



Algoma University Senate

**Ninth Regular Meeting of 2023-24**

**May 3, 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, A. Ridout, K. Shannon [PTF], T. Tchir [Deputy Speaker], E. Turgeon  
[absent/regrets: L. Burnett, J.P. Chalykoff, D. Nyaga, R. Torres]

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

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

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

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

**Guests:** A. Bodrul Alam, Y. Feng, M. Garcia-Ruiz, L. James, F. Khandaker, N. Konior, B. Krmpotich, R. Lin, T. Robinson-Smith, K. Rousseau, 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 1:06 pm.*

## **24.05.01      APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Moved [D. Keough / S. Meades]: that the agenda for the May 3, 2024 meeting of the Senate be approved.*

Motion carried.

### **Discussion:**

- None.

## **24.05.02      APPROVAL OF MINUTES, from the meeting, April 5, 2024 [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [ K. Scullion / I. Withers ]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the minutes from the Senate meeting on April 5, 2024.*

Motion carried.

### **Discussion:**

- A Senator inquired if revisions to the appeal process would be brought forward to the Senate for discussion to which the committee indicated that their report to the Senate was not ready yet.

## **24.05.03      PRESENTATIONS**

### **24.05.03.01      Presentation on *The Algomian*, Dr. Tony Robinson-Smith [\[LINK\]](#)**

Dr. Robinson-Smith provided an overview of the creation of the online creative writing journal *The Algomian* noting the intent to feature the voices of individuals within Algoma University and the community and the team's commitment to EDI. He also provided an overview of the editorial team composition and advised that a new issue is scheduled to come out in June 2024.

### **Discussion:**

- Senators commended the opportunity for students and Indigenous people to have their work published and their voices heard noting the vibrancy created on campus at the launch of the first issue. Dr. Robinson-Smith confirmed that they would like to include visual art in the future and invited departments to encourage their students to submit their creative work.

### **24.05.03.02      Creation of a New Faculty of Computer Science and Technology [\[LINK\]](#)**

L.Bloomfield and S. Xu presented a proposal for the creation of a New Faculty of Computer Science and Technology noting the expedited growth of the faculty that was projected to continue, and the need for more faculty hires and administrative support to manage this. Extensive consultations had taken place since June 2023 to develop the presented proposal.

**Discussion:**

- A Senator inquired about whether the provincial cap on international student enrollment would impact Computer Science, to which it was indicated that there was continual projected growth within Computer Science and that this aligned with the provincial Government's focus on STEM based programs.
- It was indicated that the creation of a new faculty requires a change to the By-laws and that a motion would come forward for such.

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

**24.05.05 DECISION ITEMS (for action)**

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

**24.05.05.02 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee Recommendations**

**24.05.05.02.01 New Faculty Hire: 24/25 Psychology CLTA, Sault Ste. Marie Campus [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [D.Keough / S. Xu]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President the new Contractually Limited Term Appointment (CLTA) faculty position in the Department of Psychology at the Sault Ste. Marie Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.'*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

**24.05.05.04.02 Final Assessment Report: Geography, Geology and Land Stewardship [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [S. Gruner / S. Khan]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the Final Assessment Report for the Geography, Geology and Land Stewardship program as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

**24.05.05.02.03 New Department Request - Computer Science [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [S. Xu / L. Bloomfield]: that the Algoma University Senate recommends that the Board of Governors approve the establishment of two new departments under the School of Computer Science and Technology: the Department of Computer Science and Mathematics; and the Department of Information Technology and Professional Studies.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

**24.05.05.02.04 Hiring Requests: Computer Science and Technology [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [S. Xu / L. Bloomfield]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President two (2) new Contractually Limited Term Appointment (CLTA) faculty positions in Software Engineering in the School of Computer Science and Technology at the Brampton Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

*Moved [S. Xu / L. Bloomfield]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President two (2) new Tenure Track Appointment (TT) faculty positions in Software Engineering in the School of Computer Science and Technology at the Brampton Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

*Moved [S. Xu / L. Bloomfield]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President one (1) new Contractually Limited Term Appointment (CLTA) faculty positions in Computer Networks in the School of Computer Science and Technology at the Brampton Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

*Moved [S. Xu / A. Sultana]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President two (2) new Tenure Track Appointment (TT) faculty positions in Computer Networks in the School of Computer Science and Technology at the Brampton Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

#### **24.05.05.02.04 Hiring Request: Biology [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [L. Bloomfield / C. Madliger]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President one (1) new Contractually Limited Term Appointment (CLTA) faculty position in Statistics and Microbiology in the Department of Biology at the Sault Ste. Marie Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

*Moved [L. Bloomfield / C. Madliger]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President one (1) new Contractually Limited Term Appointment (CLTA) faculty position in Genetics, Microbiology in the*

*Department of Biology at the Sault Ste. Marie Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

*Moved [C. Madliger / L. Bloomfield]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President one (1) new Contractually Limited Term Appointment (CLTA) faculty position in Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry in the Department of Biology at the Sault Ste. Marie Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

*Moved [C. Madliger / L. Bloomfield]: that the Algoma University Senate recommend to the President one (1) new Contractually Limited Term Appointment (CLTA) faculty position in Organic Chemistry, General Chemistry and Environmental Chemistry in the Department of Biology at the Sault Ste. Marie Campus as recommended by the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

#### **24.05.05.04 Curriculum Committee Recommendations**

##### **24.05.05.04.01 Program Revision, Minor Modification: Psychology, Computer Science, Law and Justice [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [D. Keough / A. Al-Krenawi]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed revisions to the BA PSYC (Honours); BA PSYC Combined Major (Honours); BA PSYC (Non-honours); BA PSYC Combined Major (Non-honours); BSc PSYC (Honours); BSc PSYC (Non-honours); BA PSYC (General); BA PSYC Combined Major (General); BSc COSC (Honours and Non-honours); and Minor in Law and Justice (JURI) programs as proposed by the Department of Psychology, School of Computer Science and Technology and Department of Law and Politics.*

**Discussion:**

- Senators raised concerns about a lack of consultation at the departmental level for the Department of Law and Politics; it was noted that this name change request would not affect content and access to the course.
- A Senator requested that the motion be postponed to the June Senate meeting.

*Moved [A. Ridout / K. Scullion]: that the Algoma University Senate postpone the motion to the June Senate.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion**

- A point of order was made to clarify that motions cannot be received in the Zoom chat. The Zoom chat function is used solely for voting. A. Ridout was asked to verbally present the motion to postpone.

**24.05.05.04.02 Program Revision, Minor Modification: Business & Economics [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [ P. Matthews / S. Meades ]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed revisions to the Bachelor of Business Administration program and Finance and Economics program as proposed by the School of Business and Economics and recommended by the Curriculum Committee of Senate.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

**24.05.05.04.03 Program Revision, Minor Modification: MSc. Biology [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [ K. Scullion / C. Madliger ]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the proposed new course: Thesis Research as presented by the Department of Biology and recommended by the Curriculum Committee of Senate.*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:** None.

**24.05.05.05 Quality Assurance Committee Recommendations - N/A**

**24.05.05.06 Research Advisory Committee Recommendations - N/A**

**24.05.05.07 Appeals and Academic Standards Committee Recommendations - N/A**

**24.05.05.08 Senate Executive Committee Recommendations**

**24.05.05.08.01 Creation of Senate Governance Committee [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Notice of Motion*

*Moved [ / ]: that the Algoma University Senate approve the creation of a Senate Governance Committee as a standing committee of Senate, thereby amending the Algoma University Senate By-Laws accordingly.*

The Deputy Speaker provided an overview of this proposal noting that this motion is based on previous conversations of the Senate Executive Committee and the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Committees. The implementation of a Senate Governance committee would allow for a

body reporting to the Senate to review, evaluate and propose enhancements to Senate governance practices with assistance from the Office of the Secretariat. It was noted that the Senate Executive Committee would recommend Committee membership and a terms of reference for this committee at the June Senate meeting.

**Discussion:**

- Senators voiced concerns with regards to the process of bringing forward motions to the Senate and indicated that the Ad Hoc Committee on Committees proposed changes to the By-laws to address this issue. They further addressed their desire to simplify the approval process for minor curriculum modifications and for increased consultations at the department and faculty levels. It was clarified that the Senate Executive called a special meeting to review the Ad Hoc Committee on Committees's report and that while it was recognized that much time and effort was put into this, the motions were not ready to come to the Senate as they were mainly out of the scope of the mandate of the ad hoc committee, lacked consultation and research, and that some recommendations were not in compliance with the Algoma University Act and the Senate By-laws.
- It was clarified that the Senate Executive Committee discussed maintaining the Faculty Chair roles on the Senate and will bring a motion to the June Senate meeting to that effect.
- Senators inquired about specific deadlines to submit motions for the June Senate meeting which is May 23, 2024. The Secretary reminded the Senate that, in the fall of 2023, the Senate Executive Committee agreed to establish the deadlines for Senate materials along with a template for Senate submissions with this information included, that a calendar for AU Senate Meetings and Submission Deadlines was created and circulated. Senators asked that the calendar be recirculated.
- Senators addressed the needs for further clarification and consultation on faculty structure and leadership changes as well as decisions that come to the Senate, to which it was noted that a strategy would need to be brought forward to address this with the possibility of coordinating a retreat where conversations could be lead by facilitators to address the complexity of decision making.

**24.05.05.09 Speaker of Senate Role Expectations and Election Process [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [K. Scullion / S. Xu]: that the Senate approve the Speaker of Senate Role Expectations and election process, as recommended by the Senate Executive Committee.*

Motion carried. I oppose and 1 abstention.

**Discussion:**



- A Senator indicated that the Speaker usually sits on the APC but did not receive an invitation this year. The Secretary noted that the APC is undergoing a reorganization.
- Following questions from a Senator, it was clarified that the briefing note was drafted by the Secretariat Office and was brought to the Senate Executive Committee for review and feedback on two occasions, following which it received unanimous approval from the committee.
- The Deputy Speaker encouraged Senators to put their name forward for Speaker.

**24.05.05.10 Senate Composition: Size and Proportionality [\[LINK\]](#)**

*Moved [ S. Meades / P. Steeves ] that the Algoma University Senate extend the sunset clause [until June 30, 2025] on proportional representation of the Algoma University Senate, effective July 1, 2024 as follows:*

*Total Senate Members: 45*

- *Faculty Chairs: 4 Senators*
- *Department Chairs (\*Includes Directors of Schools): 14 Senators*
- *Full-time faculty members [at-large]: 8 Senators*
- *Part-time teaching staff: 4 Senators*
- *Non-teaching staff members: 7 Senators*
- *Members by virtue of office: 8 Senators*

Motion carried.

**Discussion:**

- Senators inquired about the role of Faculty Chairs on the Senate Executive. It was clarified that the Senate Executive will bring a motion at the June Senate meeting to that effect. This will provide time for the Senate to discuss the role of Faculty Chairs.
- Senators inquired how the approval of newly approved faculty positions and department chair impacted the presented proportions, to which it was noted that the motion reflected active full-time teaching staff as of January 1st as per established process and that this would be re-examined for the next governance cycle.
- Senators inquired if this motion would affect committee composition as discussed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Committees. It was noted that the Senate Executive recommended that recommendations from the Committee on Committees be taken into consideration by the proposed Governance Committee. The Senate Composition motion was brought forward at the May Senate meeting in order for the Senate to elect members at the June Senate meeting.

**24.05.05.11 Adjunct Professor Appointment - Faculty of Science [\[LINK\]](#)**



*Moved [L. Bloomfield / C. Madliger : that the Algoma University Senate approve that Dr. Dave Morris be appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology for a three-year term, effective July 1, 2024.*  
Motion carried.

L. Bloomfield presented Dr. Morris' CV and credentials to the Senate.

**Discussion:** None.

## **24.05.06 INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **24.05.06.01 Budget 2024-25 Presentation (June Senate)**

The 2024-2025 budget will be approved by the Board in May and a presentation would be brought to the Senate following approval.

### **24.05.06.02 Unity Partnership Presentation (June Senate)**

### **24.05.06.03 Upcoming Senate E-Vote for List of Spring 2024 Graduands (late May)**

Senators were advised of an upcoming e-vote to approve the list of graduands in advance of the Spring 2024 Convocations.

### **24.05.06.04 Spring 2024 Convocation Ceremonies**

#### **Sault Ste. Marie**

- Saturday, June 8, 2024, 2pm - 5pm

#### **Brampton**

- Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 3pm - 5pm
- Wednesday, June 19, 2024, 10am - 12pm; and 3pm - 5pm

**Discussion:** None.

## **24.05.07 STANDING REPORTS**

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

The Deans provided overviews of their reports.

**Discussion:** None.

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

Dr. Piercey-Normore submitted her report as is.

#### **Discussion:**

- Senators inquired about a timeline for extensions of research assistants to which the VPAR indicated that a call went out this week and will be extended for another year.

**24.05.08 DISCUSSION AND QUESTION PERIOD**

**Discussion:**

- Following a question from Senators, it was confirmed that for the next cycle, Senate meetings would be planned to be delivered hybridly from the Sault Ste. Marie campus, with virtual attendance options primarily for Senators from Brampton and Timmins.

**24.05.09 OTHER BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion:** None.

**24.05.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Discussion:**

- S. Gruner noted that an international delegation on decolonizing education will be in Sault Ste Marie from June 17 to 21, as a follow up from a conversation started last year.
- S. Meades brought attention to the annual Jane's Walk to commemorate the life of Jane Jakobs.

**24.05.11 IN CAMERA SESSION**

*Moved [S. Meades / N. Aziz]: to move into an in camera session.*  
Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MOTIONS MADE IN CLOSED SESSION**

*Moved [S. Meades / D. Keough]: to approve the motions that were made in the in camera session.*  
Motion carried.

**24.05.12 ADJOURNMENT**

*Moved [D.Keough / K. Scullion]: to adjourn the Senate meeting at 4:24 pm.*  
Motion carried.

**Appendix 1:** [In Camera Spate of Minutes - May 3, 2024](#)