

Nipissing University
Minutes of the Academic Senate Meeting
November 8, 2024
2:30 p.m.
Room F210 & Zoom Videoconference

Members Present:

K. Wamsley (Chair), B. Law, J. Barker, G. Raymer, D. lafrate, N. Black

J. Abbott, L. Chen, R. Gendron, A. Hatef, S. Kariuki, G. McCann, G. Phillips (Deputy Speaker), S. Renshaw, K. Srigley, T. Smith, N. Stevens, T. Stewart, D. Tabachnick, L. Thielen-Wilson, A. Weeks, R. Wenghofer, S. Winters, H. Zhu

A. Adler, C. Anyinam, S. Cairns, K. Ferguson, C. Greco, D. Hay, T. Horton, P. Millar, C. Ricci, A. Schinkel-Ivy, T. Sibbald (Speaker), M. Sullivan, J. Thornborrow, R. Vanderlee, V. Williams

C. Irwin, O. Pokorny

F. Couchie

R. Hehn

T. Miller, B. Brown, D. Cassanto

Absent With Regrets:

A. Graff, R. Hacquard, N. Colborne, H. Texiera, L. Sinclair, J. Allison, T. McParland, R. Veli, H. Panchal, M. DeVuono, P. English, E. Bonneau

The Senate Speaker offered a Traditional Territory acknowledgement.

Approval of the Agenda of the Senate Meeting of: November 8, 2024

Motion 1: Moved by R. Wenghofer, seconded by G. Phillips that the agenda of the Senate meeting of November 8, 2024 be approved.
CARRIED

Adoption of the Minutes of the Senate Meeting of: October 11, 2024

Motion 2: Moved by M. Sullivan, seconded by V. Williams that the minutes of the Senate meeting of October 11, 2024 be adopted with the following amendments.
CARRIED

Motion 3: Moved by S. Winters, seconded by R. Gendron that OPPOSED be removed from Motion 8.
CARRIED

Motion 4: Moved by R. Gendron, seconded by T. Horton that the question and answer regarding new program proposals receiving final approval from the Board of Governors asked during Other Business be amended.
CARRIED

Reports From Other Bodies

The President's report, appended to the minutes, highlighted a recent meeting with the Minister's office on SMA4, and updates were provided on the efficiency review, the EAPT Taskforce and the scheduled meeting of the Joint Committee of the Board and Senate on Governance.

The President also thanked the staff, faculty members and volunteer students who welcomed more than 400 students and their families to the Fall Open House. He was also pleased to announce that the Nipissing Lakers women's soccer team won in the consolation round, advancing to the championship match. He expressed his pride in the team's performance and achievements.

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

The Council of Ontario Universities Academic Colleague provided a report. The report is appended to the minutes.

The Nipissing University Student Union (NUSU) provided a report. The report is appended to the minutes.

Question Period

A question was asked regarding an email sent by the Assistant Vice-President, Students on September 3 with updates to the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, and whether the updates were brought to Senate. The following response was received: "The Code is not an academic policy so does not go through Academic Senate for approval." It was noted that one change to the Code is "Respondents found responsible for Code violations may be required to participate in educational programs[.]" Considering the fact that any education delivered by the university to its students may overlap with the academic mission of the university, shouldn't this information have been brought to Senate to allow for questions?

Senator Raymer, Interim Dean of Education and Professional Studies, noted that as the AVP Students was absent, the question will be directed to the AVP Students and new Interim AVP Students, Lindsay Sullivan.

In follow-up to the President's report, a request was made for an update on the Equity Audit. President Wamsley reported that three firms are being shortlisted, and in-person interviews are underway. The selection process should be completed in the next 10 days.

Reports of Standing Committees and Faculty or University Councils

Senate Executive Committee

- Motion 5: Moved by K. Wamsley, seconded by R. Wenghofer that the Report of the Senate Executive Committee dated October 31, 2024 be received.
CARRIED

Academic Curriculum Committee

- Motion 6: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by N. Black that the Report of the Academic Curriculum Committee dated October 1, 2024 be received.
CARRIED

Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee (AQAPC)

- Motion 7: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by N. Black that the Report of the Academic Quality Assurance and Planning Committee dated October 18, 2024 be received.
CARRIED
- Motion 8: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded M. Sullivan that Senate receive the Quality Assurance Audit – Institutional Self-Study for submission to the Quality Council for information.
CARRIED
- Motion 9: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by N. Black that Senate receive the Mathematics IQAP Final Assessment Report and Implementation Plan (FAR/IP) for information.
CARRIED

Senate Budget Advisory Committee

- Motion 10: Moved by R. Wenghofer, seconded by R. Gendron that the Report of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee dated October 7, 2024 be received.
CARRIED
- Motion 11: Moved by R. Wenghofer, seconded by S. Winters that the Report of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee dated October 28, 2024 be received.
CARRIED

Teaching and Learning Committee

- Motion 12: Moved by G. Raymer, seconded by N. Black that the Report of the Teaching and Learning Committee dated September 23, 2024 be received.
CARRIED

Elections

- Elect one (1) faculty Senate representative to serve on the Board of Governors for a three-year (3) term which ends June 30, 2027.
ACCLAIMED: Dr. Katrina Srigley
- Elect one (1) tenured faculty member from a faculty other than the one for which the Dean is being selected (elected by Senate) to serve on the Search Committee for the Dean of Education and Professional Studies.
ACCLAIMED: Dr. Tzvetalin Vassilev

- Elect three (3) tenured faculty members from the faculty for which the Dean is being selected (elected by Senate) to serve on the Search Committee for the Dean of Education and Professional Studies.

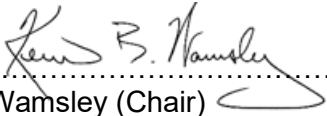
ACCLAIMED: Dr. Veronika Williams

ACCLAIMED: Dr. Kurt Clausen

ACCLAIMED: Dr. Kristen Ferguson

Adjournment

Senate was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.


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K. Wamsley (Chair)


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

President's Senate Report

8 November 2024

Good afternoon Senators. I have a few items to report today. First, I want to thank all of the staff and faculty members and the volunteer students who welcomed more than 400 students and parents to our Fall Open House last Saturday. We had a very large contingent of Nipissing folks to answer questions and to provide information to potential students who travelled from across the province.

As you know, we have been mandated by the Province to conduct an efficiency review – fortunately the costs are fully covered. As noted in the email to faculty and staff, there are five areas to be assessed. Governance will be assessed separately by Cheryl Foy – all Senators will have the opportunity to participate in the survey. The NOUS Group, which has frequently worked with Canadian Universities will be examining the remaining areas which are Administrative and Student Services, Academic Programming, Physical Assets and Facilities, Collaborative Procurement Opportunities, and Revenue-Generating Opportunities.

The President's office has been working overtime to set a meeting of the Joint Committee. We have looked 30 possible meeting times over the past 3 weeks and I'm pleased to say that we will meeting on November 26. Thank you to Patricia for that. I have been insistent that we need all members to attend. I will bring back a report for the December Senate meeting.

This week we travelled to Toronto to meet with the Minister's office on SMA4. The main points of our presentation were to once again argue for corridor grant funding, particularly in our areas of strength such as Education – our unfunded seats account for a gap of \$1.5m annually. Our share of the Northern Grant based on enrolment creates a funding gap of \$3.34m annually. We had an extended conversation about how our strengths can be used to our advantage for the period of the next agreement.

The EAPT Taskforce has started its interviews with potential candidates to perform an equity audit this week and those will continue in the coming week. Once a candidate has been selected, we will be working to encourage as much participation in the audit as possible for campus members. Look for updates on how you can be involved at the next community forum. I continue to applaud the tireless work of this taskforce which is working to make this campus more inclusive.



Board of Governors Report to Senate – November 2024

Board of Governors Meeting September 26, 2024

The Board of Governors met on Thursday, September 26, 2024, In the President's Boardroom (F303) and via Zoom remote conferencing.

The Draft Audited Financial Statements and Audit Findings report were presented for the year ended April 30, 2024. The Vice-President, Finance and Administration noted that KPMG has provided an unqualified and clean opinion of the financial statements and the Board of Governors accepted the recommendation of the Audit & Finance Committee to approve the Consolidated Audited Financial Statements as presented.

The President was pleased to announce a surplus in funds for the 2023-24 year-end of \$3.5 million.

The Board of Governors resolved to approve the Academic and Operational Plan as well as the President's Goals and Priorities for 2024-25.

The Board of Governors next meets on November 28, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.



Council of Ontario Universities – Academic Colleague Report

From: Dominika Flood <dflood@cou.ca>

Sent: Friday, October 18, 2024 10:28:59 AM

To: ACAD COLLEAGUES - GRP <ACADCOLLEAGUES-GRP@cou.ca>

Subject: COU Statement: Impact of Federal Changes to International Student Study Permits

Colleagues,

COU posted a statement on the impact of the federal government changes to the international student study permits this morning. The statement includes the sector-wide financial impacts of the cap for this year and next year

and is available here: <https://ontariosuniversities.ca/news/cou-statement-impact-of-federal-changes-to-international-student-study-permits/>

You can find COU's social posts here:

- X: <https://x.com/OntUniv/status/1847261424264868128>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7253027204865880066>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/soUJ2rivA8MQzUpm/>

Please feel free to share with your networks and on your own digital and social channels to help amplify the message.

COU has also shared the statement with select media contacts. You can find links to the Globe and Mail and Toronto Star articles below, which we will be amplifying on social:

- Globe and Mail: <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-international-student-cap-cost-ontario-universities/>
- Toronto Star: https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/drop-in-international-students-leads-ontario-universities-to-project-1b-loss-in-revenues-over-2/article_95778f40-8cd2-11ef-8b74-b7ff88d95563.html

Thank you and please contact me with any questions
Dom

Dominika Flood | Chief of Staff and Strategic Advisor

Council of Ontario Universities

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NUSU Academic Senate Report: November 2024

Wellness Week

The first Wellness Week is occurring between Nov 4th-Nov 8th. We have a goosechase that students can participate in. As well, we will have info booths again with different departments of the university. There are evening events throughout the week and during the day! Lookout for a review on how it went! If you ever have any questions regarding Wellness Week, please contact vpadvocacy@nusu.com.

Diwali Dhamaal 2024

This years' Diwali Dhamaal event will be held on Nov 8th starting at 6:00pm. We are grateful to continue this tradition for our third year. This event is a time to celebrate light over darkness with a ceremony, buffet, games, and open dance floor, and more. We hope it brings good wealth and positive energy to Nipissing University! We appreciate our distinguished guests and those that have helped plan this event!

Out of Town Event

This year, NUSU had the pleasure of bringing a group of students to Toronto to celebrate Halloween by going to Canada's Wonderland for the Halloween Haunt! It was an amazing time, and we are glad to have this opportunity to bring these students!

Gallery Reception

We are pleased to have two more student exhibitions this semester! Olivia Fetterly held her exhibition reception on October 25th. Ren Silverthorn will be holding their exhibition reception on Nov 22nd. We are pleased to see students expressing their artistic creativity!