

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Under Nipissing University's Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP) and the Ontario Universities Quality Assurance Framework (QAF), all programs are subject to a comprehensive review at least/at minimum every eight years to ensure that they continue to meet provincial quality assurance requirements and to support their ongoing rigour and coherence. This review was conducted under the terms and conditions of the IQAP approved by Senate on June 29, 2023 and ratified by the Quality Council on May 5, 2023

In academic years 2018-2019 a program review was scheduled for MSc. Mathematics. This was the 1st program review for this program. The timeline of the review was as follows.

PROGRAM UNDER REVIEW

PROGRAM	SENATE APPROVAL DATE	PREPARED BY
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICS	SEPTEMBER 13, 2019	PROVOST & VICE-PRESIDENT

A. REVIEW TIMELINE

SELF-STUDY REVIEW TIMELINE	DATE
1. Self-Study Presented to AQAPC	January 8, 2019
2. Site Visit Conducted	February 12-12, 2019
3. Reviewer's Report Received	March 5, 2019
4. Department's Response Received	April 15, 2019
5. Dean's Response Received	April 17, 2019

A. REVIEW SUMMARY

Two external reviewers conducted the review. During the in-person site visit, the reviewers met with the following groups and individuals:

- Provost & Vice-President, Academic & Research
- Dean of Arts & Science
- Internal Review Committee
- Mathematics faculty members
- Registrar
- Harris Learning Library – Executive Director & Librarian
- MSc. Mathematics alumni

The academic programs offered by the Department which were examined as part of the review included:

- Masters of Science in Mathematics

The following program strengths were noted:

Nipissing University offers a high-quality M.Sc. in Mathematics, specializing in topology and functional analysis, areas that reflect the department's research strengths. Graduates report high levels of satisfaction with the program and the education they received.

Summary of review team recommendations:

The reviewers recommend that Nipissing University strengthen its graduate mathematics program through clearer strategic planning, improved market research, and greater collaboration within and beyond the institution. They emphasize developing a more flexible and cooperative course structure, enhancing recruitment by promoting small class sizes, and improving funding competitiveness, particularly for international students. Additional suggestions include exploring partnerships with other universities, contributing to interdisciplinary programs, clarifying leadership roles, and continuing the program while these improvements are implemented rather than suspending admissions.

Status:

Due date for 2 Year Follow-up Report: 2021

Date of next Cyclical Review: 2026

B. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Below are the recommendations that require specific action as a result of the Review, along with the identification of the position or unit responsible for the action in question. Notwithstanding the position or unit identified as being responsible for specific recommendations, the Dean of the Faculty has the overall responsibility for ensuring that the recommended actions are undertaken

RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBLE MEMBER/UNIT	PROJECTED COMPLETION
#1, 5, 7 - Development of the Strategic Plan for Graduate Studies	Dean of Research & Graduate Studies with Department and Faculty	May 2020
#2, 4 - Contribute the development of the institutional SEM planning with an articulation of a recruitment strategy	Registrar, Department	May 2020
#6 - Prepare a report on possible collaborations with other Northern Universities	Department to submit to Dean	January 2020
#8 - Develop a plan for communicating with other graduate programmes	Department	November 2019