



**Algoma University Senate
Fourth Regular Meeting of 2023-24
December 1, 2023 at 1:00 pm via Zoom video conference**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Faculty of Humanities and Social Science: J.P. Chalykoff, K. De Luca, B. Douville, K. Shannon, T. Tchir [Deputy Speaker], E. Turgeon
[absent/regrets: D. Nyaga, R. Torres]

Faculty of the School of Business and Economics: N. Aziz, G. Mahar, P. Matthews, K. Roberts [PTF], J. Ryan
[absent/regrets: None]

Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies: N. Cameron, B. Gordon [PTF], S. Gruner, S. Meades, P. Steeves
[absent/regrets: None]

Faculty of Science: L. Bloomfield [Speaker], W. Dew, P. Dupuis, D. Keough, C. Lemieux, C. Madliger, Z. Rahman, B. Schamp, A. Sultana, S. Xu, C. Zhang
[absent/regrets: E. Ho-Tassone [PTF]]

Other Members: A. Al-Krenawi, S. Khan, S. Kosuta, E. Nahwegezhic, M. Piercey-Normore, K. Scullion, T. Spurway, M. Twiss, A. Vezina, W. Wei, I. Withers
[absent/regrets: None]

Guests: P. Quesnele (Acting Secretary), B. Krmpotich

CALL TO ORDER

The Speaker called the meeting of the Senate to order at 1:03 pm.

23.11.01 APPROVAL OF AGENDA [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [L. Burnett / S. Khan]: that the agenda for the December 1, 2023 meeting of the Senate be approved.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- None.

23.11.02 APPROVAL OF MINUTES, from the meeting, November 3, 2023 [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [L. Burnett / S. Khan]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minutes from the Senate meeting of November 3, 2023.

Motion carried. 3 Abstentions.

Discussion:

- None.

23.11.03 PRESENTATIONS

23.12.03.01 Internationalization Strategy [\[LINK\]](#) [\[SLIDEDECK\]](#)

B. Krmpotich, Associate Vice-President International Affairs and Recruitment provided an International Update presentation.

Discussion:

- Senators inquired as to whether the deans were included in the development of agent training materials. Management advised that much of the training was general but there are opportunities for the training to include program and/or faculty specific modules.
- Senators discussed whether the university had exclusive recruitment activities agreements with international agents to which management advised that the agreements speak specifically to undergraduate programs and postgraduate certificates (graduate programs are not included). Management advised that students can still apply directly to the university regardless of agent agreements.
- Senators asked whether there would be opportunities for faculty to be involved in international recruitment activities, similar to domestic recruitment activities. Management advised that faculty members are typically asked to participate in local domestic efforts and that they can reach out to faculty when opportunities may arise for international recruitment activities.
- Senators inquired about the number of international recruitment agents used, to which management advised that they work with five to ten priority markets, with fifty to sixty agents around the globe.
- Senators inquired about the differences in relationships with certain agents to which management advised that ApplyBoard has a team in Canada that vets all applicants prior to the applications being submitted

to Algoma University for consideration and that this leads to higher conversion rates; whereas other agents may submit applications directly to the university with no vetting process in place.

- Senators discussed the CBIE 2023 International Student Survey Preliminary Findings and asked whether the responses could be tied to specific programs. Management advised that this is not the case, that the data highlights broad areas to dig deeper into. The President advised that the new student information system will allow for much better retention data to be accessible within a year of implementation.
- Senators discussed how the work of faculty in Latin America could be connected to the university's international recruitment and mobility activities.
- Senators also discussed the importance of extending the university's networking to numerous countries, to attract students for research and masters programs.

23.12.03.02 Blue-Ribbon Panel Presentation [\[LINK\]](#) [\[SLIDEDECK\]](#)

A. Vezina provided a presentation related to the recent release of the Blue-Ribbon Panel on Postsecondary Education Financial Sustainability's report entitled 'Ensuring Financial Sustainability for Ontario's Postsecondary Sector.'

Discussion:

- Senators noted that a response to the Blue-Ribbon Panel report from the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL) highlighted the numerous existing collaborative efforts for efficiencies.
- Senators inquired about how faculty and Senators could engage in highlighting the importance of the Special Mission. The President advised that the university receives a unique grant related to the Special Mission and that a collaborative document could be created and shared to highlight the various activities related to the Special Mission.
- Senators further discussed the potential for tuition increases and the challenges of such potential rise for students as well as the challenges for the university sector given that the structural deficits in Ontario are growing. The President highlighted the importance of advocating for proper funding for the Ontario university system.
- Senators inquired about the impacts of the performance funding, to which the President advised that the metrics were shared a few years ago and that these metrics are reported on each year. She advised that a future presentation could be brought forward and that the VPAR could share the existing performance funding framework with Senators and Department Chairs.

23.11.04 BUSINESS ARISING (for action or information)

23.12.04.01 Upcoming Presentation on Housing and Food Security [\[LINK\]](#)

The Speaker advised of an upcoming presentation for a future Senate meeting focused on housing and food security.

Discussion:

- None.

23.11.05 DECISION ITEMS (for action)

23.12.05.01 I-EDI Committee of Senate and Bylaw Amendment [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [S. Gruner / S. Meades]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the creation of an I-EDI Committee as a standing committee of Senate, thereby amending the Algoma University Senate By-Laws accordingly.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- None.

23.12.05.02 Updated Senate Membership [\[LINK\]](#)

The Speaker of Senate introduced a friendly amendment to the motion to replace the Student SASA Member to include Elizabeth Nahwegeznic rather than Joanne Perrault as requested by SASA.

Moved [S. Gruner / S. Meades]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the revised Senate membership effective July 1, 2023 as follows:

- Elizabeth Nahwegeznic, Non-Teaching Staff Member, Student (SASA)
- Krystal Shannon, Part-Time Teaching Staff Member, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Dr. Sheila Gruner, Faculty Chair Member, Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- Senators welcomed the new members and received a brief introduction from E. Nahwegeznic.

23.12.05.03 Updated Senate Committee Membership [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [S. Khan / S. Meades]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the changes to Senate committee membership effective December 1, 2023 as presented.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- None.

23.12.05.04 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Recommendations - N/A

23.12.05.05 Curriculum Committee Recommendations

A. Law and Justice Program: New Courses [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [A. Ridout / K. De Luca]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the following proposed new courses to the Law and Justice Program (Minor Modification) as recommended by the Curriculum Committee:

- A. *JURI4XXX (Cross-listed with POLI4XXX Special Topics in Constitutional Law;*
- B. *JURI4XXX Special Topics in Criminal Law;*
- C. *JURI4XXX Special Topics in interdisciplinary approaches to law;*
- D. *JURI4XXX Special Topics in Legal Theory;*
- E. *JURI4XXX Special Topics in Private Law;*
- F. *POLI4XXX (Cross-listed with JURI4XXX) Special Topics in Constitutional Law;*
- G. *PHIL2XXX (to cross-list with JURi2426) Introduction to Legal Theory.*

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- None.

B. Law and Justice Program: Course Revisions [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [K. De Luca / P. Steeves]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the following proposed course revisions to the Law and Justice Program (Minor Modification) as recommended by the Curriculum Committee:

- A. *JURI2426 Nature of Legal Authority;*
- B. *JURI2136 Introduction to Interdisciplinary Dispute Resolution*

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- None.

C. English Program: New Course [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [K. Scullion / S. Meades]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the following proposed new course to the English Program (Minor Modification) as recommended by the Curriculum Committee:

- A. *ENGL(W)/HIST 2XXX: Algoma Podcasts*

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- None.

D. Sociology Program: Course Revision [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [P. Steeves / S. Meades]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the revisions to the Sociology Program (Minor Modification) as recommended by the Curriculum Committee:

- A. *SOCI4907 Selected Topics in Sociology (addition of asynchronous delivery).*

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- None.

23.12.05.06 Quality Assurance Committee Recommendations [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [L. Burnett / P. Steeves]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the Program Revision to the Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in English program that involves the addition of a new specialization in Creative and Professional Writing, as recommended by the Quality Assurance Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- None.

23.12.05.07 Adjunct Professor Appointment: Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences [\[LINK\]](#)

Krista McCracken Curriculum Vitae 2023 [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [S. Khan / L. Burnett]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the appointment of Krista McCracken as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of English and History for a period of three years beginning January 1, 2024.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- None.

23.12.06 INFORMATION ITEMS

23.12.06.01 Fall 2023 Federal Economic Statement Brief [\[LINK\]](#)

A. Vezina provided a high level overview of the report.

Discussion:

- Senators discussed the advocacy work underway for the anticipated legislation on immigration standards. The President advised that Algoma University is positioned well for the Recognized Institutions Framework.

23.12.07 STANDING REPORTS

23.12.07.01 Board of Governors Representative Report [BOG REPORT](#)

P. Dupuis provided an overview of the report.

Discussion:

- None.

23.12.07.02 Decanal Reports [DECANAL REPORTS](#)

The Deans provided overviews of their reports.

Discussion:

- Senators requested that research reports be consolidated to either the Deans or VPAR reports to avoid duplication. It was determined that these types of reports would be situated in the Dean portfolios going forward.

23.12.07.03 Vice-President Academic and Research Report [VPAR'S REPORT](#)

M. Piercey-Normore provided an overview of the report.

Moved [N. Cameron / S. Meades]: that the Senate meeting be extended to 3:15pm.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- Senators discussed the potential of bringing a speaker to campus to discuss security issues as a collaboration between a local union and the VPAR's Office.
- Senators provided a reminder for the call for requests for Research Assistants and the VPAR advised that the deadline could be extended for such requests.

23.12.07.04 President and Vice-Chancellor Report [PRESIDENT'S REPORT](#)

A. Vezina provided an overview of the report, and advised that meetings with the new Chiefs and Councils for Garden River First Nation and Batchewana First Nation have been underway focusing on collaboration and deepening partnerships.

Discussion:

- None.

23.12.08 DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD

Discussion:

- A Senator spoke about support for bringing researchers and faculty members into Canada with respect to timely processing in the VISA process
- The President spoke to a recent request from Ontario Colleges to run pilot programs to offer Masters degrees and discussed the potential for an advocacy letter to be crafted from the leadership of the university and its governing bodies.

Moved [S. Meades / N. Cameron]: that the Senate meeting be extended to 3:30pm.

Motion carried.

23.12.09 OTHER BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Discussion:

- None.

23.12.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Discussion:

- E. Turgeon advised of an upcoming end of term Algoma Choir concert
- E. Nahwegezhic invited Senators to attend SASA's Annual Christmas Party hosted at SKG the following day.
- T. Spurway invited Senators who are interested to participate in a library master plan visionary meeting.
- N. Cameron advised of a Connecting Cultures Through Food workshop series.

23.12.11 ADJOURNMENT

Moved [D. Keough / S. Meades]: to adjourn the Senate meeting.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:03 pm.