

**MINUTES OF SENATE  
ALGOMA UNIVERSITY  
Seventh Regular Meeting of 2016-2017  
March 3, 2017**

**Humanities Faculty**

L. Burnett, M. DiSanto (Speaker), W. Johnston, T. O’Flanagan, A. Pinheiro, A. Ridout  
(regrets: E. Turgeon; absent: R. Gaywish)

**Social Science Faculty**

N. Cruickshank, S. Gruner, H. Hornstein, V. Jimenez-Estrada, H. Luitel, D. Woodman  
(regrets: C. Denomme, J. Hermida, B. Waterfall)

**Science Faculty**

P. Antunes, D. Brodbeck, I. Imre, W. Osei, C. Reed-Elder, C. Zhang, S. Xu  
(regrets: L. Bloomfield; absent: G. Townsend)

**Other Members**

B. Asghar, P. Dingle, T. Gallivan, K. Hernden, A. J. Idris, M. Lajoie, D. Marasco, R. McCutcheon, M. Nadeau, C. Ross, A. Sayers  
(regrets: D. Friyia; absent: D. Boissoneau, M. Case, E. Otten)

**Guests**

R. Cameron, M. Graydon, D. Helwig

The Speaker called the meeting of Senate to order at 1:07pm.

He asked for an amendment to the agenda adding a motion to Decision Items (for action) 17.03.04.04 Academic Amnesty. Also, under Discussion and Question Period, server issues and the impact of the security of email and electronic files.

**17.03.01 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

- ***Moved (Brodbeck/Johnston): that the agenda for the March meeting of Senate be approved as amended.***

Motion carried.

**17.03.02 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the meeting of February 3, 2017**

- ***Moved (Lajoie/Woodman): that Senate approve the minutes from the meeting of February 3, 2017.***

An addition was requested to the announcement of the student event as reported by Professor Pinheiro. The correction as follows:

*Pinheiro announced that Department of Music and Visual Arts along with Sault College QSA and Algoma University Queer Coffee time will be collaborating an event that is taking place February 10th which includes art exhibition, poetry and music.*

Motion carried.

**17.03.03 BUSINESS ARISING (for action or information)**

**17.03.03.01 Senate By-laws Committee – update**

The By-laws committee provided the Senate Executive Committee with a list of priority issues for the committee to review. The committee has requested some direction from SENEX in an effort to assist in its deliberations. It was decided by SENEX that given plans by the President for academic restructuring, it would be beneficial for the committee to review the current Senate Committee structure including composition and terms of reference.

**17.03.03.02 Academic Standards – membership**

- ***Moved (Reed-Elder/Asghar): that Senate approve Mr. Erich Otten as a member of the Academic Standards and Teaching & Learning Committee for the remainder of the 2016 – 17 Senate year replacing Mr. Gurwinder Dusanjh representing the Algoma University Students' Union (AUSU).***

Motion carried.

**17.03.04 DECISION ITEMS (for action)**

**17.03.04.01 Curriculum Committee – motions**

- ***Moved (Reed-Elder/Imre): that Senate approve the following course revision as submitted by the Department of Biology:***

From:

BIOL 3256 Nutritional Science

Nutrition is a dynamic, evolving and exciting science” (Thompson et al. 2014). Canada’s Food Guide will be the foundation as we study the scientific foundations of nutrition. A main theme throughout the course will be dietary and lifestyle strategies aimed at maintaining health and preventing chronic disease. The major and micro components of food and their role in metabolic functions will be discussed. The student will also examine the current scientific knowledge that forms the basis of current nutrient recommendations. The course will utilize an evidence-informed approach to practice and will promote active learning through critical thinking.

To:

BIOL 4256 Nutritional Science

This course explores the scientific foundation for human nutrition, with a particular discussion of Canada’s Food Guide. We will discuss nutritional value, based on the components of food and their role in metabolic functions, with reference to current scientific knowledge. We will also explore how science has informed current nutrient recommendations. In addition, this course focuses on dietary and lifestyle strategies aimed at maintaining health and preventing chronic disease. The course will utilize an evidence-informed approach to practice and will promote active learning through critical thinking. *Prerequisite: BIOL 1506/1507. (LEC 3) (3 cr)*

*Rationale:*

*The department will be encouraging students to take human anatomy and physiology (BIOL 3126) before taking this course to get a better appreciation for the contents of the nutritional science course. Also, the department requires more BIOL 4000 series courses on the roster to enhance student course selection.*

- ***Moved (Reed-Elder/McCutcheon): that the Curriculum Committee recommends to the Department Chairs/Directors to work directly with the University Registrar to identify courses currently listed in the academic calendar that have not been offered for at least a five year period in an effort that these courses be officially banked and removed from the calendar.***

If a course has not been offered in a period of five academic years, it will be banked (removed from the academic calendar). A list of courses not offered during the past five year will be provided to the department chairs/directors by the University Registrar during the winter term of every academic year. A banked course will be returned to the calendar upon request from the academic unit in consideration of future course offerings.

Banking a course simply means removing the course from the academic calendar. A banked course can be returned to the calendar and offered at any time as long as the course has been senate approved to be offered in the subsequent academic year.

*Rationale:*

*By having departments review their inventory of courses on an annual basis in an effort to remove courses that have not been offered during a five year timeline will ensure that a fair representation of program course offerings are listed in the*

academic calendar. Calendar program sections that have the entire inventory of courses listed gives a false expectation of course offerings to the student.

Motion carried (Osei opposed for the record, Luitel abstained for the record).

#### **17.03.04.02 ARP – Biology admissions standards**

- ***Moved (Imre/Antunes); that Senate approve the following revision to the entrance requirements for direct from high school students for admission to the three and four-year Bachelor of Science in Biology degree programs (BSC3/4.BIOL):***

#### **From:**

Ontario secondary school students seeking admission to the first-year at Algoma University should present the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) with a minimum overall average of 65% on six courses from any of the following categories in the Ontario curriculum: university courses (U) or university/college courses (U/M)

The required high school prerequisites for admission to the Bachelor of Science in Biology degree programs will remain the same: ENG4U, MHF4U, 2 U/M Sciences (Biology, Chemistry recommended).

#### **To:**

Ontario secondary school students seeking admission to the first-year at Algoma University should present the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) with a minimum overall average of 70% on six courses from any of the following categories in the Ontario curriculum: university courses (U) or university/college courses (U/M)

The required high school prerequisites for admission to the Bachelor of Science in Biology degree programs will remain the same: ENG4U, MHF4U, 2 U/M Sciences (Biology, Chemistry recommended).

#### **Rationale:**

*Reasons for this proposed change include:*

- 1) To increase the perceived quality of the program in the eyes of interested incoming students;*
- 2) To improve the quality of students who enroll in the Biology program;*
- 3) Among Northern Ontario universities, Laurentian University also requires a minimum of 70% for entrance into a B.Sc. program.*

A question was raised regarding the impact of increasing the admissions average with current declining enrolments. The Registrar indicated that although the university does not intend to compromise access to education, we need to retain students in order to grow as an institution. He added the university experiences significant attrition with those students admitted with an entrance

average of 65-69.9%. The Registrar reminded Senate that the impact of poor retention negatively influences graduation rates, a key performance indicator that the Ministry tracks for institutional accountability.

The Registrar continued by discussing the importance of raising the admission standards for all programs but at the same time continuing to offer admission to those that fall just below the entrance average. Some members are not supportive of the idea and believe it is not about the grade entrance requirement but more about teaching the exceptional student and intellectual exchanges with the students.

It was mentioned that wrap-around academic support services and entrance requirements are an indicator of student success at university. The need for further academic support services was discussed.

Motion carried. (A. Ridout, H. Luitel, H. Hornstein abstained for the record).

### **17.03.04.03 Office of the Registrar – dates/deadlines May 2018 – Sept 2019**

- ***Moved (Marasco/Brodbeck): that Senate approve the registrarial dates and deadlines from May 2018 to September 2019 as submitted.***

#### **2018**

April 2	Easter Monday; Algoma University is closed
April 6	Algoma University Senate meeting Last day for current students to register for 2018 spring session courses without penalty; late fee applies after this date.
April 9	Last day of classes for 2018W and 2017FW courses
April 10	Study Day and make-up day for Friday classes
April 11 – 24	Official examination period for 2018W and 2017FW courses
April 30	Spring session classes begin including 2018SF and 2018SP courses
May 2	All final grades for 18W, 17FW courses must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar
May 4	Algoma University Senate meeting
May 8	No registrations or course changes permitted for 2018SF and 2018SP courses after this date. Students withdrawing from 18SF and 18SP courses after this date will receive a 'W' on their academic record.
May 18	Last day to withdraw from 2018SF courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 18SF courses after this date will receive an 'F' grade on their academic record.
May 21	Victoria Day; Algoma University is closed
June 1	Algoma University Senate meeting
June 8	Last day of classes for 2018SF courses; 2018SP courses recess
June 9	Algoma University Spring Convocation 2018
June 11 – 12	Official examination period for 2018SF courses
June 13	Spring second term courses begin (2018SS); 2018SP courses resume

June 15	Last day to withdraw from 2018SP courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 18SP courses after this date will receive an 'F' grade on their academic record.
June 19	No registrations or course changes permitted for 2018SS courses after this date. Students withdrawing from 18SS courses after this date to receive a 'W' on their academic record.
June 22	All final grades for 2018SF courses must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar
July 2	Canada Day statutory holiday; Algoma University is closed
July 4	Last day to withdraw from 2018SS courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 18SS courses after this date will receive an 'F' grade on their academic record.
July 13	Last day for current students to register for 2018 fall/winter term courses (2018F, 2019W) without penalty; late fee applies after this date.
July 16	Late registration begins for returning students for fall/winter 2018 term courses
July 23 – Aug 3	Official examination period for 2018SP courses at Brampton
July 24	Last day of classes for 2018SP and 2018SS courses
July 25 – 28	Official examination period for 2018SP and 2018SS courses
Aug. 6	Civic Holiday; Algoma University is closed
Aug. 8	All final grades for 2018SP and 2018SS courses must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar.
Aug. 17	Applications for fall graduation 2018 must be submitted by this date
Sept. 3	Labour Day; Algoma University is closed
Sept. 3 – 7	Welcome Week
Sept. 4	Fall 2018 classes begin including 2018FW and 2018F courses.
Sept. 7	Algoma University Senate meeting
Sept. 14	No registrations or course changes permitted for 2018F and 2018FW courses after this date. Students withdrawing from first term and full term courses after this date will receive a 'W' on their academic record.
Oct. 5	Algoma University Senate meeting
Oct. 8	Thanksgiving Day; Algoma University is closed
Oct. 8 – 12	Study Week
Oct. 26	Last day to withdraw from 2018F courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 18F courses after this date will receive an 'F' on their academic record.
Nov. 2	Algoma University Senate meeting
Nov. 9	Last day for current students to register for 2019W courses without penalty; late fee applies after this date.
Nov 12	Late registration for 2019W courses begins
Dec. 3	Last day of classes for 2018F courses; 2018FW courses recess
Dec. 4	Study day
Dec. 5 – 18	Official final examination period for 2018F courses and mid-term examinations for 2018FW courses.
Dec. 7	Algoma University Senate meeting
Dec. 19	Final examination make-up day (weather closure)
Dec. 28	All final grades for 2018F courses must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar

## 2019

Jan. 7	Winter 2019 courses begin (2019W); 2018FW courses resume
Jan. 11	Algoma University Senate meeting
Jan. 18	No registrations or course changes permitted for 2019W courses after this date. Students withdrawing from 19W courses after this date will receive a 'W' on their academic record. Last day to withdraw from 2018FW courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 2018FW courses after this date will receive an 'F' grade on their academic record.
Jan. 25	Applications for graduation at Spring Convocation 2019 must be submitted by this date.
Feb. 1	Algoma University Senate meeting
Feb. 11	Academic advising begins for returning students. Registration for 2019 spring session and 2019 fall/winter terms begins.
Feb. 18	Family Day; Algoma University is closed.
Feb. 18 – 22	Study Week
Mar. 1	Algoma University Senate meeting Last day to withdraw from 2019W courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 2019W courses after this date will receive an 'F' grade on their academic record.
April 5	Last day of classes for 2019W and 2018FW courses; Algoma University Senate meeting; Last day for current students to register for 2019 spring session courses without penalty; late fee applies after this date.
April 8	Late registration begins for spring courses including 2019SF and 2019SP terms
April 8 – 23	Official examination period for 2019W and 2018FW courses
April 19	Good Friday; Algoma University is closed
April 22	Easter Monday; Algoma University is closed
April 29	Spring session classes begin including 2019SF and 2019SP courses
April 30	All final grades for 19W, 18FW courses must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar
May 3	Algoma University Senate meeting
May 7	No registrations or course changes permitted for 2019SF and 2019SP courses after this date. Students withdrawing from 19SF and 19SP courses after this date will receive a 'W' on their academic record.
May 17	Last day to withdraw from 2017SF courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 19SF courses after this date will receive an 'F' grade on their academic record.
May 20	Victoria Day; Algoma University is closed
June 7	Algoma University Senate meeting; Last day of classes for 2019SF courses; 2019SP courses recess
June 8	Algoma University Spring Convocation 2019
June 10 – 11	Official examination period for 2019SF courses
June 12	Spring second term courses begin (2019SS); 2019SP courses resume
June 14	Last day to withdraw from 2019SP courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 19SP courses after this date will receive an 'F' grade on their academic record.
June 18	No registrations or course changes permitted for 2019SS courses after this date. Students withdrawing from 19SS courses after this date to receive a 'W' on their academic record.

June 21	All final grades for 2019SF courses must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar
July 1	Canada Day statutory holiday; Algoma University is closed
July 5	Last day to withdraw from 2019SS courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 19SS courses after this date will receive an 'F' grade on their academic record.
July 12	Last day for current students to register for 2019 fall/winter term courses (2019F, 2020W) without penalty; late fee applies after this date.
July 15	Late registration begins for returning students for fall/winter 2019 term courses
July 23	Last day of classes for 2019SP and 2019SS courses
July 22 – Aug 2	Official examination period for 2019SP courses at Brampton
July 24 – 27	Official examination period for 2019SP and 2019SS courses
Aug. 5	Civic Holiday; Algoma University is closed
Aug. 9	All final grades for 2019SP and 2019SS courses must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar.
Aug. 16	Applications for fall graduation 2019 must be submitted by this date
Sept. 2	Labour Day; Algoma University is closed
Sept. 2 – 7	Welcome Week
Sept. 3	Fall 2019 classes begin including 2019FW and 2019F courses.
Sept. 6	Algoma University Senate meeting
Sept. 13	No registrations or course changes permitted for 2019F and 2019FW courses after this date. Students withdrawing from first term and full term courses after this date will receive a 'W' on their academic record.

The Registrar spoke to the motion regarding the registrarial calendar dates and deadlines.

Motion carried.

**17.03.04.04 Academic Amnesty – March 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**

- ***Moved (McCutcheon/O’Flanagan): that Senate encourages individual faculty members to consider granting academic amnesty during the scheduled events to be held on March 21 between 10:00am – 2:30pm marking the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. This academic amnesty is to be defined as:***
  - ***Academic Amnesty extended to all registered students of Algoma University who wish to participate in the activities;***
  - ***No penalties for students absent from, and/or late to, lectures and tutorials with mandatory attendance;***
  - ***Rescheduling assessment activities (including tests, exams, labs, and any other compulsory activities) to and earlier/ later date;***
  - ***Allowing students to attend alternate sections of labs and tutorials.***

Rationale:

*The Diversity and Equity Committee is encouraging all faculty to grant academic amnesty to students so that they can participate during the events that are planned for the March 21st International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. There are a series of planned activities and events hosted by the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Sault College, and Algoma University. The day aims to remind people of racial discrimination's negative consequences and encourages individuals to remember their obligation to combat discrimination. The university has taken a leading role in the city with this initiative.*

Motion carried.

**17.03.05 INFORMATION ITEMS (reports of committees)**  
**17.03.05.01 Senate-Board Liaison Committee**

The Speaker submitted a written report from the last meeting of the Board-Senate Liaison Committee.

The President made the following comments to questions raised regarding academic restructuring:

- The Board is interested in a strong academic restructuring;
- This discussion will be more detailed at the next meeting of the Decanal Search Committee;
- Academic Planning will review possible restructuring scenarios of faculties, departments.

The Speaker added that the Board is seeking to explore all options for a balanced budget. Members asked whether there was an option for a rollback. The President commented that it is difficult to roll back at the level of senior administration; faculty departments may be encouraged to merge with cognate units.

**17.03.05.02 Academic Standards – Teaching and Learning Fellowship**

The terms of the Teaching and Learning Fellowship was presented to Senate.

**17.03.06 STANDING REPORTS**  
**17.03.06.01 Board of Governors Representative**

Antunes submitted written report.

**17.03.06.02 Dean's Report**

The Dean submitted a written report.

### **17.03.06.03 President's Report**

The President submitted a written report.

President commented on the strategic plan and the operational framework – she added that the framework lacks academic initiatives.

### **17.03.07 DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD**

An issue was raised regarding server issues and possible breaches of security. The Speaker will follow-up with the Director of Information Technology.

### **17.03.08 OTHER BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

None.

### **17.03.09 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

International Women's Day presentation will take place on March 9th, Guest Speaker, Charo Mina Rojas, Afrocolombian Territorial and Human Rights, Gender and Peace Activist.

Ted Recollet, Elder will be facilitating a presentation, 'Pow Wow Etiquette', providing information on What to Expect at a Pow Wow and Cultural Awareness.

Algoma Reads, March 22nd at 5:30pm hosted by Kylee Garson and Meaghan Kent.

Dr. George Elliott Clarke to deliver the Hayes Jenkinson Lecture scheduled to take place on March 29th at 6:30pm in the Shingwauk Auditorium.

A book launch is scheduled, Calling Our Families Home, on March 7th at 7pm in the Doc Brown Lounge.

### **17.03.10 ADJOURNMENT**

➤ ***Moved (Brodbeck/Lajoie): that Senate adjourn.***

Motion carried. (Senate adjourned at 2:46pm)