



Algoma University Senate

Seventh Regular Meeting of 2023-24

March 1, 2024 at 1:00 pm via Zoom video conference

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Faculty of Humanities and Social Science: L. Burnett, J.P. Chalykoff, K. DeLuca, B. Douville, D. Nyaga, A. Ridout, K. Shannon [PTF], T. Tchir [Deputy Speaker], R. Torres, E. Turgeon
[absent/regrets: None]

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

Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies: N. Cameron, S. Gruner, P. Steeves
[absent/regrets: B. Gordon [PTF], S. Meades]

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

Other Members: L. Bloomfield, A. Al-Krenawi, S. Khan, J. Patel, M. Piercey-Normore, A. Ryall, T.
Spurway, K. Scullion, A. Vezina, I. Withers, W. Wei
[absent/regrets: S. Kosuta, E. Nahwegezhic]

Guests: I. Imre, K. Rousseau, M. Turco

Secretariat: S. Giuliani, S. Kelly, N. Ladouceur
[absent/regrets: P. Quesnele]

CALL TO ORDER

The Deputy Speaker called the meeting of the Senate to order at 1:04 pm.

24.03.01 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved [L. Bloomfield / A. Ridout]: that the agenda for the March 1, 2024 meeting of the Senate be approved.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

24.03.02 APPROVAL OF MINUTES, from the:

24.03.02.01 Algoma University Senate meeting, February 2, 2024 [LINK]

Moved [D. Nyaga / P. Steeves]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minutes from the Senate meeting on February 2, 2024.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

24.03.02.02 Algoma University Special Senate Meeting - A, February 16, 2024 [LINK]

Moved [D. Keough / D. Nyaga]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minutes from Special Senate Meeting A on February 16, 2024.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- A Senator requested the minutes be updated to reflect that C. Lemieux was not in attendance.
- A Senator requested that the minutes be amended to note that the Chair initially announced the agenda was passed, despite the motion failing; that there was no official ruling on the point of order; and that the movers and seconders on the motion to adjourn should be updated to A. Ridout and K. DeLuca. The Secretariat will review the notes from the meeting to verify the requested amendments.

24.03.02.03 Algoma University Special Senate Meeting - B, February 16, 2024 [LINK]

NOTE: As per the By-Laws (6:17), the in-camera spate of minutes were included as an appendix to the record available only to members of the Senate. Discussion related to the in-camera spate of minutes, the Senate must move in-camera.

Moved [D. Keough / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minutes from Special Senate Meeting B on February 16, 2024.

Motion carried. 4 Abstentions.

Discussion:

- Senators requested to move *in camera* to review the *in camera* spate of minutes, noting technical issues in accessing the document.

L. Bloomfield declared a conflict and did not participate in the in camera discussion.

Moved [I. Withers / K. Scullion]: that the meeting move in camera to discuss the in camera spate of the Special Senate Meeting B Minutes.

Motion carried.

24.03.03 PRESENTATIONS

24.03.03.01 Draft Budget and Responsibility Centered Management Budget Model Status Update

K. Rousseau provided an overview of the draft budget progress outlining key impacts based on internal and external factors while highlighting that this was the first year that faculty applied for funding projects via the reserve fund established through the Responsibility Centered Management budget model.

Discussion:

- A Senator inquired about the delay in the evaluation of funding proposals, and it was noted that this was in response to the vacancy in the Dean of Science role.
- Senators discussed the importance of, and the University's approach to, ensuring I-EDI considerations are incorporated into budget planning in alignment with the University's Special Mission and suggested the development of indicators to measure the social impact. It was noted that the academic and strategic relations fund conduct a year end review to evaluate the impacts of the funding.
- A Senator inquired about the impact of the international student study permit cap on recruiter costs and budgeting surrounding this, it was explained that the recruiters are paid based off of international students enrolling at the University and that this fluctuates with enrollment numbers.
- A Senator inquired about mechanisms for tracking international recruitment efforts in relation to student retention, it was noted that a new information system is being put in place which will measure this. A Senator further stated that they would like to see more dialogue on recruitment processes including domestic recruitment.

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

24.03.05 DECISION ITEMS (for action)

24.03.05.01 Senate Bylaw Revisions: February 2024 [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [K. Scullion / S. Khan]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the modifications to the Senate By-Laws as presented.

NOTE: This item was tabled on February 2, 2024 for the next Senate meeting.

Motion carried. 1 Opposed. 1 Abstention.

Discussion: None.

24.03.05.03 Ad Hoc Committee on Committees Membership [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [N. Cameron / L. Burnett]: That the Algoma University Senate approve the membership of the Ad Hoc Committee on Committees to review Senate Committee composition as presented.

- Faculty Senators
 - Dr. Gerry Mahar (Faculty of Business and Economics)
 - Prof Pelham Matthews (Faculty of Business and Economics)
 - Dr. Nairne Cameron (Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies)
 - Dr. Paulette Steeves (Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies)
 - Dr. Linda Burnett (Faculty of Human and Social Sciences)
 - Dr. Alice Ridout (Faculty of Human and Social Sciences)
 - Dr. Simon Xu (Faculty of Science)

- Vacant (*Faculty of Science*)
- *Administrative Senators*
 - *Dr. Michele Piercey-Normore, Vice-President, Academic and Research*
 - *Dr. Laurie Bloomfield, Acting Dean, Science*
- *Student Senators*
 - *Elizabeth Nahwegezhic*
 - *Issac Withers*

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- A call for nominations for the vacancy for a Faculty Senator for the Faculty of Science was made from the floor, no nominations came forward.

24.03.05.04 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Recommendations

A. Revised Program: Bachelor of Economics (BA3.ECON) - Brampton [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [D. Nyaga / S. Khan]: That the Algoma University Senate approve the Finance, Economics, and Decision Sciences Department's Revised Program proposal - Bachelor of Economics as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None

B. Revised Program - Master of Computer Science [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [S. Xu / A. Al-Krenawij]: That the Algoma University Senate approve the major modification program revision to the Master of Computer Science as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

Motion Carried. 8 Opposed. 3 abstentions.

Discussion:

- A Senator brought up concerns regarding the lowering of the English language requirement for the proposal, noting that they would like to see data surrounding students' success with these standards in place. It was noted that the proposed English language proficiency test scores were brought forward in alignment with those utilized by other universities and anticipated that this would raise applications and enrollment which had been low.
- Senators inquired about evaluation and admission processes in the case of a large number of applicants. Senators further discussed English language support for international students currently in place, emphasizing the need for further conversations to address and develop strategies to continue supporting these students.
- A Senator stated concern around a previous motion to increase English language requirements that had not yet made it to the Senate floor. M. Piercey-Normore indicated that this would be explored.
- Senators discussed further considerations for admissions requirements beyond English language proficiency test score noting Algoma University's commitment to I-EDI.
- Senators discussed the honours diploma in computer science noted in the proposal, the existing history surrounding the program, and application

requirements. A Senator requested that this information be made accessible to students online.

- A Senator inquired if a cap on students admitted had been established, to which it was noted that there was a target of 300 students per year.

Motion [N. Cameron / B. Schamp]: that the Senate meeting be extended to 3:15 p.m.

Motion carried.

C. New Program Proposal - Master of Social Work [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [R. Torres / S. Khan]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the School of Social Work's New Program Proposal - Master of Social Work Program as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- Senators discussed their enthusiasm for the proposed MSW, the interdisciplinary approach proposed, and the alignment with the University's Special Mission.

Motion [K. Scullion / D. Nyaga]: that the Senate meeting be extended to 3:30 p.m.

Motion carried.

Moved [R. Torres / E. Turgeon]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President one (1) School of Social Work Tenure Track hire in Sault Ste. Marie, as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

Moved [R. Torres / A. Al-Krenawi]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President one (1) School of Social Work Tenure Track hire in Timmins, as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

Moved [R. Torres / D. Nyaga]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President one (1) School of Social Work Tenure Track hire in Brampton, as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- A Senator expressed that the MSW was not proposed to be offered in Brampton yet, therefore, questioned why a tenure track hire without confirmation of program location was being proposed. Senators clarified that there was intent to offer the program in Brampton however that there was a need for a faculty member within Brampton to build and develop the program and undertake tasks such as building the business and recruitment strategy.

Motion [N. Cameron / C. Lemieux]: that the Senate meeting be extended to 3:45 p.m.

Motion carried.

24.03.05.05 Curriculum Committee Recommendations

24.03.05.05.01 2024-25 Course Rosters for Approval [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [B. Schamp / D. Nyaga]: That the Algoma University Senate approve the 2024-25 course rosters as presented and recommended by the Curriculum Committee for the:

- Faculty of Business and Economics
- Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
- Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies
- Faculty of Science

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- A Senator noted an error within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences roster and requested that Winter JURI 2106, JURI 2426, and JURI 4316 courses be updated to "RSA" prior to publishing.

24.03.05.06 Quality Assurance Committee Recommendations - N/A

24.03.05.07 Research Advisory Committee Recommendations - N/A

24.03.05.07 Spring 2024 Convocation Dates

Moved [Ken. Scullion / S. Khan]: That the Algoma University Senate approve the change in date for the Brampton Spring 2024 Convocation to be Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- The VPAR noted that the presented motion was brought forward due to lack of availability for the designated Brampton convocation space and that bookings would be made 5-10 years in advance to avoid this.
- Senators inquired about the date being set on a weekday and the number of convocation ceremonies within Brampton.

24.03.06 INFORMATION ITEMS

24.03.06.02 Housing/Food Security Presentation (TBD)

Discussion:

- The Deputy Speaker noted that the Housing/Food Security would need to be delayed for the foreseeable future as the coordinating body had multiple ongoing priorities.

24.03.06.03 Senate Related Awards [\[LINK\]](#)

Discussion:

- The Deputy Speaker noted that a Call for Nominations for Senate related awards was released the previous week and encouraged Senators to submit nominations by the March 31, 2024 deadline.

24.03.07 STANDING REPORTS

24.03.07.01 Decanal Reports [DECANAL REPORTS](#)

The Deans provided overviews of their reports.

Discussion: None.

Moved [P. Steeves / C. Lemieux]: to extend the Senate meeting to 4:00 p.m.

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

Due to time constraints, the VPAR opened the floor to questions.

Discussion:

- A Senator flagged a technical issue with the 2024 exam schedule link, the Registrar indicated he would conduct follow-up to fix this.

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

The President noted the unveiling of the Algomian, a creative writing journal created by Tony Robinson-Smith, and informed Senators of the upcoming Pow Wow.

Discussion: None.

24.03.08 DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD

Discussion: None.

24.03.09 OTHER BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Discussion:

- A Senator inquired if a new Speaker should be elected for the remainder of the cycle in the vacancy of the current speaker, it was noted that the Senate By-Laws state that the Speaker of Senate is elected at the June annual meeting and that the Deputy Speaker will fulfill the responsibilities of the Speaker in their absence. Senators decided that this would be brought through the Senate Executive Committee for discussion.

24.03.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Discussion: None.

24.03.11 ADJOURNMENT

Moved [D. Keough / P. Steeves]: to adjourn the Senate meeting at 3:39 p.m.

Motion carried.

Appendix 1:

[Senate *in camera* Meeting Minutes - 01 MAR 2024](#)