Nipissing University

Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting

March 10, 2023

2:30 p.m.

Room F210 & Zoom Videoconference

**Members Present:**
K. Wamsley (Chair), C. Richardson, B. Law, C. Mady, D. Iafrate, N. Black, D. Walters
C. Irwin, O. Pokorny, L. Sinclair
S. Fiddler
R. McEntee, M. Taylor, H. Panchal, J. Gagne

**Absent With Regrets:**

The Senate Speaker offered a Traditional Territory acknowledgement.

**Approval of the Agenda of the Senate Meeting of:**
March 10, 2023

Motion 1: Moved by N Black, seconded by N. Stevens that the agenda of the Senate meeting of March 10, 2023, be approved.
CARRIED

**Adoption of the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of:**
February 10, 2022

Motion 2: Moved by M. Tuncali, seconded by P. Ravi that the minutes of the Senate meeting of February 10, 2023, be adopted.
CARRIED

**Reports From Other Bodies**

The President provided a detailed report which is appended to these minutes, highlighting a number of initiatives, including continued advocacy efforts with the Ministry of Colleges and Universities and ongoing community consultations amid the Strategic Planning process.
The Provost and Vice-President Academic and Research (Interim) provided a report. The report is attached to the minutes.

The Board of Governors provided a report. The report is attached to the minutes.

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

The Council of Ontario Universities (COU) Academic Colleague, Senator L. Chen, provided an update on recent meetings. She spoke to a presentation by Dr. Benoit-Antoine Bacon on the importance of mental health as well as an exploration into shared strategies for mitigating concerns with international student supports. The COU has formed a working group to further assess these concerns.

The Nipissing University Student Union (NUSU) provided a report. The report is attached to the minutes. In addition to the submitted report, they thanked the Nipissing University Alumni department for a $3000 donation to the student food bank as they look to reach a $10,000 fundraising goal. Current donations sit at $6000. They also promoted the Bay Bistro restaurant, located in the NUSU Student Centre, now open Monday to Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Question Period**

In response to a question regarding the course HIST 2447 “Indigenous Treaties in Canada” and why it is not being offered in the Spring/Summer term, the Dean of Arts and Science noted the course is currently being offered this term as a distance learning course, so as not to conflict with other courses, and had a capacity for an additional fifteen (15) students. The Dean promoted several other courses that are being offered through the Spring/Summer term.

An update was requested on the topic of Artificial Intelligence usage, particularly around the use of ChatGPT. Conversations have been ongoing at the Teaching and Learning Committee, and the Teaching Hub recently hosted a Lunch and Learn on the topic. Following a lengthy discussion, the following motion was made:

Motion 3: Moved by D. Hay, seconded by M. Tuncali that the Teaching and Learning Committee provide a report to Senate that details proposed guidelines on the usage of language, artificial intelligence, and algorithms in the aspect of teaching and learning at Nipissing University. CARRIED

Several other questions were addressed, including if the University had a policy on the use of Lockdown Browser. The PVPAR clarified that Lockdown Browser is a tool to write exams, and as with other tools or types of assignments, there are not specific policies dedicated to each tool. If students have questions about the use of a tool, staff are readily available should a technical issue arise. While there are resources available within Blackboard to address student concerns, the PVPAR will explore hosting a resource page directly on the University webpage, should it be deemed a helpful resource for students.

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

**Senate Executive Committee**

Motion 4: Moved by K. Wamsley, seconded by L. Chen that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated March 2, 2023, be received.
CARRIED

Academic Curriculum Committee

January 23, 2023, Report

Motion 5: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by R. Gendron that the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated January 23, 2023, be received. CARRIED

Faculty of Arts and Science

English

Motion 6: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that Senate approve the creation of ENGL 2067 “One Great Book” as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

Motion 7: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Phillips that Senate approve the creation of ENGL 3646 Reading Green as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

Motion 8: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate approve the creation of ENGL 3446 “The Picture Book in Performance and Pedagogy” as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

Fine and Performing Arts

Non-Substantive:
That FILM 3106 The Director’s Cinema be unbanked as outlined in the attached document.

Non-Substantive:
That FAVA 2406 Drawing: Image and Ideation be unbanked as outlined in the attached document.

Non-Substantive:
That the course description for FAVA 2406 Drawing: Image and Ideation be changed as outlined in the attached document.

Non-Substantive:
That the prerequisites for FAVA 3336 Advanced 3D Studio and Expanded Media be changed as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 9: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate consider motions 11-17 as an omnibus motion. CARRIED

Motion 10: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve motions 11-17 as an omnibus motion. CARRIED
Motion 11: That Senate approve the creation of FAVA 2447 Landscape Painting as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 12: That Senate approve the creation of FAVA 2437 Digital Illustration as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 13: That Senate approve the creation of FAVA 2467 Relief Sculpture as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 14: That Senate approve the creation of FAVA 2457 Cinematic Photography/FILM 2457 Cinematic Photography as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 15: That Senate approve the program requirements for the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) be changed as outlined the attached document.

Motion 16: That Senate approve the program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Specialization in Fine Arts be changed as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 17: That Senate approve the program requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Major in Fine Arts be changed as outlined in the attached document. Motions 11-17, as omnibus, CARRIED

Gender Equality and Social Justice

Non-substantive:
That GEND 2206: Sex, Body and Identity be unbanked as outlined in the attached document.

Non-substantive:
That the course description for GEND 2206: Sex, Body and Identity be changed as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 18: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by S. Winters that Senate approve the learning outcomes for GEND 2206: Sex, Body and Identity be changed as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

History

Motion 19: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Murton that Senate approve the creation of HIST 3387 Teaching Hard History as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

Indigenous Studies

Motion 20: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate consider motions 22-25 as an omnibus motion. CARRIED

Motion 21: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve motions 22-25 as an omnibus motion. CARRIED
Motion 22: That Senate approve the creation of INDG 2307 “Anishinaabemowin Ojibwe II” course as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 23: That Senate approve the creation of INDG 2506 “Imagining Indigenous Futures” course as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 24: That Senate approve the creation of INDG 3516 “Storying Crime and Justice” course as outlined in the attached document. Senate Agenda March 10, 2023 4

Motion 25: That Senate approve the creation of INDG 4106 “Independent Studies I” course as outlined in the attached document.

Motions 22-25, as omnibus, CARRIED

Non-substantive:
That INDG-1307 “Anishinaabemowin Ojibwe II” be deleted.

Math

Motion 26: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve that COSC 3307 3D Computer Graphics be changed as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

Non-substantive:
That the course description for COSC 3307 - 3D Computer Graphics be changed as outlined in The attached document.

Philosophy

Motion 27: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. McFarlane that Senate approve the program requirements for the Honours Specialization in Philosophy be changed as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

Motion 28: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve the program requirements for the Major in Philosophy be changed as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED

Psychology

Non-substantive:
That the prerequisite for PSYC 2506 Health Psychology be changed as outlined in the attached document.

Non-substantive:
That the course description PSYC 2506 Health Psychology be changed as outlined in the attached document.

Motion 29: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Stevens that Senate approve the BA Major in Psychology be changed as outlined in the attached document. CARRIED
Motion 30: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by M. Tuncali that Senate approve the program requirements for the BSc Specialization in Psychology be changed as outlined in the attached document.
CARRIED

Sociology

Motion 31: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Stevens that Senate approve that the program requirements for the Honours Specialization in Sociology be changed as outlined in the attached document.
CARRIED

Motion 32: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate approve that the program requirements for the Specialization in Sociology be changed as outlined in the attached document.
CARRIED

Motion 33: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Stevens that Senate approve that the program requirements for the Major in Sociology be changed as outlined in the attached document.
CARRIED

Non-substantive:
That the course title for SOCI 2016 be changed at outlined in the attached document.

Non-substantive:
That the course description for SOCI 2016 be changed as outlined in the attached document.

Pathways

Motion 34: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Black that Senate consider motions 36-40 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

Motion 35: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve motions 36-40 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

Motion 36: That Senate approve that graduates of a two-year Early Childhood Education, Educational Assistant, Drug and Alcohol Counsellor, Indigenous Wellness and Addictions Prevention, Mental Health and Addictions Worker, Social Service Worker or Developmental Services Worker diploma programs at an accredited Ontario College with a cumulative average equivalent to 70% or better can be considered for admission to BA Honours Specialization or Specialization in Child & Family Studies with transfer credit to a maximum of 45 credits. Additionally, admitted students who also completed an Autism & Behavioural Science or a Children’s Mental Health one-year post graduate certificate program at a recognized Ontario College with a cumulative average equivalent to 70% or better will receive an additional 15 transfer credits.

Motion 37: That Senate approve that graduates of a Behavioural Science two-year college diploma program at an accredited Ontario College with a cumulative average
equivalent to 70% or better be considered for admission to the BA Honours Specialization or Specialization in Child & Family Studies with transfer credit to a maximum 45 credits.

Motion 38: That Senate approve that graduates of a Behavioural Science three-year advanced college diploma program at an accredited Ontario College with a cumulative average equivalent to 70% or better be considered for admission to the BA Honours Specialization or Specialization in Child & Family Studies with transfer credit to a maximum 60 credits.

Motion 39: That Senate approve that the transfer pathway to the Bachelor of Commerce degree (three-year, four-year and Honours) for two-year Esports Administration and Entrepreneurship graduates from St. Clair College be approved.

Motion 40: That Senate approve that the transfer pathway to the Honours Bachelor of Social Work at Nipissing University for graduates from the Onajigawin Indigenous Services Diploma Program at Confederation College be approved. Motions 36-40, as omnibus, CARRIED

January 31, 2023, Report

Motion 41: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Black that the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated January 31, 2023, be received. CARRIED

Faculty of Education and Professional Studies

School of Business

Motion 42: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate approve that FINC 2116 Management of Financial Institutions be added to the “9 credits of” list in the Finance Concentration of the BBA. CARRIED

School of Physical and Health Education

Motion 43: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Stevens that Senate approve that Physical and Health Education (PHED) be added to the Group IV Professional Disciplines Breadth Requirement Grouping. CARRIED

Non-Substantive:
That PHED 3146 Issues in Education and Physical Activity be unbanked.

School of Social Work

Motion 44: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by L. Chen that Senate approve that the Bachelor of Social Work Degree Requirements be modified as outlined on the attached document. CARRIED

School of Nursing
The Dean of Education and Professional Studies requested that the Academic Curriculum Committee discuss the matter of voting eligibility in the School of Nursing.

Currently, the School of Nursing Council is comprised of academic and non-academic members and voting on academic issues includes the entire membership. The governance structure is complex, and refinements continue to be made.

Following a discussion, the response from the Academic Curriculum Committee is that it is the expectation of ACC that curriculum matters coming forward to the Academic Curriculum Committee have been voted on by the academic members in the School of Nursing.

**February 15, 2023 Report**

**Motion 45:** Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Black that the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated February 15, 2023 be received.
CARRIED

**History**

**Motion 46:** Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by J. Murton that Senate approved the creation of HIST 3377 American Healthcare as outlined in the attached document.
CARRIED

**Sociology**

**Non-substantive:**
That the Academic Curriculum Committee recommend to Senate that the course title for SOCI 2017 be changed from “Contemporary Sociological Theory” to “Communication, Power, and Capital.”

**Pathways**

**Motion 47:** Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Stevens that Senate approve that the transfer credit policy for two-year Business diploma graduates from Lambton College and St. Clair College be approved.
CARRIED

**Motion 48:** Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Iafrate that Senate approve that the transfer credit policy/pathway amendment for two-year Business diploma graduates into the Bachelor of Commerce (Honours or four-year degree) be approved.
CARRIED.

**Research Committee**

**Motion 49:** Moved by B. Law, seconded by M. Saari that the Report of the Research Committee dated February 10, 2023, be received.
CARRIED

**Motion 50:** Moved by B. Law, seconded by M. Saari that Senate approve the Commercialization Policy as outlined in the attached document.
DEFERRED
Discussion on the motion was called. The Commercialization Policy was developed in accordance with directives from the Ministry of Colleges and Universities. A request was made to defer this motion to the April 14, 2023, meeting of the Academic Senate to allow additional time to review the policy, given the length and material and Senators were asked to forward all questions and clarifications to Dr. Barbi Law in advance of the next Senate.

Teaching and Learning Committee

Motion 51: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by N. Black that the Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated January 10, 2023, be received.
CARRIED

Elections

The Search Committee for the Provost, Vice-President Academic (PVPA) is seeking two (2) Faculty Senators, one from each Faculty, to participate in small group conversations with the PVPA candidates. Elections were held on the floor and an email will be circulated immediately following Senate to solicit nominations for those who sent regrets.

Senators Todd Horton (EPS) and Robin Gendron (A&S) were nominated and allowed their names to stand. Should additional nominations be received prior to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 11, 2023, an electronic vote will take place.

Announcements

The Nipissing University Student Union expressed their congratulations to all recipients of the 2023 Dave Marshall Awards.

Adjournment

Senate was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

K. Wamsley (Chair)       A. Blaszczyk (Acting Senate Secretary)
President’s Report

Good afternoon Senators, it’s hard to believe that there are only a few weeks left in the Winter Term. We are currently working on our year budget reports for 2022-23 and preparing the budget for 2023-24. We have ramped up our conversations with the Deputy Minister and provided a full complement of the necessary data to the Assistant Deputy Minister. We have made a significant ask of the Province to assist us in balancing our budget and putting money back in our reserves. The Province has reported publicly that tuition for Ontario students will be frozen again for 2023-24. They also announced the formation of a Blue Ribbon Panel of experts to provide recommendations to the government on how to make post secondary education, for both college and university, sustainable and affordable for the future in this province. We will go to great lengths to appear before this panel to present our long list of challenges in securing this university in the future, including tuition, corridor funding, the cost of a Northern university education, the competition with colleges for degree programs and students, the impact of private universities, the financial challenges for students, and the housing problem.

An update on our two senior position searches. In both cases, we have completed the long list process and we are now in the shortlist and interview stages, with the process for the Associate Vice President Research, Innovation, and Graduate Studies being a little farther ahead.

Our university Strategic Planning process continues to move forward, with our committee having completed significant degrees of community consultation – and that consultations shall continue over the next few weeks. At the same time, we have significant amounts of data and feedback from both in-person sessions and from the surveys. Data is being analyzed currently. The next step of interest for Senators will be public sessions for everyone to hear the findings from the data collection. You will have the opportunity to see the findings and to provide input to flesh out these details and to continue to contribute to the creation of our plan. I have received feedback from all of our consultation sessions. People in all sessions had fears and trepidations about participating but I am pleased to report that faculty, staff, and students found the process very rewarding and the common comment was that I have never been asked to provide my voice to the future of the university. I credit this success to the nothing less than spectacular work of our Strategic Planning Committee. They have come into this process to work for all of you, to ensure they brought no biases, to let you speak, and to create very welcoming environments for the sharing of information and ideas to set the course for the university. I wish to thank this group for their more 150 hours of service to the Strategic Planning process and I note to all of our faculty, staff, and students that your feedback at all remaining stages of the process will be welcomed and heard.

We have received a full slate of nominees and volunteers for the Equity Action Planning Task Force. The group will meet shortly and begin the process of developing and approving a Request for Proposals to hire a third party to conduct an equity audit.

As you know, March is Research Month; we have a very successful evening of presentations from our Faculty researchers, our undergraduate weekend of research celebrations is coming in two weeks, as is our three minute thesis event. Please join in to celebrate these events and to support our students.

March Break Open House is happening next Saturday March 18 – our application levels are still very promising and he hope to encourage as many students as possible to confirm their attendance with us in September.
1. Work continues to finalize the academic structure for the upcoming year.
   - The Dean of Arts and Science and the Dean of Education and Professional Studies will remain interim.
   - The search for the Associate Vice President of Research, Innovation and Graduate Studies is ongoing.

2. Discussion of the academic planning will continue at the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee

3. Research Month
   March is Research Month. We are looking forward to celebrating the impact of our researchers’ work through a series of events designed to share our research with the broader community and with each other. We encourage faculty members to participate in the speaker sessions and remind their students to register for 3MT and the Undergraduate Research Conference.

Enrolment updates 2022-23:
- Our overall FFTE is down approximately 115 FFTE from 2021/2022
- The largest FFTE decline from 2021/22 to 2022/23 is in undergraduate studies (approx. 120 FFTE or -3.5%)
- The largest proportional FFTE decline is in continuing education (approx. 40 FFTE or -23.5%). Continuing education includes all of our indigenous education programs as well as our Inservice education programming (i.e., AQ/ABQ) which has been slower to recover post Covid.
- We had growth in our Bachelor of Education program (+5.5%) which has softened the impact of the decline we realized in other areas.
- One of the success stories from this year is our gains in attracting International students to Nipissing University.
- We have seen an overall enrolment increase of 86.5% in International fee paying students since 2021/22.
- The largest growth area for International students is in our Post-Baccalaureate programming which have grown 284% since 2021/22 (i.e., 17.2 FFTE in 2021/22 to 66 FFTE in 2022/23)
- Other interest areas are our BBA and BSc in Computer Science
Board of Governors Meeting
February 9, 2023

The February meeting of the Board of Governors was held on February 9, 2023, in the President's Boardroom (F303) and via Zoom remote conferencing, where we welcomed Dr. Colin McCarter, Canada Research Chair in Climate and Environmental Change, to present "A Changing North: Untangling how climate and environmental change impact water quality in Northern Ontario."

The Board approved revisions to the ‘Appointment of Chancellor’ policy, to ensure consistency with other appointment policies within the University. Additionally, revisions to the ‘Signing Authority Policy’ were approved as presented. All Board-approved policies are available for viewing on the Nipissing University website.
Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board Report to Academic Senate
February 2023

Strategic Planning

The Strategic Planning online survey has been circulated to Nipissing’s broader alumni community for their feedback. We will continue to promote the survey to alumni leading up to the March 9th deadline through social media and e-mail communications.

NUAAB is looking forward to engaging with the University in a virtual Strategic Planning Engagement on Friday, March 3rd.

NUSU Food Bank Donation

NUSU has reported that Nipissing University students have been accessing the NUSU Food Bank at historically high levels. In response, NUAAB voted to increase our annual donation this year to $5,000 to meet this student need.

We thank NUSU for continuing to make this service available, and we are thankful to play a small role in supporting the urgent needs of Nipissing Students.

With1VoiceNight: Shoot for Change Charity Basketball Game

Members of NUAAB were pleased to make a matching donation to the With1VoiceNight: Shoot for Change Charity Basketball Game. All donations in advance of the game up to $5,000 were matched by NUAAB, and we will continue this matching appeal throughout the month of February in recognition of Black History Month.

NUAAB extends their congratulations to NUBASE for leading this critical initiative, and for raising $9,200 as part of this year’s game.
Academic Senate Report  
March 3rd, 2023

Academic Week
Academic Week will be taking place the week of March 6th to 10th. There will be a meet and greet on Wednesday, March 8th at 11:30 am with the location to be determined. We invite all faculty and students to attend.

Wellness Week
Wellness Week is from March 20th to 24th. On Wednesday, March 22nd at 6:30 pm, Shaun Boothe will be our guest speaker at Dinner and a Show at the On The Rocks Bar (NUSU Student Centre). This is open to everyone to attend. Shaun is a hip-hop artist, TEDx speaker, and creator of ‘The Unauthorized Biography Series’. This critically acclaimed musical project celebrates the world’s greatest cultural icons through biographical rap songs. Icons featured in this series include Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela, Bruce Lee, Terry Fox and Malala Yousafzai.

International Women’s Day Event
NUSU has partnered with the Labour Market Group, Yes Employment and the Chamber of Commerce to host a Women2Women Networking Event on Thursday, March 9th. This will be hosted at the NUSU Student Centre from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. There will be a $10 fee with proceeds going to Amelia Rising Sexual Violence Support Centre and the Canadian Federation of University Women. This is open to the community. We hope to see everyone there.

Food Bank
Thank you to everyone who has donated to our student food bank. We received a $2000 donation from Alumni, $250 worth of gift cards from the Lions Club and $300 from the North Bay & District Canadian Club. We are grateful for support from our Lakers and North Bay family.

We are currently trying to get to $10,000 so we appreciate any and all donations.

Books for Brook
Thank you to everyone who donated children’s books to the Books for Brook program. We received numerous books from E. T. Carmichael Public School. We will continue to
accept books at the NUSU Student Centre Information Desk or the Practicum Office (F308).

Reflection Gallery - NUSU Student Centre
The Reflection Gallery has opened at the NUSU Student Centre and has been featuring student artwork. A reception will be held on March 3rd at 6 pm for the second student installation. It is a privilege to be able to showcase the incredible talent we have at Nipissing University. This event is open to the public and we look forward to seeing everyone there!

Snowshoe Rentals
Snowshoes are available for students, staff and faculty to rent for free at the NUSU Student Centre. We have had offices and faculty using them for group gatherings and team-building events. If you have any questions, please email info@nusu.com.

CFS Lobby Week
NUSU President Riley McEntee spoke alongside other Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario (CFS-O) leaders at a Queen’s Park press conference to kick off their Lobby Week. The CFS-O Lobby Week is from February 27th to March 2nd. This week gives student leaders across Ontario the opportunity to meet with political leaders in an effort to advocate for change in a number of areas.

This year, CFS-O is making six demands during Lobby Week: A 25% tuition reduction for the next four years, leading to progressively eliminating of tuition for all; Capping the annual increase of differential fees for international students; Converting OSAP from a loan-based system into a grant-based one; Doubling the funding for Campus Safety Grants to $12 million annually; Immediately reinstating OHIP for all international students; and, Free transit for all post-secondary students on services offered by provincial transit agencies (including the Ontario Northland).