Report of the NUFA Communications Committee (April 21st, 2014)

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The NUFA Communications Committee has met a total of three times for the 2013-2014 academic year. The last meeting was held March 26th, 2014 in order to discuss Issue #20 of the NUFA News which we hope to release at some point during the week of April 21st, 2014. For the forthcoming issue the committee decided to focus attention on the issue of Program Prioritization and its implications for faculty and the quality of research and pedagogy at Nipissing.

Aside from two pieces dedicated to the Program Prioritization question, Issue # 20 will also contain all of the NUFA News regular features (Spotlight on Research, the Cartoon, CASBU Update, Special Announcements etc.). In addition, the Committee had planned soliciting a piece on the comparative value of online learning vs. live delivery in traditional lecture and seminar formats. Unfortunately, we have been unable to find anyone who could contribute something on this topic at this very busy time of year. Issue # 20 will therefore be a little shorter than some of the earlier issues this year.

As Chair of the Communications Committee I plan to hold one more meeting after the release of Issue # 20 in order to discuss suggestions for the future activities of the Committee and the direction of NUFA News going forward. This Committee has the obligation not only to inform the membership of issues impacting their interests, but is also obliged to engage and mobilize the membership in the defense of those interests and of the integrity of Nipissing. The Committee will therefore discuss some possible strategies to better meet these obligations.

This Committee has not incurred any costs in conducting its activities this year.

Prepared by Richard Wenghofer (Chair), NUFA Communications Committee