressed. The Interim President advised that these comments will be passed along to the Board Chair.

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

The Council of Ontario Universities Academic Colleague, Dr. Darren Campbell, advised that financial audits have been approved for the organization. Members requested that EDI should be taken into consideration and incorporated into the decision making process.

A member of the Joint Board/Senate Committee on Governance advised that their next meeting will be scheduled in late February or early March.

The NUSU, VP, Advocacy and Awareness, Mykayla King, provided a report. The report is attached to the minutes.

Reports of Standing Committees and Faculty or University Councils

Senate Executive Committee

Motion 1: Moved by C. Sutton, seconded by A. Ackerman that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated January 7, 2021 be received.
Carried

Academic Curriculum Committee

Motion 1: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by A. Ackerman that the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated December 10, 2020 be received.
Carried

Faculty of Arts and Science

English

Motion 2: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate approve the addition of ENGL 2816 "Illness, Death, and Dying on Stage" to the Academic Calendar as outlined in the attached template.
Carried

Environmental Studies

Motion 3: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by A. Ackerman that Senate approve the creation of ENST 5106: Multispecies Ethnography as outlined in the template.
Carried

Motion 4: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by K. Lucas that Senate approve the addition of ENST 5106: Multispecies Ethnography to the list of eligible MES Specialty Courses.
Carried

History

Motion 5: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Campbell that Senate approve the addition of HIST 1306 Animating the Land: Nbisiing Nishnaabeg Histories as outlined in the attached template.
Carried

Motion 6: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Earl that Senate approve the addition of HIST 1236 Strong, Resilient, and Wise: Women in Twentieth Century Canada as outlined in the attached template.
Carried

Motion 7: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Earl that Senate approve the addition of HIST 2447 Indigenous Treaties in Canada as outlined in the attached template.
Carried

Motion 8: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Earl that Senate approve the addition of HIST 3307 Gaa Bi Kidwaad Maa Nbisiing: The Stories of Nbisiing Nishnaabeg as outlined in the attached template.
Carried

Motion 9: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by H. Earl that Senate approve the addition of HIST 3306 Canada's Forgotten War: Obwandiyag and the Defence of Turtle Island as outlined in the attached template.
Carried

Mathematics

Motion 10: MATH 6207 - Graduate Seminar in Mathematics II as a new required 3 credit course in the MSc Mathematics (Thesis) program.
Carried

Motion 11: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve MATH 6206 - Graduate Seminar in Mathematics I as a new required 3 credit course in the MSc Mathematics (Thesis) program.
Carried

Motion 12: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve to change MSc Mathematics – Thesis option program requirements as outlined in the attached document.
Carried

Political Science

Motion 13: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by D. Hay that Senate consider motions 15-20 as an omnibus motion.
Carried

- Motion 14: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve motions 15-20 as an omnibus motion.
Carried
- Motion 15: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the certificate in Peace and Violence Prevention Studies be changed to the certificate in Conflict Resolution and Negotiation.
- Motion 16: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve the creation of POLI 2117 Protests, Power & Politics.
- Motion 17: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve the creation of POLI 3126 Extremism and Armed Conflict.
- Motion 18: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve the creation of POLI 3316 International Peacemaking, Peacebuilding & Peacekeeping.
- Motion 19: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve the creation of POLI 4006 Diplomacy.
- Motion 20: Moved by A. Vainio-Mattila, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the 3-credit courses POLI 2117 Protests, Power & Politics, POLI 3126 Extremism and Armed Conflict, POLI 3316 International Peacemaking, Peacebuilding & Peacekeeping, and POLI 4006 Diplomacy be added as program requirement for the Certificate in Conflict Resolution and Negotiation as described in the attached chart.
Motions 15-20, as omnibus, Carried

Learning Outcomes Presentation

Members of the Academic Curriculum Committee were encouraged to view the [Learning Outcomes Presentation](#) by Dr. Douglas Gosse. Dr. Gosse gave an overview of the presentation and indicated that the goal is to provide consistency with learning outcomes. Dr. Pat Maher and Dr. Douglas Gosse answered questions and clarified that existing learning outcomes do not have to be revised until they come back through the review process.

Teaching and Learning Committee

- Motion 1: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by D. Hay that the Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated December 9, 2020 be received.
Carried

Adjournment

Senate was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.



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C. Sutton (Interim Chair)



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S. Landriault (Senate Secretary)



Alumni Report to Senate

NU Café

January is Mentorship Month on the NU Café platform and our friends at Ten Thousand Coffees and RBC are hosting an exciting live webinar January 21, at 3 PM ET with guests Mary DePaoli, Executive Vice President & Chief Marketing Officer at RBC & Canadian sprinter and Amazing Race contestant Sam Effah. Event registration will take place the week of January 12th, so be sure to check the hub or our social media for links to that.

We are also launching a book club later in the month so get your reading glasses ready and join us for a fun discussion about our first book (announcement coming soon!).

Alumni Awards

The Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board (NUAAB) honoured five exceptional individuals with Alumni Awards during this year's virtual celebration in December.

The Alumni Awards celebrate the accomplishments of members of Nipissing University's global community of alumni who represent an inspiring account of positive social, cultural and economic change in the world.

"Our Alumni Awards provide us the opportunity to recognize and celebrate the remarkable alumni and community members who exemplify what it means to be a Laker," said NUAAB President, Lisa Snider. "Each of the award recipients have not only demonstrated success in their career, but have had a significant and positive impact on their communities and those around them."

The Dr. James Jamieson Influential Alumni Award, presented to a graduate whose dedication and leadership has influenced significant change and prosperity within their community, will be awarded to **Hariett Madigan**, an active social and environmental champion in North Bay.

The Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award is presented to an alumnus whose achievement and excellence in their endeavours have distinguished them as a valued leader. This award is presented to **Dr. Thomsen D'Hont**, who practices family medicine in his hometown of Yellowknife, NWT and is a former Lakers athlete.

The Rising Star Alumni Award is presented to a recent graduate of Nipissing University who has demonstrated significant achievements on a professional, community or volunteer basis. **Cameron Ghent**, a dedicated advocate for marginalized individuals, is the recipient of this award.

The Honorary Alumni Award recognizes friends of Nipissing University for outstanding service, commitment and contribution, past or present, to the University. This award is presented to **Dr. Denyse Lafrance Horning**, a full-time marketing professor with Nipissing's School of Business since 2007.

The newly created Philanthropy Alumni Award is presented to an alumnus or champion of Nipissing University who is making significant contributions to improve their community through their generosity, dedication, commitment and service. The inaugural recipient of this award is **Cindy Karugia**, who has dedicated herself to amplifying the voices of young womxn and girls and advocating for gender equality.

For full biographies and interviews with each of this year's recipients, visit nipissingu.ca/alumniawards.



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Nipissing University Student Union

NUSU Senate Report - January 15th, 2021

New Year

Happy new year to everyone! We are looking forward to acting on lessons learned from last semester and having a some-what positive semester. For NUSU our executive elections are upon us and we will know within the next month who the new team will be.

COVID-19

With the initial lockdown, the extension and now the stay at home order, progress at the student centre has slowed. In regard to occupancy, as we all know it will be pushed out once again. Our biggest concern is around students being isolated, and having to live, exercise, learn, study and potentially work all from the same location.

One of the most problematic issues we've heard of is how access to materials and the beginning of classes has lined up. Many students have due dates upon them while struggling to access textbooks and navigate their online platforms.

Also, our food bank will continue to operate during this lockdown out of Chancellors house, so thank you to the residence team for helping us make that accessible.