



**Algoma University Senate  
Fifth Regular Meeting of 2023-24**

**January 12, 2024 at 1:00 pm via Zoom video conference**

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**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE:**

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

**Faculty of the School of Business and Economics:** N. Aziz, P. Matthews, K. Roberts [PTF], J. Ryan  
[absent/regrets: G. Mahar, K. Roberts]

**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, E. Ho-Tassone [PTF], D. Keough, C. Lemieux, Z. Rahman, B. Schamp, S. Xu, C. Zhang  
[absent/regrets: None.]

**Other Members:** A. Al-Krenawi, S. Khan, S. Kosuta, M. Piercey-Normore, T. Spurway, K. Scullion, M. Twiss, A. Vezina, I. Withers, W. Wei  
[absent/regrets: A. Ryall]

**Guests:** L. James, N. Murray, M. Turco,

**Secretariat:** S. Giuliani, S. Kelly, N. Ladouceur, P. Quesnele (Acting Secretary)

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**24.01.01 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Moved [C. Lemieux / S. Khan]: that the agenda for the January 12, 2024 meeting of the Senate be approved.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:**

- M. Piercey-Normore and K. Scullion each requested to add an item under New Business.

**24.01.02 APPROVAL OF MINUTES, from the meeting, December 1, 2023 [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [S. Gruner /S. Khan]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minutes from the Senate meeting of December 1, 2023.*

**Discussion:**

- C. Madlinger requested that the minutes be amended to note that she was in attendance at the December 1, 2023 Senate meeting.

**24.01.03 PRESENTATIONS - N/A**

**Discussion:**

- None.

**24.01.04 BUSINESS ARISING (for action or information) - N/A**

**Discussion:**

- None.

**24.01.05 DECISION ITEMS (for action)**

**24.01.05.01 Senate Bylaw Revisions: Notice of Motion for February 2024 [\[LINK\]](#)**

**Discussion:**

- The Speaker of Senate informed Senators that a motion would be brought forward in February to approve the provided slate of revisions, most of which were housekeeping changes.

**24.01.05.02 Updated Senate Membership - N/A**

**Discussion:**

- None.

**24.01.05.03 Updated Senate Committee Membership - N/A**

**Discussion:**

- None.

**24.01.05.04 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Recommendations - N/A**

**24.01.05.05 Curriculum Committee Recommendations**

- A. History Program: New Course [\[LINK\]](#)

*Moved [S. Meades / L. Burnett] that the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed new course: HIST3357 Countercultures in America as presented by the department of English and History.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:**

- None.

**24.01.05.06 Quality Assurance Committee Recommendations**

- A. 18-Month Status Report on the Implementation Plan for Computer Science [\[LINK\]](#)  
*Moved [S. Xu / S. Meades] that the Algoma University Senate approve the Report of the School of Computer Science and Technology on the Status of the Implementation Plan for Computer Science (18-month status report).*

Motion Carried.

**Discussion:**

- None.

- B. Revised Program: History Nov 2023 Learning Outcome [\[LINK\]](#)  
*Moved: [L. Burnett / E. Nahwegezhić] that the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed program revision to the History program that includes updated program learning outcomes for all history degrees as recommended by the Quality Assurance Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:**

- None.

- C. Revised Program: VISA December 2023 [\[LINK\]](#)  
*Moved [L. Burnett / S. Meades] that the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed program revision to the Visual Art program (BA3FAST) from the Department of Music and Visual Art as recommended by the Quality Assurance Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:**

- None.

**24.01.06 INFORMATION ITEMS (reports of committees)**

**24.01.06.01 Creation of Decanal Review Policy Development Committee [\[LINK\]](#)**

The Speaker advised that that the Senate Executive Committee identified the need for a decanal review policy and accordingly that an ad hoc committee would need to be struck to review and provide consultation to the policy and associated procedures.

**Discussion:**

- A Senator noted that the policy should utilize inclusive, gender neutral language.
- Senators were informed that once the committee composition was determined that Faculty Chairs would reach out to faculty members for volunteers.

**24.01.06.02 Housing/Food Security Presentation (February)**

**Discussion:**

- None.

**24.01.06.03 Responsibility Centered Management Budget Model Status Update (February)**

**Discussion:**

- None.

**24.01.06.03 Draft Budget Update Presentation (March)**

**Discussion:**

- None.

**24.01.07 STANDING REPORTS**

**24.01.07.01 Board of Governors Representative Report [verbal update, if any]**

No report was presented at this time as a Board meeting had not occurred since before the last meeting of the Senate.

**Discussion:**

- None.

**24.01.07.02 Decanal Reports [DECANAL REPORTS](#)**

The Deans provided overviews of their reports.

**Discussion:**

- None.

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

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

**Discussion:**

- Senators inquired about the distribution of the academic calendar and impacts of such on the learning management system (Moodle). The VPAR clarified that the academic calendar would be made available at the end of the month and that follow-up would be conducted surrounding Moodle.
- Senators discussed the changes to rostering processes noting that in the past that the review and approval of rosters had included faculty, the Curriculum Committee and the Senate. The Registrar noted that rostering was interpreted as an administrative process not classified within the Powers of Senate as per the Algoma University Act. Senators (including N. Cameron and A.

Ridout who requested to be on the record) expressed their perspective that rostering was included in Senate's oversight and discussed the importance of collegiality and collaboration. Senators discussed that this could be brought to a Department Chairs meeting to discuss rostering processes.

**24.01.07.04 President and Vice-Chancellor's Report *PRESIDENT'S REPORT***

A. Vezina provided a verbal report.

Discussion:

- Senators discussed the University's enrollment strategies related to certificate programs and graduate programs, noting the need for appropriate faculty and campus resourcing in alignment with student enrollment.
- Senators inquired about the composition of the review committees for the Academic Strategic Initiatives Fund (the "ASI Fund") and the Academic Strategic Special Mission and Calls To Action Fund (the "SMCTA Fund") noting the need for impartial review as well as perspectives from student and Indigenous communities. The President and the VPAR advised that they are committed to providing Senators with information on committee membership and related policies and procedures.

**23.09.08 DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD**

- A Senator noted that a request for a special meeting of Senators was made. The Speaker of Senate clarified that the administration needed adequate time to prepare for this meeting and that Senators would be informed when this was ready.
- A Senator noted workload challenges surrounding faculty and staff members and another Senator expressed their view that collegial governance at the university may require attention.

*Moved [S. Meades / K. Scullion] that the Senate meeting be extended to 3:15pm.*

Motion carried.

**24.01.09 OTHER BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS**

**24.01.09.01 Item 1 (in-camera)**

*Moved [M. Piercy-Normore / P. Steeves]: to move the meeting in camera.*  
Motion carried.

The Senators had an in camera discussion. No decisions were made other than to extend the meeting in 15-minute increments.

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

*Moved [K. Scullion / S. Meades]: that the Senate meeting be extended to 3:45 pm.*  
Motion carried.

*Moved [N. Cameron / C. Lemieux]: that the Senate meeting be extended to 4:00 pm.*  
Motion carried.

*Moved [K. Scullion / S. Meades]: that the Senate meeting be extended to 4:15 pm.*  
Motion carried.

#### **24.01.09.02 Academic Standards and Appeals Committee Composition [\[LINK\]](#)**

The Registrar brought forward a motion to expand the student appeals membership to build the capacity to address the increased number of appeals for Senate consideration.

*Moved [S. Meades / K. Scullion]: that the Senate consider the motion as presented.*

Motion carried.

#### **Discussion:**

- A Senator asked about how the Committee would expand and if staff support could be provided to the committee. It was noted that the Secretariat Office would provide support where needed.
- Senators discussed that the committee would be expanded proportionally to ensure equal membership increases amongst all constituency groups.
- The Senate split the motion originally proposed into two motions.

*Moved [K. Scullion / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the changes to composition for the Academic Standards and Appeals Committee to expand its membership while respecting the proportional representation until the end of the current Senate cycle (until June 30, 2024).*

Motion Carried.

*Moved [L. Burnett / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the Academic Standards and Appeals Committee to request expertise and resource assistance when necessary to handle the volume until the end of the current Senate cycle (until June 30, 2024).*

Motion Carried.

*Moved [I. Withers / P. Steeves] that the Senate meeting be extended to 4:30pm.*  
Motion carried.

**24.01.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The Acting Secretary of Senate noted the expansion of the Secretariat Office team.

**24.01.11 ADJOURNMENT**

*Moved [I. Withers / P. Steeves]: to adjourn the Senate meeting at 4:09 pm.*