



Algoma University Senate

Tenth Regular Meeting of 2023-24

June 7, 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, A. Ridout, K. Shannon [PTF], T. Tchir [Deputy Speaker], R. Torres.
[absent/regrets: D. Nyaga, E. Turgeon]

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

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

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

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

Guests: L. Brechin, P. Chabbert, M. El Kahlout, T. Fabiano, Y. Feng, M. Garcia-Ruiz, D. Helwig, I. Imre, E. James, N. Konior, R. Lin, E. Morrison, M. Nasir, L. Schoner-Saunders, U. Sengupta, N. Shaw, G. Townsend, M. Turco, L. Wyper

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Deputy Speaker called the meeting of the Senate to order at 1:08 pm.

24.06.01 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved [S. Meades / C. Madliger]: that the agenda for the June 7, 2024 meeting of the Senate be approved.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

24.06.02 APPROVAL OF MINUTES, from the meeting, May 3, 2024 [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [I. Withers / T. Spurway]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minutes from the Senate meeting on May 3, 2024.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

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

24.06.03 PRESENTATIONS

24.06.03.01 Budget Presentation

A. Vezina and M. Piercey Normore provided an overview of the 2024-2025 budget approved by the Board of Governors on May 30, 2024 noting that AU is in a strong financial position to allow the university to grow its impact on people and community and support its Special Mission. Key priorities and investments were presented around three pillars: building, hiring, and academic and research excellence.

Discussion: None.

24.06.03.02 Decolonization Update

Patty Chabbert, Decolonization Lead, presented an overview of decolonization efforts underway at the university in alignment with the University's Special Mission noting the importance of reflecting all ways of knowing, articulating context and relationships at play in cross-cultural learning, and reflecting and respecting Indigenous voices. P. Chabbert provided an overview of the EDI strategy, which includes decolonization rooted in the sweetgrass braid teaching. P. Chabbert illustrated, through the two timelines presented, the difference between Western and Indigenous approaches and noted milestones with the intention to launch the fully envisioned decolonization strategy in January 2025. P. Chabbert invited Senators to watch Dr. Marie Battiste's video presentation on decolonization in higher education.

Discussion:

- Senators thanked P. Chabbert and her team for their work, noting the progress accomplished over the last five years. The Senate discussed the importance of creating a sense of belonging and it was noted that it is possible to carve out Anishinaabe spaces where students feel culturally safe even within colonial spaces. P. Chabbert noted decolonization work underway to review and rewrite University policies with the support of the Office of the Secretariat.

24.06.03.03 Global Decolonization Work - Faculty of Cross Cultural Studies

Dr. S. Gruner presented on the Institute for Peoples, Territories and Pedagogies for Peace (IPTP) and the work done by the Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies to integrate it

into their programming, noting that IPTP serves as liaison between universities and local social organizations and provides opportunities to understand grassroots governance from a community perspective. It was clarified that IPTP, based in Colombia with linkages in Mexico, Bolivia and a few African countries, supports self-determination. The pillars of the institute (decolonizing education, peace building, peoples' diplomacy, and environmental governance and ethno-territorial rights) provide opportunities to reshape ways of thinking about governance.

Gruner highlighted the ongoing work of IPTP, noting the international exchanges (hosting delegations) and student involvement in intercultural courses abroad. Dr. Gruner presented the delegation coming to Algoma U from June 17 to 20, 2024. The theme of the conference is The Rights of Territory, Nature, and People's Self-Determination.

Discussion:

- None.

24.06.03.04 Convergence Centre Update [\[LINK\]](#)

M. Piercey Normore provided a brief update on the renovations in the CC building in SSM noting that renovations of the animal care facility and biosafety lab were underway with expected completion in fall 2024. It was also noted that Visual Arts department would be moving in time for fall 2024 and that work with Psychology would be done to develop a space plan for the fall (classroom space) with renovations scheduled for January 2025 that may stretch to April or May 2025.

Discussion:

- None.

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

24.06.05 DECISION ITEMS (for action)

24.06.05.01 Approval of Graduand List - Spring 2024 Convocation

NOTE: The Registrar's Office is unable to provide the list of graduands at this time; it is anticipated that this will be distributed to the Senate on June 6, 2024.

Moved [K. Scullion / D. Keough]: that the Algoma University Senate admit to their respective degrees in-course the students as submitted who have completed all the requirements of their respective degrees and that diplomas for the degrees be awarded at the June 7, 2024 meeting of the University Senate for the conferring of degrees.

[\[LIST\]](#)

Motion carried.

Moved [K. Scullion / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the students as submitted who have completed the requirements of their respective honours diploma and that Honours Diplomas be awarded at the June 7, 2024 meeting of the University Senate for the conferring of certificates. [\[LIST\]](#)

Motion carried.

Moved [K. Scullion / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the students as submitted who have completed the requirements of their respective graduate certificate and that graduate certificates be awarded at the June 7, 2024 meeting of the University Senate for the conferring of graduate certificates. [LIST]
Motion carried.

Moved [S. Meades / T. Spurway]: that the Algoma University Senate amend the 2024 Spring Convocation Graduation List Undergraduate Degree to correct the Degree/Certificate Codes and Degree/Certificate Descriptions for Jackson Ladouceur and Arian Taylor-Dufour to denote the completion of requirement for the Bachelor of Arts (Non-Honours) Psychology.
Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.02 Faculty Chair Continuation [LINK]

Moved [S. Meades / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the continuation of Faculty Chair roles, or the election of a Senator from the respective faculty to maintain such duties, on the Senate for a transition period, until June 30, 2025, as recommended by the Senate Executive Committee.

Motion Postpone Indefinitely

Discussion:

- Senators inquired about the need to have a motion to approve the continuation of the Faculty Chair roles, as they were in the Senate By-laws and it was felt that the presented motion put forward the removal of Faculty Chairs. It was noted that this issue was discussed at the last Senate meeting and at the Senate Executive meeting and the motion was being brought forward in order to gain clarity on the role of Faculty Chairs in response to their roles being removed from the Collective Agreement while responding to the request of faculty members to maintain the Faculty Chair role for a period. A Senator proposed removing the term period listed in the motion as it was felt that clarity in these roles was needed, it was felt by Senators that this did not provide the clarity they wanted. A Senator noted that they felt that a motion was not needed at this time, however that they felt a Memorandum of Understanding between the University was needed.

Moved [M. Piercey-Normore / L. Burnett]: that the Algoma University Senate postpone indefinitely the motion.
Motion carried.

24.06.05.03 Senate Composition: Size and Proportionality [LINK]

NOTE: Upon further reflection, it was determined that the Senate proportional representation required an update for the Faculty of Cross Cultural Studies.

Moved [S. Xu / K. Scullion]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the proportional representation of the Algoma University Senate, as amended, effective July 1, 2024 as follows:

Total Senate Members: 46

- *Faculty Chair: 4 Senators*
- *Department Chairs (* Includes Directors of Schools): 16 Senators*
- *Full-time faculty members [at-large]: 7 Senators*
- *Part-time teaching staff: 4 Senators*

Approved 13 SEP 2024

- *Non-teaching staff members: 7 Senators*
- *Members by virtue of office: 8 Senators*

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- A Senator inquired if the provided motion maintained Senate proportional representation which was confirmed that it did.

24.06.05.04 Senate Membership 2024-25 [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [L. Burnett / E. Nahwegezhic]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the slate as presented for Senate membership effective July 1, 2024.

Motion carried with 1 opposed.

Discussion:

- A Senator raised concerns about the Algoma University Students' Union (AUSU) election process in light of the disqualification of the presidential candidate with the most votes, the Secretary noted that AUSU provided election results which indicated that the appeals had been adjudicated and that the slated student Senators were deemed as successfully elected by AUSU.

24.06.05.05 Speaker of Senate Election

NOTE: As per the newly approved [Speaker of Senate Election process](#) and [Speaker of Senate Role Expectations](#), the Senate Executive Committee has deemed that Dr. Nikki Shaw is eligible for this role. Given there is only one candidate, a vote will be taken by ballot to acclaim the individual.

Dr. Nicola (Nikki) Shaw Speaker of Senate Application: [Statement of Intent & CV](#)

Moved [L. Burnett / W. Dew]: that the Algoma University Senate elect Dr. Nicola (Nikki) Shaw as Speaker of Senate for a one-year term effective July 1, 2024.

Motion carried

Discussion:

- Senators expressed their appreciation for Dr. Shaw's willingness to take on this role.

24.06.05.06 Deputy Speaker of Senate Election

NOTE: a call for nominations from the floor will be made at the Senate meeting.

Moved [L. Burnett / S. Gruner]: that the Algoma University Senate elect Dr. Sean Meades as Deputy Speaker of Senate for a one-year term effective July 1, 2024.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

Moved [S. Meades/ T. Spurway]: to extend to 3:15 pm.

Motion carried

24.06.05.07 Senate Executive Committee Membership Update 2023-24 [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [K. Scullion / L. Bloomfield]: that the Algoma University Senate approve Simon Xu as an interim representative for the Faculty of Science to provide perspective from this faculty in the absence of a Faculty Chair, as recommended by the Senate Executive Committee, retroactive to April 23, 2024 and ending June 30, 2024.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None

24.06.05.08 Senate Committee Membership 2024-25 [LINK]

*Moved [L. Bloomfield / K. Scullion]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the slate as presented following Senate committee composition effective July 1, 2024 as follows.
Motion carried.*

Discussion:

- E. Nahwegezhic volunteered to be the SASA member on the Teaching and Learning and Technical Support Services committee and her name was added to the list of nominations.
- A. Ridout inquired if nominations were being taken from the floor for the Senate-Board Liaison Committee, it was noted that given that there are still a number of Senator seats empty it was intended to wait until there was a full slate of Senators and that nominations should be submitted to the Senate Executive Committee in alignment with their role as a nominating body. When asked how to make this process clear, it was noted that a callout should be made through Faculty Chairs for nominations. Senators noted that in the past members of the committee were elected via nominations from the floor instead of coming from the Faculties or the Senate Executive and a separate vote should be held for it. Senators discussed the urgency of electing members to this committee noting that it has not met in quite some time and if needed that an e-vote could be run. Senators indicated that they felt that more information was needed should processes deviate from past practice.

*Moved [N. Cameron / I. Withers] to extend to 3:30 pm
Motion carried.*

*Moved [L. Burnett / S. Meades]: that the Algoma University Senate elect Alice Ridout to act as a Senator-at-large for the Senate-Board Liaison Committee effective July 1, 2024.
Motion carried with one (1) abstention (A. Ridout)*

24.06.05.09 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Recommendations

24.06.05.09.01 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Annual Report 2023-2024 [LINK]

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.09.02 Recommendation for Creation of New Faculty of Computer Science and Technology [LINK]

NOTE: The [Senate Recommendations Process Map](#) has been provided for clarity.

*Moved [W. Wei / Z. Rahman]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of a Faculty of Computer Science and Technology, as recommended by the Academic Planning & Priorities Committee.
Motion carried.*

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.09.03 Tenure-Track Faculty Hire - Psychology (Brampton Campus) [LINK]

Moved [L. Bloomfield / D. Keough]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President one (1) tenure-track faculty position in the Department of Psychology at the

Brampton Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.09.04 Major Modification - Environmental Science Graduate Certificate [[LINK](#)]

Moved [B. Schamp / C. Madliger]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the Substantial Major Modification to the Environmental Science Graduate Certificate as proposed by the Department of Environmental Science and Biology - in collaboration with the Department of Geography, Geology, and Land Stewardship as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

Motion carried.

Moved [N. Cameron / B. Schamp]: that the Algoma University Senate amend the motion to replace the word 'Management' with the word 'Stewardship'.

Motion carried

Discussion:

- It was requested that the motion be amended to reflect the proper name of the Department of Geography, Geology and Land Stewardship.

24.06.05.09.05 New Faculty Hire: Tenure-Track - Bachelor of Social Work (Timmins Campus) [[LINK](#)]

Moved [R. Torres / K. Scullion]: 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 [S. Meades / C. Madliger]: to extend to 3:45 pm.

Motion carried.

24.06.05.09.06 FoBE Tenure-Track Hire Conversion [[LINK](#)]

Moved [N. Aziz / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President the previously approved Finance and Economics position be changed to a Tenure-Track position in Decision Sciences or Data Science / Data Analytics - Brampton Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- None.

24.06.05.10 Curriculum Committee Recommendations

24.06.05.10.01 Minor Modification to English and History Programs [[LINK](#)]

Moved [L. Burnett / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minor modifications to the BA (General) English, BA (Hons) English, BA (General) History and BA (Hons) History as recommended by the Curriculum Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.10.02 Minor Modification to Computer Science Programs - Online [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [S. Xu / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minor modifications to the Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours) program, Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours) Cooperative Education program, Bachelor of Computer Science- Computer Game Technology (specialization) program, Bachelor of Computer Science- Computer Game Technology & Creative Arts (specialization) program; Bachelor of Computer Science- Mobile Software Engineering (specialization) program; Bachelor of Computer Science (General) Regular or Online; Single Major program; Bachelor of Science (Honours and Non-Honours) Single Major in Computer Science program; Bachelor of Science (General) Single Major Computer Science program; Accelerated Second Degree program Bachelor of Science in Computer Science program; Bachelor of Computer Science (General); Accelerated Second Degree program Bachelor of Science in Computer Science; and Accelerated Second Degree program Bachelor of Computer Science (General)- Cooperative Education program as recommended by the Curriculum Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None

24.06.05.10.03 Minor Modification to Computer Science Programs [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [L. Bloomfield / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minor modifications to the Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours) program, Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours) Cooperative Education program, Bachelor of Computer Science- Computer Game Technology (specialization) program, Bachelor of Computer Science- Computer Game Technology & Creative Arts (specialization) program; Bachelor of Computer Science- Mobile Software Engineering (specialization) program; Bachelor of Computer Science (General) Regular or Online; Single Major program; Bachelor of Science (Honours and Non-Honours) Single Major in Computer Science program; Bachelor of Science (General) Single Major Computer Science program; Accelerated Second Degree program Bachelor of Science in Computer Science program; Bachelor of Computer Science (General); Accelerated Second Degree program Bachelor of Science in Computer Science; and Accelerated Second Degree program Bachelor of Computer Science (General)- Cooperative Education program as recommended by the Curriculum Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.10.04 Minor Modification to Biology, Environmental Science, and Psychology Programs [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [B. Schamp / E. Nahwegezhic]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minor modifications to the B.Sc. Biology; 3 year B.Sc. Biology 4 year; B.Sc. Environmental Science 4 year; ENVS Graduate Certificate; B.Sc. Psychology 3 year; B.Sc. Psychology 4 year; B.A. Psychology 3 year; B.A. Psychology 4 year honours; and B.A. Psychology 4 year non-honours programs as recommended by the Curriculum Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.11 Quality Assurance Committee Recommendations

24.06.05.11.01 Quality Assurance Committee Annual Report 2023-2024 [\[LINK\]](#)

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.11.02 Revision to the New Program Concept Summary Template [\[LINK\]](#)

*Moved [I. Withers / K. Scullion]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the New Program Template Revision as recommended by the Quality Assurance Committee.
Motion carried.*

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.12 Research Advisory Committee Recommendations - N/A

24.06.05.13 Appeals and Academic Standards Committee Recommendations

24.06.05.13.01 Appeals and Academic Standards Committee Annual Report 2023-2024 [\[LINK\]](#)

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.14 Senate Executive Committee Recommendations

24.06.05.14.01 Senate Governance Committee [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [I. Withers / P. Steeves]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the creation of a Senate Governance Committee as a standing committee of the Senate, with the Terms of Reference and Composition, as recommended by the Senate Executive Committee.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

Moved [P. Steeves / S. Meades]: that the Algoma University Senate changes to the Senate By-laws to include the Senate Governance Committee in the listing of standing committees.

Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.14.02 I-EDI Committee Composition [\[LINK\]](#)

Moved [S. Gruner / A. Al-Krenawi]: that the Algoma University approve the following composition for the standing I-EDI Committee, as recommended by the Senate Executive Committee:

- *Vice-President Academic & Research*
- *Vice-President Nyaagaanid*
- *Two (2) members from each Faculty*
- *One (1) Part time teaching staff member*
- *One (1) Student member appointed by SASA*
- *One (1) Student member appointed by AUSU*
- *One (1) Staff member*

Motion carried.

Discussion:

- A Senator asked about the hiring process for the VP Nyaagaaniid, Anishinaabe Initiatives and EDI position in light of M. Wabano McKay's departure to which it

was noted that a memo was sent and the President's Office is developing a plan to address the vacancy.

Moved [T. Spurway / B. Schamp]: to extend to 4:00 pm.
Motion carried.

24.06.05.15 Significant Dates Proposal Fall '24 / Winter '25 / Spring '25 [LINK]

Moved [K. Scullion / N. Cameron]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed Significant Dates from September, 2024 to September, 2025.
Motion carried.

Moved [K. De Luca / L. Bloomfield] : that the Algoma University Senate amend the Significant Dates Proposal to update fall study week dates to October 12 - 18, 2024.
Motion carried.

Discussion:

- Senators thanked the Registrar for modifying the Winter term start date to accommodate their request to start the term later in January.
- It was clarified that, like last year, classes are not being canceled on the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, at the request of the President, to increase student exposure and participation in the activities.

24.06.05.16 Adjunct Professor Appointment - Faculty of Cross Cultural Studies [LINK]

Moved [S. Meades / S. Gruner]: that the Algoma University Senate approve that Patricia Tobon (Indigenous Embera-Chami) be appointed as an Adjunct Professor/ Visiting Scholar (Research and Decolonial Educational Collaborations) with CESD and the Faculty of Cross-Cultural Studies, for a three (3) year term, effective June 15, 2024.
Motion carried.

Discussion: None.

24.06.05.17 Adjunct Professor Renewal - Faculty of Cross Cultural Studies [LINK]

Moved [I. Withers / S. Meades]: that the Algoma University Senate approve that Dr. Jude Ortiz be renewed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Community Economic and Social Development for a three-year term, effective July 1, 2024.
Motion carried with one (1) abstention.

Discussion: None.

24.06.06 INFORMATION ITEMS

24.06.06.01 Unity Partnership Presentation [September]

24.06.07 STANDING REPORTS

Reports treated as read.

24.06.07.01 Decanal Reports [DECANAL REPORTS](#)

Discussion: None.

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

Discussion: None.

24.06.07.03 President and Vice-Chancellor Report PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Discussion: None.

24.06.08 DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD

Discussion:

- Senator Meades acknowledged the excellent work of Dr. Teryn Bruni in mobilizing the community to maintain the YMCA open in SSM.

24.06.09 OTHER BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Discussion:

- A Senator raised a concern about the new protocol for virtual observers posted on the Senate webpage, noting concerns surrounding the timeline to submit the requests and the clarification that observers are not to speak in meetings. The Associate University Secretary indicated that the protocol was brought in by the Senate Executive Committee in February, as there was no protocol in place for the public to access the Senate meetings before, and that this was also a risk mitigation tactic in accordance with best practice in the sector to avoid instances of nefarious behavior by bad actors (i.e. "Zoom bombing"). It was noted that this feedback would be brought back to the Senate Executive Committee for consideration to revise the protocols in place.

Moved [K. Scullion / I. Withers]: that the Algoma University Senate amend the 2024 Spring Convocation Graduation List Undergraduate Degree to include Marie-Pier Lecours who has completed the requirements for the Bachelors of Arts (Non-Honours): Psychology.

Motion carried.

Moved [S. Meades / I. Withers] to extend to 4:15 pm.

Motion carried.

24.06.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Discussion:

- The Dean of Sciences noted that the university is hosting an information session on June 17 at 6:30 pm for high school students and people looking for a change of career on how to get into medical school followed by a session on programs at Algoma University.
- Dr. Gruner invited Senators to attend the June 19 international forum on Environmental Governance & the Rights of Nature: Movements for Water, Biodiversity and Self Determination on the SSM campus and online.

24.06.11 ADJOURNMENT

Moved [P. Steeves / D. Keough]: to adjourn the Senate meeting at 3:53 pm