

Meeting Book - April 24 - Meeting of the Academic Senate

Senate Agenda

1. Acknowledgement of 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 Anishinabek. We respect and are grateful to hold this event on these lands with all our relations.

2. Approval of the Agenda

That the agenda of the April 24, 2026 Senate meeting be approved.

Motion 1

3. Adoption of Minutes

That the minutes of the March 27, 2026 Senate meeting be approved.

- i. March 27, 2026 DRAFT Senate Minutes and Reports.pdf
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Motion 2

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

5. Reading and Disposing of Communications

6. Reports from Other Bodies

- i. President

oral report

- ii. Provost & Vice-President Academic

no report

- iii. Vice-President Finance and Administration

no report

- iv. Board of Governors

no report

- v. Alumni Advisory Board

- a. 26-04 - NUAAB Report to Senate.pdf

- vi. Council of Ontario Universities (Academic Colleague)

no report

- vii. Joint Committee of the Board and Senate on Governance

no report

- viii. Nipissing University Student Union (NUSU)

- a. NUSU Academic Senate Report_ April 2026.pdf

- ix. Other

7. Question Period

8. Reports of Standing Committees and Faculty Councils

- i. Senate Executive Committee

That Senate receive the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated April 16, 2026.

- a. Senate Exec Report April 16, 2026.pdf

Motion 3

- ii. Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee (AQAPC)

Motion 4: That Senate receive the Report of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee (AQAPC) dated April 10, 2026.

Motions 4-5

Motion 5: That Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of the Department of Social and Cultural Studies.

- a. AQAPC Senate Report & Proposal April 10, 2026.pdf

- iii. By-laws and Elections Committee

Motion 6

That Senate receive the Report of the By-laws and Elections Committee dated March 24, 2026.

a. Bylaws Report March 24, 2026.pdf

iv. Senate Research Committee

That Senate receive the Report of the Senate Research Committee dated March 18, 2026.

a. SRC March 2026 Report to Senate.pdf

Motion 7

v. Senate Budget Advisory Committee

That Senate receive the Report of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee dated March 27, 2026.

a. SBAC Senate Report March 27, 2026.pdf

Motion 8

9. Other Business

10. Amendments of By-Laws

11. Elections

12. New Business

13. Announcements

14. Adjournment

Nipissing University
Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting
March 27, 2026
2:30 p.m.
Room F210 & Zoom Videoconference

Members Present:

K. Wamsley (Chair), C. Richardson, B. Law, N. Colborne,
G. Raymer, D. Iafrate, N. Black

R. Davis, H. Earl, R. Gendron, A. Hatef, S. Kariuki, K.
Lucas, G. McCann, P. Nosko, M. Owens, G. Phillips
(Deputy Speaker), K. Srigley (Speaker), S. Srigley, T.
Stewart, L. Thielen-Wilson, R. Vernescu, H. Zhu

A. Adler, J. Allison, C. Anyinam, S. Cairns, C. Greco, T.
Horton, D. Jarvis, A. Kociolek, A. Leblond, P. Maher, P.
Millar, A. Nkurunziza, C. Ricci, A. Schinkel-Ivy, M. Sullivan,
I. Tavares, J. Thornborrow, V. Williams

C. Irwin

F. Couchie

N. Botham, O. Remillard

Absent With Regrets:

R. Hacquard, T. Smith, H. Texiera, O. Pokorny, R.
Kasperavicius, R. Hehn, R. Hoffman, J. Martin, D.
Lamirande

The Deputy Speaker thanked Senator Srigley for stepping in at short notice to serve as Senate Speaker. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker discussed how the two roles could work collaboratively and agreed to trial a co-Speaker model, supporting one another and alternating chairing responsibilities. This approach aims to share the workload, rethink the current governance structure, and encourage greater confidence among other Senators to step into these roles in the future.

The Deputy Senate Speaker offered a Traditional Territory acknowledgement.

Adoption of the Agenda of the Senate Meeting of: March 27, 2026

Motion 1: Moved by R. Gendron, seconded by R. Davis that the agenda of the Senate meeting of March 27, 2026 be adopted.
CARRIED

Adoption of the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of: February 27, 2026

Motion 2: Moved by H. Earl, seconded by N. Colborne that the minutes of the Senate meeting of February 27, 2026 be adopted with amendments (page 5 *Executive Director of Library Services*, and page 227 *State Violence*)
CARRIED

Business Arising From the Minutes

In response to questions raised at the February Senate meeting regarding lockdown procedures and resources, the President advised that Campus Security is available 24/7 for all emergencies. Two evacuation drills are conducted annually, and evacuation plans are posted in all classrooms, departments, and public spaces. The campus monitoring system is comprehensive and up to date. He encouraged all members to review the lockdown procedures. Full procedures and FAQs are available on the website at:

<https://www.nipissingu.ca/sites/default/files/2018-06/Lockdown.pdf>

<https://www.nipissingu.ca/sites/default/files/2018-06/Lockdown%20FAQ.pdf>

Reports From Other Bodies

The President's report, appended to the minutes, noted positive financial developments, including unexpected one-time revenues, increased Northern Grant funding, and gains in education and nursing, which are expected to support greater investment in reserves for 2025–26. Final figures will be confirmed over the summer. Budget planning for 2026–27 is ongoing amid uncertainty related to the province's new funding framework, including changes to program weightings, expansion of the Northern Grant, and the elimination of certain current funding categories; further updates will be provided once provincial agreements are finalized.

President Wamsley also reported that the Community Planning program has advanced to the Board of Governors for approval. Recent successful events included a well-attended Open House and Research Month, the Dave Marshall Leadership Awards, the Student Athletic Banquet, and the Indigenous Graduation Luncheon recognizing students graduating in June. He concluded with an update on campus safety resources and directed colleagues to the online lockdown procedures.

The Provost and Vice-President Academic provided a Quality Assurance update. The site visit for the BEd, MEd, PhD and ITEP programs has been rescheduled to April due to the unavailability of one external reviewer. The on-site campus visit for the Nursing programs took place March 19 & 20 and it was noted as a positive and valuable experience.

A report from the Board of Governors was provided. The report is appended to the minutes.

A report from the Nipissing University Student Union (NUSU) was provided. The report is appended to the minutes. Senator Remillard, NUSU VP Student Life, also commented on the changes to the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) and their potential impact on access to post-secondary education. He thanked the students and faculty members that came out to support Tuesday's Day of Protest outside Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli's downtown office, noting that students are raising concerns about the changes, and they hope the demonstration will prompt a response and further discussion.

Question Period

Questions were raised regarding the removal of doorstops, which had allowed office doors to remain open. It was noted that Campus Security advised that doorstops were removed because open doors pose a fire hazard; however, concerns were expressed about faculty safety when

meeting behind closed doors. Similar concerns were raised about the removal of community bulletin boards, which were also deemed a fire hazard. Members noted that the absence of physical bulletin boards diminishes community communication and that electronic boards are less effective for reach and visibility.

President Wamsley advised that the Director of Facility Services has met with North Bay Fire Prevention and Public Education Officers to ensure a fire-safe environment. Further information and follow-up will be provided at the next Senate meeting.

In follow-up to the discussion on lockdown procedures, members requested the dates and times of previous drills. Clarification was also sought on the difference between fire drills and lockdown drills. It was noted that the lockdown drill held prior to the pandemic presented several challenges and that additional education would be beneficial. Concerns were raised about difficulty locking doors during the drill. Members also noted that lockdown procedures have not been revised since March 2018 and asked which committee is responsible for annual policy review, as well as how to bring forward concerns and request more specific procedures. Senator Wamsley advised that he would follow up with the Manager of Health and Wellness and additional information will be provided.

Concerns were raised regarding the release of the 2025 Public Sector Salary Disclosure list (Sunshine List) and senior leadership compensation. Questions related to the timing of salary increases and the absence of prior communication to Senate.

The President advised that he was in a conflict of interest and that questions related to process and timing could be directed to the Board Chair through the University Secretary. A request was made for communication from the Board to be reported to Senate.

In response to the request, the Deputy Speaker reminded members that discussion of salaries and employment conditions is not appropriate for the Senate floor, as these matters fall within the Board of Governors' fiduciary responsibilities under the University's bicameral governance structure. It was noted that questions may be directed to the Board. The Senate Budget Advisory Committee was identified as an appropriate forum for connecting academic priorities with financial planning.

The Board of Governors representative reflected on her experience serving as both a Board member and a Senator, noting that it can be challenging to fully absorb the volume of information shared across governance bodies. She suggested developing a template to clarify what information can be appropriately communicated between the Board and Senate. The Deputy Speaker advised that this suggestion would be brought forward to both the Board and Senate for consideration.

Reports of Standing Committees and Faculty or University Councils

Senate Executive Committee

Motion 3: Moved by C. Greco, seconded by J. Allison that Senate receive the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated March 19, 2026 which includes for information:

- The 2026-27 Senate Executive and Academic Senate Meeting Dates

CARRIED

The importance of new Senators being made aware of the 2026-27 Senate meeting dates was noted. The dates are included in the Senate Executive Report.

Academic Curriculum Committee

Motion 4: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Black that Senate receive the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated February 2, 2026.
CARRIED

February 2, 2026 ACC Report**Faculty of Arts & Science****Religions and Cultures, Gender Equality and Social Justice and Indigenous Studies**

Substantive:

Motion 5: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Colborne that Senate approve that both INDG-1306 (Anishinaabemowin Ojibwe I) and INDG-2307 (Anishinaabemowin Ojibwe II) be credited towards Humanities, as outlined in the attached proposal.
CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 6: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by T. Stewart that Senate approve that INDG-3206 (Moose Studies) be credited towards Science, as outlined in the attached proposal.
CARRIED

History

Substantive:

Motion 7: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by H. Earl that Senate approve the creation of the course *HIST-4105 – Seminar in Ancient History*, as outlined in the attached proposal.
CARRIED

Non-Substantive:

That HIST-4446 Seminar in Ancient History be deleted, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Psychology, Child Family Studies, Social Welfare and Social Development, and Sociology

Non-Substantive:

That PSYC-1036 Applied Development Psychology be deleted, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Non-Substantive:

That PSYC-2257 Psychology of Art I be banked, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Non-Substantive:

That PSYC-2267 Psychology of Art II be banked, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Non-Substantive:

That PSYC-3007 Science of Mind Reading be banked, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Non-Substantive:

That PSYC-4616 Neural Basis of Consciousness be banked, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Non-Substantive:

That the *prerequisites* for PSYC-3626 Psychological Disorders in Children be

changed, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Non-Substantive:

That the *prerequisites* for PSYC-2907 *Perception* be changed, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Non-Substantive:

That the *prerequisites* for PSYC-4105 *Senior Empirical Thesis* be changed, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Non-Substantive:

That the *prerequisites* for PSYC-4215 *Senior Research Seminar* be changed, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisite for PSYC-4206 Clinical Psychology I be modified, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisite for PSYC-4207 Clinical Psychology II be modified, as outlined in the attached proposal.

Substantive:

Motion 8: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Colborne that Senate approve the creation of PSYC-4006 *History of Psychology*, as outlined in the attached proposal.
CARRIED

Non-Substantive:

That PSYC-4005 Systems and Theories in Psychology be deleted, outlined in the attached proposal.

Substantive:

Motion 9: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Colborne that Senate approve the Major Modification for the BA Psychology Program, as outlined in the attached proposal.
CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 10: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Colborne that Senate approve the Major Modification for the BSc Psychology, as outlined in the attached proposal.
CARRIED

MA Sociology

Substantive:

Motion 11: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by T. Stewart that Senate approve that SOCI-5306 Sociology of Organizations be added to the academic calendar, as outlined in the attached proposal.
CARRIED

February 26, 2026 ACC Report

Motion 12: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Iafrate that Senate receive the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated February 26, 2026.
CARRIED

Faculty of Arts & Science**Biology/Chemistry/Geography** (*Proposal #FAS-2526-00092*)

Non-Substantive

That the course title for ENSC 1006 be changed from “Introduction to Environmental Science Part 1” to “Environmental Biology”.

Non-Substantive

That the course description for ENSC 1006 Environmental Biology be revised.

Motion 13: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by K. Srigley that Senate consider Motions 15-39 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

Motion 14: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by K. Srigley that Senate approve Motions 15-39 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 15: That Senate approve the revised learning outcomes for ENSC 1006: Environmental Biology.

Non-Substantive:

That the course title for ENSC 1007 be changed from Introduction to Environmental Science Part 2 to Environmental Problems of the 21st Century.

Non-Substantive:

That the course description for ENSC 1007 Environmental Problems of the 21st Century be revised.

Substantive:

Motion 16: That Senate approve the revised learning outcomes for ENSC 1007 Environmental Problems of the 21st Century.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisite for ENSC 1007 Environmental Problems of the 21st Century be changed as outlined below.

Substantive:

Motion 17: That Senate approve that the lab hour requirements for GEOG 2106 Landscape and Surface Processes be increased from 1 hour to 2 hours per week.

Non-Substantive:

That the course title for GEOG 4227 Themes in Cultural and Social Geography be changed to Community Geography.

Non-Substantive:

That the course description for GEOG 4227 Community Geography be revised.

Non-Substantive:

That GEOG-3016 Field Techniques in Geography be unbanked.

Substantive:

Motion 18: That Senate approve that the Learning Outcomes for GEOG-3016 be created as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the course description for GEOG 3016 Field Techniques in Geography be modified as outlined in proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That GEOG 4247 Environmental Modeling be unbanked.

Non-Substantive:

That the course description for GEOG 4247 Environmental Modeling be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 19: That Senate approve that the learning outcomes be created for GEOG 4247 Environmental Modeling as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 20: That Senate approve that GEOG 4247 Environmental Modelling be recoded as ENSC 4247 Environmental Modelling.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for ENSC 4247 Environmental Modelling be changed as described in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 21: That Senate approve the creation of ENSC 2116 Hydroclimatology as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 22: That Senate approve the creation of ENSC 3096 Environmental Hydrology as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 23: That Senate approve the creation of GEOG 4146 Paleoecology and Past Environmental Change as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 24: That Senate approve the creation of ENSC 4147 Changing Climate: Impacts, Insights and Innovation as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 25: That Senate approve the creation of ENSC 4007 Seminar in Environmental Science as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

The deletion of GEOG 4326 Environmental Hydrology.

Substantive:

Motion 26: That Senate approve that the Honours Specialization in Geography requirements be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 27: That Senate approve that the Specialization in Geography requirements be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 28: That Senate approve that the Major in Geography requirements be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 29: That Senate approve that the Honours Specialization in Environmental Geography requirements be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 30: That Senate approve that the Specialization in Environmental Geography requirements be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 31: That Senate approve that the Major in Environmental Geography requirements be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 32: That Senate approve that the Honours Specialization in Environment and Physical Geography be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 33: That Senate approve that the Specialization in Environment and Physical Geography be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 34: That Senate approve that the Major in Environment and Physical Geography be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

The deletion of GEOG 2126 Physical Hydrology.

Non-Substantive:

The deletion of GEOG 2107 Weather and Climate.

Non-Substantive:

That GEOG 3026 Geography of Developing Countries be banked.

Non-Substantive:

That GEOG 3706 A Geography of Russia and the Eurasian Republics be banked.

Non-Substantive:

That GEOG 3206 Urban Growth and Development be banked.

Non-Substantive:

That GEOG 3356 Intro to International Development be banked.

Non-Substantive:

That GEOG 4806 Natural Res. Dev. In Regional Planning be banked.

Non-Substantive:

That GEOG 4106 Geomorphic Analysis of Landscapes be banked.

Non-Substantive:

That GEOG 4116 Pleistocene and Glacial Geomorphology be banked.

Non-Substantive:

That GEOG-4907 Special Topics in Human Geography be unbanked.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisite for GEOG-3086 Biogeography be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisite for GEOG-3057 Environmental Geomorphology be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisite for BIOL 4506 be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 35: That Senate approve that the Honours Specialization in Environmental Science be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 36: That Senate approve that the Specialization in Environmental Science be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 37: That Senate approve that the Major in Environmental Science be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 38: That Senate approve that Group A, B and C for the Environmental Science programs be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 39: That Senate approve that the Certificate in Environmental Management be modified as outlined in the proposal above.
CARRIED Motions 15-39, as omnibus.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisite for BIOL 4995 Thesis be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Computer Science and Mathematics (*Proposal #FAS-2526-0089*)

Non-Substantive:

That MATH 2036: Advanced calculus I be renamed to MATH 2036: Sequences and Series as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That MATH 2037: Advanced calculus II be renamed to MATH 2037: Multivariate Analysis as outlined in the proposal above.

Computer Science and Mathematics (*Proposal #FAS-2526-0090*)

Motion 40: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Black that Senate consider motions 42-48 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

Motion 41: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve motions 42-48 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 42: That Senate approve that the Game Design and Development certificate in COSC be discontinued effective as of 27FW.

Non-Substantive:

That COSC 3406: Advanced Game Design and Development be banked as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That COSC 3206: Theory of Computation be unbanked as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the course description for COSC 3206: Theory of Computation be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 43: That Senate approve that the learning outcomes for COSC 3206: Theory of Computation be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 44: That Senate approve the creation of a new course: COSC 3116: Artificial Neural Networks and Deep Learning as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That COSC 2116 Artificial Neural Networks be deleted.

Non-Substantive:

That COSC 3307: 3D Computer Graphics be renamed to: COSC 3307: Advanced Computer Graphics as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the Academic Calendar course description for COSC 3007: Artificial Intelligence be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the Academic Calendar course description for COSC 3606: Database and Data Management Systems be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the Academic Calendar course description for COSC 3306: Programming Paradigms be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the Academic Calendar course description for COSC 3207: Computer Graphics be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the Academic Calendar course description for COSC 3307: 3D Computer Graphics (COSC 3307: Advanced Computer Graphics) be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the Academic Calendar course description for COSC 3657 Distributed Systems be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for COSC 3206: Theory of Computation be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for COSC 3606: Databases and Data Management Systems be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for COSC 3306: Programming Paradigms be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for COSC 2106: Machine Structures I be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for COSC 3106: Human-Computer Interaction be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for COSC 3116: Artificial Neural Networks and Deep Learning (currently COSC 2116: Artificial Neural Network Computing) be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for COSC 3007: Artificial Intelligence be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for COSC 3207: Computer Graphics be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for COSC 3657 Distributed Systems be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the prerequisites for COSC 4406 Software Engineering be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 45: That Senate approve that the '6 credits of' requirement in the Post Baccalaureate Diploma in AI and Machine Learning be changed as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 46: That Senate approve the creation of COSC 1367: Introduction to Problem Solving with Generative AI per attached document as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 47: That Senate approve that COSC 1757 Digital Systems be replaced by COSC 1367- Introduction to Problem Solving with Generative AI in the following Computer Science programs: the BSc Honours Specialization, Specialization and Major, the BA Honour Specialization, Specialization and Major.

Substantive:

Motion 48: That Senate approve that COSC minor be modified as outlined in the proposal above.
CARRIED Motions 42-48, as omnibus.

A request was made for the Computer Science and Mathematics Department to consider revising language in its curriculum maps from “ontologies” to the most recent template. Senator Colborne will bring this proposal forward for consideration.

History (Proposal #FAS-2526-00087)

Substantive:

Motion 49: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by H. Earl that Senate approve the creation of the course *HIST 1266 – Sex, Violence, and Power in Early America* as outlined in the proposal above.
CARRIED

Psychology, Child Family Studies, Social Welfare and Social Development (Proposal #FAS-2526-00088)

Substantive:

Motion 50: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by D. Iafrate that Senate consider motions 52-55 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

Motion 51: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by H. Earl that Senate approve motions 52-55 as an omnibus motion.
CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 52: That Senate approve the Honours Specialization – Child and Family Studies requirements be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 53: That Senate approve the Specialization – Child and Family Studies requirements be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 54: That Senate approve the Major – Child and Family Studies requirements be modified as outlined in the proposal above.

Substantive:

Motion 55: That Senate approve the removal of PSYC 2020 Developmental Psychology for Educators from Group II of the CHFS program as outlined in the proposal above. CARRIED Motions 52-55, as omnibus.

Non-Substantive:

That PSYC 2020 Developmental Psychology for Educators be removed as an antirequisite to PSYC 2007 Adult Development as outlined in the proposal above.

Non-Substantive:

That the course CHFS 3035 be banked as outlined in the proposal above.

Faculty of Education & Professional Studies

Indigenous Education Programs (Proposal #EPS-2526-00074)

Substantive:

Motion 56: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve that the Good Academic Standing 2.0 policy for the Indigenous Classroom Assistant Diploma Program (ICADP) be created as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00074. CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 57: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve that the Academic Standing and Progression regulation 1.4 be changed as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00074. CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 58: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve that the Academic Standing and Progression regulation 6.4 be changed as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00074. CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 59: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve that the Academic Standing and Progression regulation 9.0 be changed as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00074. CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 60: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve that the Academic Standing and Progression regulation 3.0 be changed as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00074. CARRIED

School of Nursing (Proposal #EPS-2526-00081)

Substantive:

Motion 61: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve the approval and addition of NSGD 4237 Complex and Multi-System Health Challenges to the academic calendar as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00081. CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 62: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve that the Blended Learning program NSGD program requirements be modified as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00081.
CARRIED

School of Physical and Health Education (Proposal #EPS-2526-00082)

Substantive:

Motion 63: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve that the instructional hours of 1 credit BPHE practical courses change from 16 hrs to 12 hrs as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00082.
CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 64: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by T. Stewart that Senate approve that the instructional hours of 2 credit BPHE practical courses change from 32 hrs to 24 hrs as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00082.
CARRIED

Substantive:

Motion 65: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve that the instructional hours of 3 credit BPHE practical courses change from 48 hrs to 36 hrs as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00082.
CARRIED

School of Physical and Health Education (Proposal #EPS-2526-00084)

Substantive:

Motion 66: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Botham that Senate approve that the PHED 3006 (Exercise Physiology) labs be changed from 1 hour biweekly to 1.5 hours biweekly as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00084.
CARRIED

Faculty of Education and Professional Studies Attendance Policy (Proposal #EPS-2526-00093)

Substantive:

Motion 67: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve the creation of the Faculty of Education and Professional Studies Attendance Policy as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00093.
CARRIED

The corrected wording of the Faculty of Education and Professional Studies Attendance Policy as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00093 should read:

4.2 If a student's total absences in a course exceed 20% of the scheduled class/contact hours for that course (for example, missing 3 classes in a course that meets 3-hours weekly for 12 weeks; missing 4 classes that meets 2-hours twice a week for 9 weeks), the instructor may review the situation with the student. Following such a review, the instructor may decide to formally warn the student in writing that they are at risk of being disqualified from receiving credit in the course.

Substantive:

Motion 68: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve the deletion of the Bachelor of Education Program Attendance Policy as outlined in Proposal EPS-2526-00093.
CARRIED

Placement Screening Policy (*Proposal #EPS-2526-00094*)

Substantive:

Motion 69: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve the creation of the Placement Screening Policy.
CARRIED

Placement Professionalism Policy (*Proposal #EPS-2526-00095*)

Substantive:

Motion 70: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve the creation of the Placement Professionalism Policy.
CARRIED

Admission Policy (*Proposal #NIP-2526-00097*)

Substantive:

Motion 71: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by N. Black that Senate approve that the Bachelor of Science (Psychology) admission policy modification be approved as outlined in the above proposal.
CARRIED

Pathways (*Proposal #NIP-2526-00098*)

Substantive:

Motion 72: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve that the modifications to the Business college transfer pathways to the Bachelor of Commerce (4-year) and Bachelor of Business Administration be approved as outlined in the above policy.
CARRIED

Senate Research Committee

Motion 73: Moved by B. Law, seconded by N. Black that Senate receive the Report of the Senate Research Committee dated February 24, 2026.
CARRIED

Senate Budget Advisory Committee

Motion 74: Moved by R. Gendron, seconded by H. Earl that Senate receive the Report of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee dated March 3, 2026.
CARRIED

New Business

Motion 75: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by C. Greco that Senate move in camera.
CARRIED

Motion 76: Moved by K. Wamsley, seconded by J. Alison that Senate consider the candidates for Professor Emeriti.
CARRIED

In Camera discussion: Academic Program Reviews

Motion 77: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by K. Srigley that Senate move out of camera.
CARRIED

Announcements

The Deputy Speaker reminded Senators of the Poetry & Spoken Word curated reading taking place this evening as part of the Undergraduate Research Conference.

Adjournment

Senate was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

.....
K. Wamsley (Chair)

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

27 March 2026

University Senate

Report of the President

Good afternoon colleagues, we are only a few weeks away from the end of the Winter semester and we are also moving towards fiscal year end. As reported to the Board Audit and Finance committee earlier this week, a combination of unexpected one-time revenues for Education and Nursing, an unanticipated increase to the Northern Grant, we are anticipating we will be investing more money in our Reserve Funds the 2025-26 year which is very good news. As you are aware, the specific numbers will not be known until the summer months as Finance works on reconciling all of the university accounts. We are also continuing to work on our budget submission for 2026-27, while not knowing exactly what we will be receiving from the Province with the new funding framework. The Province has reported that it is investing \$6.4 billion into post secondary education, making changes to the weighting of programs and resetting the corridor to 2024-25. They are also making changes to the Northern Grant and expanding it to regional universities. We will benefit from those investments; however, we will not receive funding in some categories that we are receiving in this fiscal year, including collaborative and clinical nursing and education expansion and sustainability funding. We will report back as soon as we have finished our conversations with the Province and have signed agreements.

We are pleased to report that the Community Planning program which was approved at the last Senate meeting, was approved by the Audit and Finance committee and will go forward for approval at the next Board of Governors meeting.

At the last Senate meeting, a Senator asked about procedures and resources if we find ourselves in a lockdown. Full lockdown procedures and FAQs are on our website. Some other information of note:

We have Access to Campus Security for all emergencies 24/7

We conduct two evacuation drills annually

Evacuation plans are posted in all classrooms, departments, and public spaces

Our campus monitoring system is expansive and up to date

I encourage everyone to look at our lockdown procedures – Google lockdown procedures Nipissing U and you will find it there

A week ago, Saturday, we held a very successful Open House, in spite of the weather threats – we did have a slightly smaller crowd because of these threats, but all reports conclude that it was a great day thanks to our volunteer faculty, staff, and students.

Two weeks ago, RDS Canada at Nipissing University hosted a day-long event marshalling stories from families dealing with rare dementia and researchers who are working on these issues. Hosted in part by our Chancellor, we received excellent feedback particularly from the families who are accessing our services.

We have been participating in Research Month and have concluded the NU360 event which featured an evening with 6 of our researchers presenting work to a public audience. This was followed by the 3 Minute Thesis competition last night and tonight we will hear Professor Steven Connor's talk to open the student research conference happening this weekend.

Two weeks ago, we hosted the Dave Marshall Leadership Awards and paid tribute to 25 outstanding students who made extraordinary contributions to research, service to the Nipissing University community, and to the external community. Last night, we celebrated the accomplishments of our student athletes at the annual athletic banquet. Earlier today we hosted our annual Indigenous Graduation Lunch celebrating those students who will be convocating in June.



Board of Governors Report to Senate – March 2026

Board of Governors Meeting February 19, 2026

The Board of Governors met on Thursday, February 19, 2026, in the President's Boardroom and via Zoom remote conferencing.

The Provost provided information to members of the Board on the Quality Assurance process, noting recent cyclical reviews were completed and available for review via the Academic section of the Office of the Provost Website. The programs include Anthropology, Indigenous Studies, Liberal Arts, Liberal Science, the MSc in Kinesiology, Political Science, and Social Board.

The Student Organization Policy was developed jointly with the Nipissing University Student Union (NUSU). The policy clarifies relationships, responsibilities, and accountabilities among student organizations, NUSU, and the University, including both NUSU-affiliated groups and student organizations supported by academic departments.

The Board also received the revised Student Sexual Violence Response Policy, with revisions intended to improve clarity, organization, and accessibility for students. The policy was both shortened and reorganized, with the core policy separated from procedures, definitions, and roles, which are now contained in appendices.

The Board accepted the recommendation of the University Governance Committee to approve both the creation of the Student Organization Policy and the revisions to the Sexual Violence Policy. Both policies will be available for viewing on the University Website.

Following the proposal to consolidate several academic programs that had been previously reviewed and approved by the Academic Senate, the Board voted to approve the consolidation of Anthropology, Religions and Cultures, Gender, Equality and Social Justice, and Sociology into a singly Sociology Program.

NUSU Academic Senate Report: March 2026

OSAP & Tuition Information Session and Protest

NUSU will be hosting an information session on March 18 to provide students with information regarding recent OSAP and tuition changes and to answer questions about how these changes will impact them. In collaboration with the Learning Library, a sign-making event will be hosted before the protest. NUSU will then be participating in a student protest on March 24, aligning with the broader timeline coordinated by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

Campus Events and Bookings

The NUSU Student Centre continues to be active spot on campus. Over the past month, the building has hosted a number of major events, including formals, the Dave Marshall Leadership Award ceremony, and the Undergraduate Research Conference (UGRC). We are pleased to see the space being used for a wide range of academic, leadership, and student community initiatives.

Holi Celebration

NUSU is partnering with Canadore College to host a Holi celebration on March 27. This event will provide an opportunity for students from both institutions to come together to celebrate the festival of colours, culture, and community.

Preparing for the Next Academic Year

As the term progresses, NUSU has also begun transitioning and focus toward planning for the upcoming academic year. Early preparations are underway for Executive training, annual staff training, and initial planning for Orientation (O-Week) programming.

Executive Introductions

In April, the incoming Executive team will begin conducting introductory meetings with various university departments. These meetings will provide an opportunity for departments to meet the new executive, discuss priorities, and strengthen collaboration as we move into the next term.



Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board report to Academic Senate April 2026

Best of Luck, Lakers!

NUAAB wishes all Lakers good luck on exams and a happy end to the winter semester.

NUAAB Annual Retreat

NUAAB's annual retreat is scheduled for Saturday, May 9th. We're excited to come together to review the past year's activities and prepare for what's next. Students, faculty, and staff who would like to share feedback on our engagement initiatives are invited to email their thoughts to alumni@nipissingu.ca.

NU Perks Platform

Attention Nipissing Alumni – over 850 Lakers are already enjoying the benefits of the NU Perks App! This platform is your one-stop shop for exclusive perks, the latest University news, event updates, and contests.

Join the community today at nuperks.ca!

North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament

Nipissing Alumni is proud to be the title sponsor for the annual North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament coming up on Thursday, July 9th. This tournament is a wonderful opportunity for NUAAB and the alumni team to engage with local businesses to promote what is happening at the University, and to engage with Nipissing Alumni in the community!

Save the Date – Homecoming 2026

We are happy to announce that our annual Homecoming weekend will be taking place from September 18-19th, 2026! Please hold the dates to join us on campus to celebrate the Laker community and stay tuned to find out what events we have programmed throughout the weekend.

NUSU Academic Senate Report: April 2026

End of Academic Year

As we approach the end of the academic year, many of NUSU's regular events and programming are beginning to wrap up. It has been a busy and engaging year, and we are proud of the opportunities and support provided to students throughout both semesters.

Exam Period Support – Night Owls

During the exam period, NUSU has continued to support students through our Night Owls initiative, providing food and resources to assist students during late-night study sessions. This program remains a well-received support as students prepare for their final exams.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

NUSU will be hosting our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on April 13. All students are encouraged to attend, engage, and learn more about NUSU's operations, initiatives, and future direction.

Student's Exams

NUSU would like to wish all students the best of luck as they complete their exams. We hope students have had a successful academic year and look forward to a well-deserved summer break.

Transition to New Executive Team

With the conclusion of the academic year, NUSU will be transitioning into a new term. The incoming Executive team for the 2026–2027 academic year will officially begin their roles. The new Executive team is as follows:

- **Vice-President Campus Relations:** Logan Lloyd
- **Vice-President Governance & Services:** Nicholas Botham
- **Vice-President Communications & Awareness:** Jaden Martin
- **Vice-President Student Life:** Owen Remillard

We look forward to the work ahead and continuing to support students in the upcoming academic year.

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY
REPORT OF THE SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 16, 2026

A meeting of the Senate Executive Committee was held in person on April 16, 2026.

The following members participated:

K. Srigley (Acting Chair), B. Law, N. Colborne, G. Raymer, G. Phillips, D. Iafrate, J. Allison, K. Lucas, J. Martin, A. Blaszczyk (University Secretary, non-voting), S. Landriault (Senate Secretary, non-voting)

Regrets: K. Wamsley, C. Richardson

The meeting was convened to set the agenda for the April 24, 2026 Senate meeting.

Reports from the Nipissing University Alumni Advisory Board (NUAAB) and the Nipissing University Student Union (NUSU) were received and included in the Senate agenda.

The following reports from Standing Committees of Senate were received and approved for inclusion in the agenda:

- Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee (AQAPC)
- By-laws and Elections Committee
- Senate Research Committee
- Senate Budget Advisory Committee.

A minor revision to Motion 5 in the AQAPC report was suggested, and the agenda will be revised accordingly.

The Senate Executive Committee approved the April 24, 2026 Senate agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Srigley
Acting Chair, Senate Executive Committee

Motion 1: That Senate receive the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated April 16, 2026.

**Report of the
ACADEMIC QUALITY ASSURANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
Academic Year 2025-2026**

April 10, 2026

The sixth meeting of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee of 2025-2026 was held on Friday, April 10, 2026 in person and via Teams conference.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Carole Richardson (Chair)	Debra Iafrate	Steve Hansen
Barbi Law	Nancy Black	Greg Rickwood
Nathan Colborne	Stephen Tedesco	Jaden Martin
Graydon Raymer	Roxana Vernescu	

Regrets: Rob Breton, Veronika Williams

Resource Support (non-voting): Beth Holden, Robin Gibson

Recording Secretary: S. Landriault

The Chair offered a Traditional Territory acknowledgement.

Business Arising from the Minutes

The Provost acknowledged and thanked AQAPC members for their participation and responses in the Compliance Checklists for the Education and Nursing programs on-line vote. The Checklists were reviewed and approved by electronic vote and the Self-Studies were forwarded to the external reviewers.

The Provost advised that the Nipissing University Annual Program Reviews 2024-25 document was reviewed and discussed in camera at the March 27, 2026, Senate meeting. A great discussion was held.

The Provost reviewed the suggested wording provided by the Director of Indigenous Initiatives for a motion that the Dean of Arts and Science would submit, to AQAPC, a Sustainability and Integration Report addressing:

1. The adequacy of administrative support and collegial oversight provided to the lone permanent faculty member in the Indigenous Studies program.
2. The impact of the relocation on student advising and program delivery.
3. Long-term faculty complement planning to ensure the program remains viable beyond LTA and part-time contracts.

The committee discussed the concept of an additional report, or reporting mechanism to address the identified concerns and determined that the Annual Program Reviews and the two-year IQAP review would cover items 1. and 2. Members felt that item 3. was not really related to the movement of the department. The Provost will report back to the Director of Indigenous Initiatives that AQAPC feels that the concerns related to these recommendations have been addressed.

Following a request from the AQAPC, the By-laws and Elections Committee received a motion proposing the addition of the Director of Indigenous Initiatives (voting) and the Director of Teaching and Learning (non-voting) as ex officio members of the AQAPC. Discussion focused on clarifying the distinction between guests and formal support roles, and the importance of clearly defining the responsibilities and voting status of ex officio members. It was noted that committee participation should be limited to elected or ex officio members, with others invited as guests as needed to provide input on specific matters.

In follow up to the AQAPC request to the By-laws and Elections Committee to add the Director of Indigenous Initiatives (voting) and the Director of Teaching and Learning (non-voting) as ex officio members of the AQAPC, a motion was forwarded to the By-laws and Elections Committee proposing the addition. A discussion took place regarding the distinction between guests and support roles and the need for clear definitions for voting and non-voting ex officio members.

The Dean of Arts and Science presented a proposal for the administrative establishment of a Department of Social and Cultural Studies within the Faculty of Arts and Science. The proposal follows a recent reorganization that consolidated four programs, Sociology, Anthropology, Gender Equality and Social Justice, and Religions and Cultures, into a single Sociology program. The proposed new department would provide a dedicated academic home for the Sociology program, with faculty drawn from multiple disciplines, and its name was felt to better reflect the composition of the unit. The proposal reflects a one department, one degree model with no net increase in resources. The proposal was presented for consultation only, with AQAPC and an opportunity for Senate to provide feedback before submission to the Board of Governors for final approval. In the interest of transparency and collegial governance, Senate will be asked to consider a motion of support recommending the proposal to the Board.

Moved by N. Colborne seconded by D. Iafrate that AQAPC recommend that Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of the Department of Social and Cultural Studies.
CARRIED

As part of the ongoing work of the Senate Governance Review Committee, discussion focused on ensuring Senate standing committees are appropriately structured to support Senate's responsibilities. In this context, members reviewed the AQAPC's current mandate and activities, along with a revised format for the AQAPC's terms of reference.

Respectfully submitted,



Carole Richardson, PhD
Chair, Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee

Motion 1: That Senate receive the Report of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee dated April 10, 2026.

Motion 2: That Senate receive AQAPC's recommendation that Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of the Department of Social and Cultural Studies.

Proposal: Administrative Establishment of Department of Social and Cultural Studies

The current Chair of the Department of Religions & Cultures, Gender Equality & Social Justice, and Indigenous Studies confirms that the following proposal was passed by the majority of the members of the Department. The current Chair of the Department of Child & Family Studies, Psychology, Social Welfare & Social Development, and Sociology confirms that the following proposal was unanimously supported by the Department. Email screenshots are included as confirmation.

Proposal for Administrative Establishment

Program: Sociology

Current Academic Units: Department of Child & Family Studies, Psychology, Sociology, and Social Welfare & Social Development, Department of Indigenous Studies, Gender Equality & Social Justice, and Religions & Cultures, Department of History, Anthropology, and Ancient Studies, Faculty of Arts & Science

Proposed Academic Unit: Department of Social and Cultural Studies, Faculty of Arts & Science

Effective Date: July 1, 2026

Background and Rationale

The Sociology program is currently housed within a multi-program department alongside Child & Family Studies, Psychology, and Social Welfare & Social Development. Through the Senate curricular process, several programs have been consolidated into a unified Sociology program.

As part of this consolidation, seven faculty members from other programs will be transferred into the Department, joining the four existing Sociology faculty. This will result in an unusually large department, which poses challenges for effective administration, collegial engagement, and governance.

To address these concerns, it is proposed that an independent Department of Social and Cultural Studies be established administratively. The name for this Department was determined by a vote of all concerned members. This will:

- Ensure a manageable departmental size for both the new Sociology program and the remaining programs.
- Provide Sociology with a distinct departmental identity and administrative home.
- Support effective governance, faculty collaboration, and clear reporting structures.

- Maintain the integrity of the Sociology program and its academic mission.

Governance Path

This proposal involves **administrative establishment only** and does not entail any changes to curriculum, program requirements, or student pathways.

- AQAPC and the Academic Senate will be consulted for advice and feedback to ensure transparency and academic input.
- Final jurisdiction rests with the Board of Governors, as this change pertains solely to administrative organization rather than program content or degree requirements.

Effect on Resources

- No additional faculty resources are required.
- Existing and newly transferred Sociology faculty members will retain their current teaching and research responsibilities.
- Administrative support will be provided within the existing structures of the Faculty of Arts & Science.
- There will be no net increase in the number of Departments or Chairs. The Department of Gender Equality & Social Justice, Religions & Cultures, and Indigenous Studies will be restructured: Indigenous Studies will join the Department of History, Anthropology, and Ancient Studies—forming the Department of History, Ancient Studies, and Indigenous Studies (with Anthropology integrated into Sociology)—while the remaining faculty members will be transferred to Social and Cultural Studies. Consequently, the establishment of the new Department of Social and Cultural Studies does not result in any additional Chair positions or associated course releases.
- There is no impact on curriculum delivery or student pathways; all Sociology courses and credentials remain unchanged.

Alignment with Strategic Priorities

This proposal supports institutional commitments to:

- Academic Renewal and Sustainability by optimizing administrative structures without compromising program integrity.
- Collegial Engagement by fostering a strong departmental identity and supporting faculty collaboration.

- Transparency and Good Governance by ensuring appropriate consultation and oversight.



Susan Srigley

To: Dean of AS; Associate Dean of A&S



Tue 2026-01-20 1:21 PM

Hello Nathan, Jane,

I have a majority vote from the Dept of Religions and Cultures, GESJ, and Indigenous **Studies** to accept the proposal for the establishment of the Dept of **Social** and **Cultural Studies**.

best,
Susan

Susan Srigley, Ph.D.
Professor
Religions and Cultures
Nipissing University
100 College Drive
North Bay, ON P1B 8L7

email: susans@nipissingu.ca
instagram: [@death.ambassadors](https://www.instagram.com/death.ambassadors)



Andrew Weeks



To: Dean of AS

Mon 2026-01-26 9:23 AM

Cc: Darren Campbell; Christine Lalonde; Justin Carre; Roxana Vernescu; **+9 others**

Hi Nathan,

Just wanted to close the loop on this request. I circulated the proposal last week for comment and voting. There were several questions about the wording of the proposal related to which members would be moving and which staying etc. After my attempts to clarify, we are unanimously in favour of the following new alignment. Please note that I am basing this on not hear any concerns from the SOCI members. If anything looks a miss, please correct me.

Thanks,

Andrew

New Alignment

Department of PSYC/CHFS/SWLF

Andrew Weeks

Dana Murphy

Peter Chow

Darren Campbell

Justin Carre

Steven Arnocky

Roxana Vernescu

Christine Lalonde

Manuel Litalien

Lanyan Chen

Ben Kelly**

Department of **Social** and **Cultural Studies**

David Zarifa

Trevor Smith

Amir Erfani

Ben Kelly**

Plus seven new members from other programs.

**Cross-appointed to the SOCI and PSYC programs.

Dr. Andrew Weeks (he/him)

Chair and Professor of Psychology

Nipissing University

**Report of the
BY-LAWS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
Academic Year 2025-26**

March 24, 2026

A meeting of the By-laws and Elections Committee was held on March 24, 2026 at 11:00 am in F307 and via Teams conference.

Present: K. Srigley (Chair), C. Richardson, T. Horton, G. Phillips

Regrets: H. Teixeira, J. Martin

Recording Secretary: S. Landriault

The meeting was called to order. The Chair offered a Traditional Territory acknowledgement.

Motion 1: Moved by G. Phillips, seconded by T. Horton that the agenda of the March 24, 2026 By-laws and Elections Committee meeting be approved.
CARRIED

Motion 2: Moved by C. Richardson, seconded by G. Phillips that the Report of the February 9, 2026 By-laws and Elections Committee meeting be approved.
CARRIED

Business Arising from the Report

Further discussion addressed the nomination and election of faculty members to hiring committees in accordance with the Board of Governors' *Search, Appointment, and Reappointment of Senior Academic Administrative Officers* policy. The policy stipulates that tenured faculty members serving on search committees are to be elected by Senate. It was noted that these elections may include individuals who are not Senators and that greater attention should be given to gender equity and diversity in search committee composition. To support these objectives, it was proposed that Faculties undertake the nomination and election process and submit a slate of candidates to Senate for final approval. This approach would broaden the pool of eligible nominees to include both Senators and non-Senators and promote wider faculty participation. Nominations and elections from the floor of Senate would remain permissible.

Implementing this model would require amendments to the Senate By-laws, including the addition of language to By-law 10.1.2 (a) or (c) to include hiring committees and a slate for other elections as necessary. It was also noted that revisions to Faculty Constitutions may be required. Concerns were raised regarding appropriate processes for filling vacancies, noting that Deans should not be responsible for directly soliciting faculty participation. Feedback from the Governance Review will also provide valuable input.

Next Steps:

The Deans will bring proposed revisions to Senate By-law 10.1.2 (*Faculty Council Nominations and Elections Committee Procedures*) to their respective Faculty Council meetings for discussion, with follow-up at the next meeting of the By-laws and Elections Committee.

Following earlier discussions on the structure of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee (AQAPC), and specifically issues of proportionate representation in light of requests to add non-faculty members, a motion was received from AQAPC proposing the addition of the Director of Indigenous Initiatives (voting) and the Director of the Centre for Teaching and Learning (non-voting) as ex officio members. It was noted that while *ex officio* membership is referenced in the preamble of the Senate By-laws, implying voting status, the term is not defined in the general definitions. The Board of Governors policy allows for ex officio members to be either voting or non-voting. Neither Director currently serves as a Senator. The Chair made proposed revisions to the By-laws in Microsoft Teams for review.

The next AQAPC meeting is scheduled for April 10. The Provost will lead further discussion regarding ex officio membership, the distinction between guests and support roles, and the addition of clear definitions for voting and non-voting ex officio members.

It was further noted that the addition of voting ex officio members to Senate would require the appointment of two additional faculty members to maintain faculty representation. The importance of student participation was noted, though concerns were raised regarding whether student members feel able to contribute meaningfully across all Senate committees. It was suggested that the Board Secretary seek input from the NUSU regarding student preferences for committee participation.

Next Steps:

The Provost will advise AQAPC that both the Senate Executive and Senate By-laws Committees support adding the Director of Indigenous Initiatives and the Director of the Centre for Teaching and Learning. The Provost will also request that AQAPC members review their committee membership. Review proposed revisions to the By-laws in Microsoft Teams.

Consideration of the amendment to Senate By-law 9.10, to reinstate the Provost and the Vice-President, Finance and Administration as ex officio non-voting members of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee (SBAC), will be deferred to a future meeting following the SBAC meeting scheduled for March 27.

Next Steps:

Membership of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee will be discussed following receipt of its report.

Members agreed that a clear definition should be developed to clarify the roles, rights, and responsibilities of non-voting members serving on Senate Standing Committees. Discussion emphasized the importance of determining appropriateness based on the position and the value the member brings through their work. The Chair noted the need to distinguish between individuals who offer subject-matter expertise but do not exercise authority over operational direction, and roles such as the Directors of Indigenous Initiatives and the Centre for Teaching and Learning, whose positions carry decision-making influence and whose work would be directly affected by Senate decisions. Clarity in this distinction is essential to ensure transparency and good governance.

Next Steps:

Ongoing reflection and refinement of proposed By-law amendments will continue.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Katrina Srigley
Chair
By-laws and Elections Committee

Motion 1: That Senate receive the Report of the By-laws and Elections Committee dated March 24, 2026.

Nipissing University
Senate Research Committee Report
March 18, 2026

The SRC met on March 18, 2026.

Members in attendance: B. Law (Chair), S. Arnocky, N. Black, C. Cho, M. Sullivan, H. Zhu.
Guests: K. Sarginson (non-voting). Recording Secretary: L. Snoddon.
Regrets: N. Botham. Absent: W. MacKenzie.

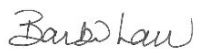
Reports from the Office of Research, Innovation & Graduate Studies were distributed prior to the March 18th meeting. Updates included:

- OCUR update involving the federal government's newly released [Defence Industrial Strategy](#), and information sharing about funding opportunities from the [Centre for Aging + Brain Health Innovation](#).
- A search committee composition has been determined for the Canada Impact+ Research Chair nominee(s). A call for nominees for the search committee will be sent by the Faculty offices. The job advertisement will soon be posted to meet the intake 2 deadlines for the program.
- [Research Month 2026 Events](#)
- Updates on the current internal grant competitions, including the IRG competition (submission deadline April 1) and an internal call for Canada Research Chair (CRC) position proposals (submission deadline May 1).

New Business included:

- Discussion and feedback on the development of the Strategic Research Plan.
- Student Research Opportunities Fund (SROF) Launch Q&A for Faculty on Tuesday, March 24th
- The review of the results of the Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRAs) competition.
- The committee considered the recommendation of the Training Awards committee for the USRA competition *in camera*. The recommendations were passed *in camera* and were forwarded to NSERC.

Respectfully submitted,



B. Law
Chair, Senate Research Committee

Motion 1: That Senate receives the report of the Senate Research Committee, dated March 18th, 2026.

**Report of the
SENATE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Academic Year 2025-2026**

March 27, 2026

The second meeting of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee of 2025-2026 was held on Friday, March 27, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. in person and via Teams conference. The following members attended:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Dr. Robin Gendron (Chair)
Dr. Chris Greco

Dr. Hilary Earl
Dr. Nathan Colborne

Dr. Graydon Raymer

Regrets: Dr. Dan Jarvis, Nicholas Botham

Recording Secretary: S. Landriault

The Chair offered a Traditional Territory acknowledgment.

Business Arising from the Minutes

The committee discussed clarifying the role of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee (SBAC) and establishing an annual work timeline to better understand the university budget process and support the SBAC's advisory role to fulfill its advisory mandate to Senate with respect to academic resource allocation.

A general overview of how the university's budget process functions was received from the VPFA. Key points included:

- The Deans submit their budgets in January.
- In early February, the Deans present to the internal Budget Committee, which includes the President, Provost, VPFA, Assistant VP Human Resources & Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, Director of Finance, and Director of Institutional Planning and Analysis.
- These presentations focus on long-term priorities (e.g., faculty positions, strategic investments).
- The internal Budget Committee considers this input and provides direction to the Deans for the coming year.

SBAC Workplan Development

Develop a clearer SBAC workplan for the coming year, including timing of presentations and assessments.

SBAC Mandate and Terms of Reference

The following governance documents were referenced:

- Nipissing University Act, Article 22.2(i): Senate is required to “consider and recommend to the Board policies concerning the allocation or use of University resources for academic purposes.”
- Senate By-laws, Article 9.10(c)(iii): the SBAC is tasked, “to provide on and make recommendations to Senate as well as to the PVPA and the VPFA on the allocation of budgetary resources for academic purposes.”

The discussion emphasized that the SBAC's role is advisory, not oppositional, and is intended to enhance transparency and informed governance.

Key points of discussion regarding the SBAC's role and function included:

- The SBAC was created to increase transparency and provide Senate with meaningful budget information.
- The SBAC and Senate should ensure their activities align with the university budget timeline.
- Historically, budgets were presented to Senate without a structured opportunity for feedback or recommendations.

There was broad agreement that the SBAC should focus on high-level academic priorities such as investments in faculty, programs, or infrastructure and provide a longer-term, strategic academic perspective.

The committee discussed mechanisms for obtaining and providing feedback on the budget:

- The SBAC could review and assess the finalized budget from an academic perspective and present a draft report to Senate. This assessment would function as a report card.
- Senate could flag issues, trends, or concerns.
- Specific examples were raised, such as Senate's possible role in considering resource allocation for new programs (e.g., Community Planning).
- The value of having "other eyes" on the academic side of the budget to enhance transparency.
- Past practice has involved the SBAC receiving the same presentation as the Board of Governors, which may not fully address SBAC's academic focus.
- Committee members noted disparities in access to budget information, particularly between the Chair, Deans, and other SBAC members.
- There was discussion of the need for financial expertise on the SBAC, similar to the Board of Governors, especially if the VPFA is not a member.

New Business

The SBAC has been tasked through the governance review to examine its membership and terms of reference. It was proposed and agreed that detailed discussion of committee composition and structure be deferred to a future meeting.

Next Steps:

The committee reached consensus on the following actions for the current year:

- Request a detailed (granular) budget presentation from the VPFA once the budget is approved by the Board.
- Conduct an SBAC assessment of the approved budget in May.
- Prepare a response/report for presentation to Senate.
- Request an audited budget presentation in the fall to review how funds were actually spent.

Motion 1: That Senate receive the Report of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee dated March 27, 2026.