

**MINUTES OF SENATE
ALGOMA UNIVERSITY
Eighth Regular Meeting of 2019 - 2020
May 1, 2020**

Humanities Faculty

M. Graydon, T. O'Flanagan, A. Pinheiro, M. Ross [PTF], N. Shaw, D. Woodman
[regrets: A. Ridout, C. Ross, P. Steeves; absent: R. Rutherfordale]

Social Science Faculty

N. Aziz, R. Cameron, K. DeLuca, C. Denomme, A. Gordon, W. Lo, M. McLellan [PTF], S. Meades,
T. Tchir, Wyper

Science Faculty

L. Bloomfield [Speaker], S. Butler [PTF], D. Brodbeck, N. Cameron, P. Dupuis, Y. Feng, J. Foote, D.
Keough, S. Xu, C. Zhang

Other Members

D. Anaquod, C. Assiniwai, A. Day, M. Ditoro, M. Jones, D. Marasco [Secretary], E. Riauka, D. Rogers,
S. Shaver, H. Stevenson, A. Day, A. Vezina

Guests

H. Luitel, A. Aziz, J. Allison, L. Schoner-Saunders, J. Bird

The meeting was conducted by Zoom.

The Speaker called the meeting of the Senate to order at 1:03pm. She asked Senators for a moment of silence for the passing of Mr. Michael Bennett, husband of Dr. Celia Ross.

20.05.01 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

□ ***Moved [Brodbeck/Dupuis]: that the agenda for the May 1, 2020 meeting of the Senate be approved.***

Motion carried.

20.05.02 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the meeting of February 7, 2020

2 *Moved [Graydon/Keough]: that Senate approve the minutes from the Senate meeting of March 6, 2020.*

Motion carried.

20.05.03 BUSINESS ARISING (for action or information) **20.05.03.01 Senate Executive - motions March 2020**

The Speaker reminded Senators of the motions that were approved in mid-March in the absence of a Senate meeting that required immediate attention:

- *Moved [Tchir/Graydon]: that the Senate Executive committee support the decision by the University administration that all face-to-face classes for the rest of the semester be cancelled, without prejudice and without precedent.*
- *Moved [Gordon/Tchir]: that the Senate Executive committee support the requisite course instruction hours of 36 hours [as per the IQAP] be compromised for the rest of the semester, without prejudice and without precedent.*
- *Moved [Graydon/Gordon]: that the Senate Executive committee support the University faculty to take the opportunity to revise their course outlines, if required, to reflect possible changes to student assessments, without prejudice and without precedent.*
- *Moved [Tchir/Gordon]: that the Senate Executive committee allow the Academic Dean and University Registrar flexibility in extending the final examination period if necessary, without prejudice and without precedent.*
- *Moved [Graydon/Gordon]: that the Senate Executive committee empower the University Registrar flexibility in administering the Final Examination Policy, without prejudice and without precedent.*
- *Moved [Gordon/Tchir]: that the Senate Executive committee support faculty in converting their scheduled face-to-face final examinations to online, take-home examinations, and alternate means of assessments, without prejudice and without precedent.*
- *Moved [Tchir/Graydon]: that the Senate Executive committee allow the Academic Dean and University Registrar flexibility in revising the start date of the spring summer*

terms, and that the registrarial dates and deadlines as approved by the Senate be revised to align with a delayed start to the spring/summer 2020 terms, if necessary, without prejudice and without precedent.

20.05.03.01 Office of the Registrar - Spring/Summer 2020 Registrarial Dates

Moved [Graydon/Gordon]: that the Senate Executive Committee approve the revised Spring 2020 Registrarial dates and deadlines as submitted by the Office of the Registrar:

2020

- May 1 Algoma University Senate meeting
- May 18 Victoria Day; Algoma University is closed.
-
- June 1 Spring Session classes begin including 2020SF and 2020SP term courses
- June 5 Algoma University Senate meeting
- June 6 Algoma University Spring Convocation 2020 [main campus]
- June 9 No registration or course changes permitted for 20SF and 20SP term courses after this date. Students withdrawing from 20SF and 20SP courses after this date will receive a 'W' on their academic record.
- June 19 Last day to withdraw from 20SF courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 20SF courses after this date will receive an 'F' on their academic record.
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- July 1 Canada Day; Algoma University is closed
- July 10 Last day of classes for 20SF term courses; 20SP courses recess
 Last day to withdraw from 20SP term courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 20SP courses after this date will receive an 'F' grade on their academic record.
- July 13-14 Official examination period for 20SF courses
- July 15 Spring Second term courses begin including 20SS term courses; 20SP courses resume.
- July 17 Last day for current students to register for 2020 fall/winter term courses [20F, 20FW, 21W] without penalty; late fee applies after this date. Last day to withdraw from 20SP courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 20SP courses after this date will receive an 'F' on their academic record.
- July 20 Late fee applies for returning students for fall/winter 2020 terms
- July 21 No registrations or course changes permitted for 20SS courses after this date. Students withdrawing from 20SS term courses after this date will receive a 'W' on their record.
- July 22 All final grades from the 20SF term must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar.
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- Aug 3 Civic Holiday; Algoma University is closed

Aug 7 Last day to withdraw from 20SS courses without academic penalty. Students withdrawing from 20SS courses after this date will receive an 'F' on their academic record.

Aug 25 Last day of classes for 20SP and 20SS courses.

Aug 26-31 Official Examination period for 20SP and 20SS courses

Aug 28 Applications for fall graduation 2020 must be submitted by this date.

Sept 7 Labour Day; Algoma University is closed

Sept 7 – 12 Welcome Week

Sept 8 All final grades from the 20SP and 20SS terms must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Registrar

Sept 9 Fall 2020 classes begin including 20FW and 20F courses

Sept 11 Algoma University Senate meeting

Sept 18 No registrations or course changes permitted for 20FW and 20F courses after this date. Students withdrawing from first term and full term courses after this date will receive a 'W' on their academic record.

20.05.04 BUSINESS ARISING (for action or information)
20.05.04.01 Curriculum Committee - motions

➤ ***Moved [Denomme/Meades]: that the Senate approve the following program revisions as submitted by the School of Business and Economics:***

Graduate Certificate in Business [GC.ADMN]

ADMN 1127 Introductory Financial Accounting II be replaced with ADMN 2556 Finance and Accounting for Non-Business Majors as required for the graduate certificate.

Rationale

ADMN2556 is a content appropriate course, which provides basic fundamental accounting and finance content as appropriate for the Graduate Certificate in Business.

Bachelor of Business Administration [BBA]

Replace ADMN 4076 International Business as required for the BBA to have students have a choice of ADMN 4076 or ECON 3296 Managerial Economics as part of the BBA requirement.

Rationale

This course applies firm and industry-level business and economics concepts. Major learning objectives of this course are making optimal pricing and production decision for a business, determining the best strategy for a particular firm or a group of firms (e.g., if the competition between firms or creation of a cartel is the best strategy for a group of firm producing similar products), making policy for minimizing cost and maximizing profit for a firm etc. This will enrich the FEEC program. This

is an important course which is offered in other Canadian universities at similar programs. Offering this course will be advantageous to our students over the competing universities.

Motion carried.

- ***Moved [Meades/Brodbeck]: that the Senate approve the following new course as submitted by the Department of Community Economic and Social Development:***

CESD 2096 Entrepreneurship and Community Development

This course introduces the concept of entrepreneurship and its applications as a community development strategy. Students will examine the components of enterprise development, including opportunity identification, feasibility, business planning, and marketing considering the realities of smaller urban, rural, Indigenous and northern communities. Students will also develop and learn how to implement a consistent focused marketing plan. *Prerequisites: Upper-year in good standing (LEC/EXP) (3 cr)*

Rationale:

This course replaces CESD 2017: Joint Ventures: Negotiating Successful Partnerships and better fulfills new competency criteria that has been developed by the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers (CANDO) for its Technician-Aboriginal Economic Developer (TAED) designation. CANDO revised its criteria for TAED in the last year and created 11 defined competencies, one of them being “Aboriginal Business Development and Entrepreneurship.” It will also fulfill the “marketing” skill area identified by the Economic Developers of Canada (EDAC) for its Ec.D designation process.

Motion carried.

- ***Moved [Meades/Brodbeck]: that the Senate approve the following course deletion as submitted by the Department of Community Economic and Social Development:***

CESD 2017 Joint Ventures: Negotiating Successful Partnerships

Rationale

CESD 2017 will be replaced by CESD 2096 Entrepreneurship and Community Development. Other reasons: reflects changes to the accreditation for the Technician-Aboriginal Economic Development (TAED) designation for the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers (CANDO). Existing course design has not met program needs for some time, as it has not been offered in nearly ten years.

- ***Moved [Rogers/Foote]: that the Senate approve the following new course as submitted by the Department of English and History:***

ENGL 4526 Twice Upon a Time: Contemporary Retellings of Folk and Fairy Tales

Contemporary writers continue to retell and re-vision folk and fairy tales of the Western tradition. From the classic feminist retellings of the 1970s such as Anne Sexton's *Transformations* (1971) and Angela Carter's *The Bloody Chamber and Other Stories* (1979) to the comic parodies of the 1990s like James Finn Garner's *Politically Correct Bedtime Stories* (1994) and Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith's *Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* (1996), folk and fairy tales have been retold in many different ways and for a wide variety of purposes. Focusing mainly on the tales collected by the Brothers Grimm, this course will explore how contemporary writers have retold those stories to fit their own ends. *Prerequisite: At least 24 credits in ENGL courses or permission of the department. (SEM 3) (3 cr)*

Rationale

This course is designed to be an addition to the rotation of fourth-year senior seminars we offer in the English programme. It will alternate with ENGL4596, Contemporary Women's Historical Fiction. It will similarly feature a significant number of contemporary women writers—Dr. Alice Ridout's field of research. The external report for the recently completed Self Study of the English programme suggested that we re-visit our fourth-year senior seminar topics to ensure they are attractive to students. This course grows out of a successful and popular third-year special topics course (ENGL3936) offered in 2016. We have since banked our Special Topics courses and replaced them all with titled courses in specific fields.

Motion carried.

- ***Moved [N. Cameron/Shaver]: that the Senate approve the following courses to be delivered online as submitted by the Department of Geography, Geology and Land Stewardship:***

GEOG 3956 Geography of Europe

Rationale

We are converting this course to an online format to provide more time flexibility for our degree students as well as facilitate the participation of Algoma University students on other campuses taking this course as an elective. The online format will also accommodate Land Stewardship students who are permanently based in communities throughout Canada in completing the Akii and Environmental Stewardship Certificate.

GEOG 3596 Climate Change & Communities, Vulnerabilities, Impacts and Adaptations

From:

This course will provide students with an introduction to climate change within a geographical context, using a hands-on approach. By bringing together science and Traditional Knowledge, students will explore climate change from broad perspectives by including guest speakers, field trips, videos, group

activities, and readings. Students will be introduced to climate processes, including what climate change is and how it works. The course will review climate impacts, such as forest fires, flooding, fisheries, and water resources. Students will learn about vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning to begin to strategize about appropriate responses to climate change. Students will be encouraged to explore climate change with respect to their communities.

To:

This course will provide students with an introduction to climate change within a geographical context. By bringing together science and Traditional Knowledge, students will explore climate change from broad perspectives. Students will be introduced to climate processes, including what climate change is and how it works. The course will review climate impacts, such as forest fires, flooding, fisheries, and water resources. Students will learn about vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning to begin to strategize about appropriate responses to climate change. Students will be encouraged to explore climate change with respect to their communities.

Rationale

We are converting this course to an online format to accommodate possible restrictions on face-to-face delivery at Algoma University and potential student travel restrictions in May 2020. The online format will accommodate Professional Lands Management Certification Program (PLMCP) Level 1 students who are permanently based in communities throughout Canada and degree students who are unable to attend face-to-face classes on the Sault Ste. Marie campus.

GEOG 2556 Geography of the United States

Rationale

We are converting this course to an online format to provide more time flexibility for our degree students as well as facilitate the participation of Algoma University students on other campuses taking this course as an elective. The online format will also accommodate Land Stewardship students who are permanently based in communities throughout Canada in completing the Akii and Environmental Stewardship Certificate.

GEOG 2406 Geography of Canada's Regions

Rationale

We are converting this course to an online format to provide more time flexibility for our degree students as well as facilitate the participation of Algoma University students on other campuses taking this course as an elective. The online format will also accommodate Land Stewardship students who are permanently based in communities throughout Canada in completing the Akii and Environmental Stewardship Certificate.

GEOG 2206 Population, Migration and the Environment

Rationale

We are converting this course to an online format to provide more time flexibility for our degree students as well as facilitate the participation of Algoma University students on other campuses taking this course as an elective. The online format will also accommodate Land Stewardship students who are permanently based in communities throughout Canada in completing the Akii and Environmental Stewardship Certificate. We also expect that this course will contribute to food themed programming that is currently being planned. This course is an option in the CESD program. The CESD Department has been consulted and is supportive of this change in format.

GEOG 2196 Introduction to Land Management in First Nation Contexts

Rationale

We are converting this course to an online format to accommodate possible restrictions on face-to-face delivery at Algoma University and potential student travel restrictions in May 2020. The online format will accommodate Professional Lands Management Certification Program (PLMCP) Level 1 students who are permanently based in communities throughout Canada and degree students who are unable to attend face-to-face classes on the Sault Ste. Marie campus.

GEOG 2017 Introduction to GIS

Rationale

We are converting this course to an online format to accommodate possible restrictions on face-to-face delivery at Algoma University and potential student travel restrictions in June 2020. The online format will accommodate Professional Lands Management Certification Program (PLMCP) Level 1 students who are permanently based in communities throughout Canada and degree students who are unable to attend face-to-face classes on the Sault Ste. Marie campus.

Motion carried.

20.05.04.02 Academic Regulations and Petitions - Duolingo English Test

- ***Moved [Marasco/Riauka]: that the Senate approve the Duolingo English Language test (DET), delivered online, as an acceptable English Language test for all international applications for the fall 2020 and winter 2021 terms, without prejudice and without precedent. For the DET, a minimum score of 110 will be required.***

Rationale

Due to the progressive and potentially-dangerous nature of COVID-19, English language testing centres around the world are closing to address local public health concerns. According to TOEFL, Mainland China has suspended testing at all centres, and select centres in Japan, Macau, Mongolia, South Korea, Thailand, Iran and Vietnam, indefinitely. As TOEFL and IELTS are a requirement for

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most International applicants, we have anticipated that this will significantly impact the ability for international students to apply to our institution in the Fall and Winter terms. In response, we are attempting to implement a new form of testing which will allow students to test from home using a webcam and microphone. The test will take one-hour, and at \$49 is 75% cheaper than IELTS making it equally, if not more accessible. Students can securely send their results through the test's platform which will allow us to ensure that they are legitimate, and has been compared in academia to the standard of IELTS and TOEFL. If offered as a temporary solution during the next two terms, we believe that this test can provide students with the continued opportunity to study at Algoma University.

Motion carried.

20.05.04.03 Academic Regulations and Petitions - Cambridge English Test

- ***Moved [Marasco/Assiniwai]: that the Senate approve the Cambridge English Exams [CEE] - C2 Proficiency (CPE), C1 Advanced (CAE), and B2 First (FCE) - administered by Cambridge Assessment of English [CAE] as an acceptable form of English language testing for all international applicants for the fall 2020 and winter 2021 terms, without prejudice and without precedent.***

Proposed Requirements: *Direct Admission* - C1 Advanced Certificate, C2 Proficiency Certificate, or B2 First Certificate with an overall score of 176 and no less than 169 in each band.

Rationale:

Cambridge English Exams are recognized by over 25,000 universities, employers and governments around the world, including Stanford University, Dartmouth College, University of Sydney, King's College London, Queen's University, University of Toronto. etc. Moreover, Cambridge English exams test all language skills - reading, writing, listening and speaking - as well as covering use of grammar and vocabulary. The exams not only test the English language skills to communicate and succeed in the real world but also the skills for academic success. In addition, the exams provide a liable indicator of language ability, reducing the risk that students' English does not match expectations. By accepting the exams as part of our admissions criteria we will be able to select from thousands of high-calibre candidates from around the world. CEE students are a highly sought-after pool of applicants for Algoma University due to their high performance and academic quality. We could also improve our institution's profile internationally and attract students from beyond our usual range of countries, such as students from South American and European countries.

The company that develops the test, Cambridge Assessment of English, is part of University of Cambridge in the UK. It also produces the IELTS exam - the most widely-accepted English test in the world, and the most popular for international applicants to Algoma University. More than 5.5 million

people take their tests every year; they have over 2,800 exam centres in 130 countries and over 50,000 testing preparation centres around the world.

Motion carried.

20.05.04.04 Academic Regulations and Petitions - 105 Admissions

- ***Moved [Marasco/Rogers]: that the Senate approve the decision that will allow college transfers admission for the fall 2020 and winter 2021 terms, without prejudice and without precedent.***

Students who are unable to complete their college credential, with one term remaining, will be offered admission based on their current GPA, three terms for a two-year diploma, or five terms for an advanced diploma. Transfer credits will be assessed once the college credential is awarded based on the current transfer credit framework or by way of any exceptional agreement.

For college transfers, one term of college experience will suffice for admission based on a minimum term GPA of 2.00 however no transfer credits awarded.

Students who are requesting to transfer from a Canadian University will be assessed based on the current information provided on their transcript at the time of admission. As long as the information presented indicates they will meet the admission requirements to their desired program an offer will be issued.

The current transfer credit policy indicates that courses with grades of 60% or higher may be transferable, however, under the current circumstances we recognize that in some cases numerical grades may not be issued. An exception will be made to allow for courses completed during the January 2020 semester that have been awarded with a PASS [P] grade, which would normally be given as an numerical grade to be considered for transfer credits.

Motion carried.

20.05.04.05 Academic Planning and Priorities - Terms of Reference

- ***Moved [Marasco/Gordon]: that the Senate approve the revised terms of reference of the Senate Committee on Academic Planning and Priorities as follows:***

From:

- a) To prepare for Senate consideration at its September meeting a five-year academic plan, taking into consideration the overall Academic goals of the University, financial and enrolment statistics, programme quality, and internal and external trends. This plan will identify programmes for expansion, continuation, and contraction. The Committee will reasonably ensure that appropriate consultation occurs with all constituents of the University community;
- b) To advise the President on the construction and content of the Strategic Plan;

- c) To receive reports from the Quality Assurance Committee regarding quality review of new programs, major modifications to existing programs, and cyclical review of existing programs, and makes recommendations to Senate of these reports;
- d) To advise on funding levels to support academic activities and related service functions, within the context of the overall institutional budget;
- e) To recommend new faculty hiring;
- f) To consider and make recommendations to the Senate on such matters as may be referred to it.

To:

- i. To lead the development of the University's Academic Plan, normally every five years. The Committee will ensure that appropriate consultation occurs with all constituents of the University community;
- ii. To provide Senate, at its June meeting, updates to the current Academic Plan, taking into consideration the overall Academic goals of the University, financial and enrolment statistics, programme quality, and internal and external trends. Such updates will identify academic programming for expansion, continuation, and contraction;
- iii. To advise the President on the construction and content of the Strategic Plan;
- iv. To conduct ongoing internal/external reviews of the academic programs of the University
- v. To advise on funding levels to support academic activities and related service functions, within the context of the overall institutional budget;
- vi. To recommend new faculty hiring; and
- vii. To consider and make recommendations to the Senate on such matters as may be referred to it.

Motion carried. [one abstention for the record, D. Woodman]

20.05.04.06 Senate Executive - AU Senate Bylaws notice of motion

➤ ***Moved [/]: that the Senate approve the following changes/additions to the Algoma University Senate By-laws:***

1. page 6, Faculties, Departments, Schools recognized by the Senate

Change from [3b]

Computer Science and Mathematics

Change to [3b]

School of Computer Science and Technology

2. page 14, Committees of Senate

Change from [8.3]

The President and the Academic Dean shall be ex-officio members of every committee of the Senate, unless otherwise stated in the By-laws.

Change to [8.3]

The President and the Academic Dean shall be ex-officio voting members of every committee of the Senate, unless otherwise stated in the By-laws.

3. Page 11, Meetings

Add [6.6]

At the discretion of the Senate Executive Committee, a regular meeting of Senate may be cancelled if:

- i) The volume of business submitted for inclusion in the agenda is insufficient to warrant holding the meeting; and
- ii) There is no urgent or time-sensitive business requiring the disposition prior to the next regular meeting of the Senate.

4. Page 14, Committees of Senate

Add [8.10]

During the absence of a regular meeting of Senate, including the summer recess of Senate, the members of the Senate Executive committee shall possess and may exercise all or any of the powers, authorities and discretion vested in or exercised by the Senate.

20.05.05 INFORMATION ITEMS (for action or information)

The Registrar reminded the Senate of the postponement of the Spring 2020 Convocation ceremonies. He added that plans were underway for a virtual celebration of student academic achievement.

20.05.06 STANDING REPORTS

20.05.06.01 Board of Governors Representative

Dupuis gave an oral report. He informed the Senate on regular meetings of the Board, Board Executive and Board Finance discussing some of the responses to the challenges of COVID-19

20.05.06.02 Academic Dean

The Dean submitted a written report together with the President.

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To provide the members of the Senate with detailed information about Algoma University's approach for the Spring/Summer 2020 term, in the context of both existing plans (e.g. SEM, Board/Senate Strategic Priorities) and immediate actions required to address the COVID-19 pandemic, state of emergency, essential services restrictions, and public health advisories. They described the partnerships with PowerEd by Athabasca and Contact North

There are two types of courses being instructed during the SP20 term:

1. Courses that were scheduled to be taught on-campus in SP20 which cannot be taught on-campus for reasons beyond the University's control due to COVID-19, and for which the University has been left with no option but to rely on the use of technologically assisted instruction for the delivery of these courses.
2. Courses that have been developed as online courses and are scheduled to be taught as online courses in SP20. These are the courses that will be fully online via the PowerED by Athabasca/D2L platform.

20.05.06.03 President

The President submitted a written report.

20.05.07 DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD

Senators discussed the online delivery of courses for Spring 2020 and faculty and student supports.

20.05.08 OTHER BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

None

20.05.09 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Dean announced the return of Dawn White.

Day announced a virtual cultural event to be hosted by the Shingwauk Aboriginal Students' Association and SKG on Monday, May 4

20.05.10 ADJOURNMENT

➤ ***Moved [Marasco/Brodbeck]: that Senate adjourn.***

Motion carried. (Senate adjourned at 2:48pm)