

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING

March 20, 2009

2:30 p.m. -- Room F210

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Mock, V. Paine-Mantha, C. Cooper, R. Vanderlee, R. Wideman,  
A. Carfagnini, B. Nettlefold, A. Robinson

J. Barker, G. Brophey, N. Brown, J. Knox, S. Lechlitner

N. Colborne, AB Graff, D. Jowett, T. Koivukoski, J. Kovacs, U. Kundraats,  
G. Morrell, I. Mueller, J. Murton, F. Noël, P. Nosko, G. Phillips,  
S. Renshaw, M. Tuncali

J. Barnett, K. Clausen, S. Elliott-Johns, K. Ferguson, D. Jarvis, J. McIntosh,  
MA Parr, G. Raymer

W. Dew, C. Irwin

S. Lawlor, C. Mang

C. Boston, L. Moncion

T. Benevides, L. McLaren

D. Bernardi, R. Cameron, J. Fortier, B. Greenshields, AM McKenney,  
I. Wassink

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: P. Ricketts

J. Corkett, B. Hatt, J. McAuliffe, J. Scott

P. Joong, T. Waldock

ABSENT:

T. Smith, H. Zhu

G. Laronde, N. Maynes

A. Brown

The minutes of the Senate meeting of February 6, 2009 were adopted with no objections.

### READING AND DISPOSING OF COMMUNICATIONS

A letter was sent to the Chair of Senate and the Senate Speaker by Dr. Chris Sarlo. It was read in its entirety. A discussion followed and resulted in the following motion:

MOTION 1:           Moved by S. Lawlor, seconded by T. Koivukoski that the two questions posed in Dr. Sarlo's letter (read in Senate on March 20, 2009) be referred immediately to the Academic Planning Committee, with the direction that a written report concerning possible procedural anomalies be made available to all senators by April 6, 2009.  
CARRIED

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The President began his announcements by acknowledging the discord everyone at Nipissing University is feeling. He indicated that all universities are experiencing difficult economic times and many institutions are now running large deficits. The President noted that Nipissing began the 2008-09 budget year with a structural deficit of \$2.6M. The university has addressed this in year deficit through net revenue gains from increased enrolment, a \$1.2M cut of non-salary expenditures and a hold on certain projects and position replacements with the hope of achieving a balanced budget.

For the 2009-10 budget year, the President noted that operating expenses will increase between 5.5 and 6%. This, along with a probable enrollment decline and no indication from the provincial government of assistance in the form of an operating grant increase, could mean a \$4.0M deficit. This does not include \$600K-\$700K in new positions required to deliver new programs and activities. The first response was a review of all non-salaried budgets (29% of total) within the institution in anticipation of a 5% reduction. A total of \$1.2M was identified in cuts. Managers were asked to consider other proposals or alternatives that created efficiencies and cost reductions through first-stage restructuring or revenue generation. Regretfully, through these actions to alleviate this deficit, 10 positions were eliminated and restructuring of the affected areas is under way. The President added that administration continues to seek proposals to generate revenue and reduce expenses. With this series of cuts, Nipissing is still facing a projected 2009-10 deficit in excess of \$2M.

The President also noted that the reviewers from OCGS were on campus this week to assess the facilities for a potential Masters of Science in Mathematics program. He also added that applications to the MA in History program have increased and include a number of applicants from outside of Nipissing University.

Senators were also informed that there has been a provincial reallocation of graduate spots, and the President noted that Nipissing University did not receive any. He indicated that he is strongly advocating for more allocations by meeting with the Minister and Deputy Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities in April. The President added that this is the first tangible evidence that the provincial government is embarking on a tiered post secondary system.

The federal government has set aside \$2B for infrastructure money for postsecondary institutions of which 70% is earmarked for universities. The President noted that there is a battle brewing between the two levels of government on how this money will flow with the federal government wishing to “cherry pick” projects without provincial input.

The President provided a brief update on the status of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act. He indicated that the implementation of this Act will have a huge impact on costs to universities and their programming.

Faculty and staff who were involved in this week’s March UpClose were thanked. Close to 700 potential students and parents were on campus. He also thanked the committee who organized the very successful CCAA National Volleyball Championship and congratulated the Lady Lakers. The 25 recipients of the Dave Marshall Leadership Awards were also acknowledged with congratulations.

The Vice-President Finance and Administration reiterated the President’s account of budget issues. However, she did add that the university is still looking for new and innovative ways of doing business. An RFP is going out for the campus shop operations. She also noted that additional revenue is being generated from a variety of initiatives from all three faculties. The Vice-President also added that the federal focus on the \$2B infrastructure money is towards science and technology, while the province wishes to see the money go towards deferred maintenance needs. It was noted that the research complex that is currently under construction may not be eligible for this funding. However, the Surtees Centre is in need of expansion to meet the needs of the Physical and Health Education program. The Library tender will be going out in the near future.

The Dean of Applied and Professional Studies was delighted to announce that three business students recently participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Ryerson University Accounting Case Competition. Thirteen teams from across the province participated and Nipissing students placed second, losing out by only 1%. Senator Vanderlee also reminded senators of the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Undergraduate Research Conference on March 27 and 28. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Dean Bavington, the CRC Chair in Environmental History.

The Dean of Arts and Science commented on the excellent Political Science/History symposium held this past Wednesday. Senator Cooper also reminded senators that the students from Fine Arts are displaying their works of arts until next week.

Senator Wideman, Dean of Education (interim) was pleased to report on the agreement between Apple computers and the Faculty of Education. Educations students will be utilizing Mac Books in the fall of 2009. This unique partnership with Apple may extend into the research area.

Senator Fortier, NUSU President indicated to Senate that the valedictorian process will begin next week. He also noted that the opening tender for the new student centre will begin next month. The incoming NUSU executive will be attending a retreat on April 23, 2009.

Senator Mang wished to remind senators that the last show for the Near North Voices will be Wednesday, April 8 in the Nipissing Theatre.

Senator Nettlefold announced to Senate that a letter signed by 94 members of administration and support staff supporting the President and Nipissing University has been delivered to the Chair of the Board of Governors with copies to the Chair of Senate and the Senate Speaker.

### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

#### Senate Executive Committee

MOTION 2: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by AB Graff that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated March 12, 2009 be received.  
CARRIED

MOTION 3: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by AB Graff that diplomas be awarded to students listed on Appendix A who have completed all requirements for their respective degrees and certificates  
CARRIED

MOTION 4: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by AB Graff that Senate move into an in-camera session.  
CARRIED

MOTION 5: Moved by D. Mock, seconded by AB Graff that Senate move out of the in-camera session.  
CARRIED

#### Academic Planning Committee

MOTION 6: Moved by G. Phillips, seconded by K. Clausen that the Report of the Academic Planning Committee dated February 24, 2009 be received.  
CARRIED

MOTION 7: Moved by G. Phillips, seconded by C. Cooper that Senate approve the Policy on Religious Accommodation for Students as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

MOTION 8: Moved by G. Phillips, seconded by AB Graff that Senate approve the addition of a phrase to the terms of reference in Article 9.6(c)(i) of the Senate bylaws to now read:  
to engage in on-going review and discussion of all matters related to teaching and learning for faculty and students (conceived of as mutually supporting and informing activities), including but not limited to the evaluation of teaching, instructional development and the promotion of teaching excellence, teaching

awards policy, and the various resources and services available to support student learning, *to support the development of a university-wide teaching and learning centre* and to make recommendations to Senate as necessary and appropriate;  
CARRIED

### Undergraduate Studies Committee

MOTION 9: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by AB Graff that Senate receive the Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee dated February 13, 2009.  
CARRIED

## **Faculty of Applied & Professional Studies**

### *School of Business and Economics*

MOTION 10: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by C. Mang that Senate approve the following changes in Marketing:

- i) Course title change for MKTG3436 - Public & Non-profit Marketing to MKTG3436 Social Marketing; and
- ii) modify the course description for MKTG 3436 to read ‘The course examines the marketing function in the context of public and non-profit organizations, as it is performed to enhance social goals. Specifically, the course explores how marketing can be used to influence behaviour (e.g. eating well) or not to behave (e.g. not smoking, drugs or abuse). Case work, class discussion and lectures are the principal teaching methods used, supplemented by group work’.

as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

### *Nursing*

MOTION 11: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by C. Brown that Senate give Stage 2 curriculum approval to the BScN-RPN Program by approving the addition of the BScN–RPN Bridging Program to the existing curriculum of the BScN program. The BScN-RPN Program consists of 120 credits. The BScN-Bridging Program requires the completion of 90 credits as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

MOTION 12: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by C. Mang that Senate approve the requirements for admission consideration to the BScN–RPN Bridging program as follows: The minimum requirement for admission consideration is the successful completion and graduation from the two year Registered Practical Nursing (RPN) program at one of the seven RPN Consortium partner Colleges (Canadore College, Cambrian College, Sault College, Confederation College, Northern College, Collège Boréal and Niagara College) with an minimum overall 3.0 GPA (70%). In addition, admission requires the successful completion of the Canadian Practical

Nurses Registration Examination (CPNRE) or proof of eligibility to write AND subsequently pass the CPNRE and registration or eligibility of registration with the College of Nurses of Ontario. Enrollment is limited and meeting the minimum requirements will not guarantee acceptance to the program. Applicants who are graduates from other PN programs will be considered if space is available.

CARRIED

MOTION 13: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by N. Brown that Senate approve the awarding of a maximum of 30 credits of advanced standing to applicants admitted to the BScN-RPN Bridging Program for their completed RPN diploma program. Advanced standing will be awarded as a block of 30 credits applicable only to the BScN-RPN Bridging Program.

CARRIED

### *Social Welfare*

MOTION 14: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by C. Mang that Senate approve the following changes to the Social Welfare curriculum:

- i) add SWLF2006 – Ideology and Social Welfare as a prerequisite to SWLF2007 – Poverty and Social Policy in Canada and add SWLF3105 and SWLF3107 as antirequisites;
- ii) that SWLF2006 (Ideology and Social Welfare) and SWLF2007 (Poverty and Social Policy in Canada) become prerequisites for SWLF3505 (Social Change for Social Justice); and
- iii) that SWLF3405 (Concepts of Wellness in First Nations Communities) be cross coded as NATI3405 (Concepts of Wellness in First Nations Communities), becoming SWLF/NATI3405 (Concepts of Wellness in First Nations Communities).

as outlined in the attached document.

CARRIED

### **Arts and Science**

#### *Biology*

MOTION 15: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by P. Nosko that Senate approve the following changes to the Biology curriculum:

- i) the addition of BIOL 4706, Literature Review and Seminar, to the Biology Curriculum and that BIOL 4706 be made a co-requisite course for BIOL 4995, Honours Thesis;
- ii) the addition of BIOL4437, Landscape Ecology;
- iii) the addition of BIOL4347, Chemistry in Life Sciences;
- iv) the addition of BIOL2346, Techniques in Forest Ecology and Management;
- v) approve the addition of BIOL3597, Immunology; and
- vi) the modification of the course description for BIOL3567, Ethnobotany, and that the course be cross-coded with the Native Studies Program.

as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

### ***Culture and the Arts Program***

MOTION 16: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by C. Cooper that Senate approve the following changes to the Cultural Studies curriculum:

- i) the addition of CULT2006, Visual Culture I, a 3-credit course;
- ii) the addition of CULT2007, Visual Culture II, a 3-credit course; and
- iii) that CULT2006 and CULT2007 be added as requirements for program completion and that the existing program requirement, "Thirty credits from the following courses, whose focus is on Culture" be modified to state, "Twenty-four credits from the following courses, whose focus is on Culture".

as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

### ***History***

MOTION 17: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by F. Noël that Senate approve the following changes to the History curriculum:

- i) the addition of a 3-credit course HIST3036 - Topics in the History of Canadian Culture and Identity; and
- ii) the deletion of HIST2615 and HIST2316 and HIST2326 as *anti-requisites* for HIST3416, War and Peace: The Making of the International System from 1648 to 1919, and HIST3417, War and Peace in the Twentieth Century.

as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

### ***Geography***

MOTION 18: Moved by R. Vanderlee seconded by J. Kovacs that Senate approve the addition of the following 3-credit courses to the Geography curriculum:

- i) GEOG3016 -Field and Laboratory Techniques in Physical Geography; and;
- ii) GEOG3027 - Spatial Statistics.

as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

MOTION 19: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by J. Kovacs that Senate approve the deletion of the following 3- credits courses from the Geography curriculum:

- i) the deletion of GEOG2016 - Field and Laboratory Techniques in Physical Geography; and
- ii) the deletion of GEOG2027, Quantitative Methods in Geography.

as outlined in the attached document.  
CARRIED

**Faculty of Education*****Additional Basic Qualifications***

MOTION 20: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by R. Wideman that Senate approve the addition of the 6-credit course, EDUC4780, Education in the Senior Division – Religious Education, as outlined in the document.  
CARRIED

***Physical and Health Education***

MOTION 21: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve changing the pre-requisite for PHED2106 Community Leadership Placement from PHED1006 Introduction to Physical Education to PHED1027 Physical Activity and Sport Leadership as outlined in the document.  
CARRIED

MOTION 22: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by G. Raymer that Senate approve that the minimum cut off average for consideration of admission into the Physical and Health Education Program be changed from 75% to 70%.  
CARRIED

***Child and Family Studies***

MOTION 23: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by R. Wideman that Senate approve the addition of Child and Family Studies as a major offered with BEd Primary/Junior (Concurrent).  
CARRIED

MOTION 24: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by R. Wideman that Senate approve the requirements for admission consideration to the BA Child and Family Studies/BEd Primary/Junior (Concurrent) be restricted to ECE Graduates who meet the following criteria: the successful completion of a two year Early Childhood Education Diploma Program at a recognized CAAT with an minimum overall 3.0 GPA (70%). Enrollment is limited and meeting the minimum requirements will not guarantee acceptance to the program.  
CARRIED

MOTION 24: Moved by R. Vanderlee, seconded by R. Wideman that Senate approve the awarding of a maximum of 32 credits of advanced standing to applicants admitted to the BA Child and Family Studies/BEd Primary/Junior (Concurrent) for their completed ECE diploma program. in the form of the normal 30 undergraduate credits plus two credits in Education courses.  
CARRIED

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

MOTION 25: Moved by I. Wassink, seconded by J. McIntosh that Article 9.3.1(a)(i) of the Senate Bylaws be changed to read: the Registrar, (non-voting) who shall be Chair.  
CARRIED

MOTION 26: Moved by I. Wassink, seconded by J. McIntosh that Article 9.1.1 (a)(i) and (ii) of the Senate Bylaws be changed to read : the Speaker, who shall be Chair; and the Deputy Speaker who shall be Vice-Chair.  
CARRIED

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

Senator Benevides announced that there will be a special Board meeting of the Alumni Association on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. The Alumni Association is moving from a board structure to an advisory model.

ADJOURNMENT

Senate was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

.....  
D. Mock, President

.....  
C. Jenkins, Senate Secretary