

## **NUFA Communications Committee**

### **Annual Report (2014-2015)**

Wendy Peters (Co-chair)

Daniel Jarvis

Uldis Kundrats

Richard Wenghofer, (Co-chair)

The NUFA Communications Committee has met five times in the 2014-2015 academic year (September 26, January 15, January 20, March 17, and April 7). The purpose of these meetings was to plan issues of the NUFA News. Issue 21 (November 2014) focused on the issue of online learning and alternative delivery of courses in a digital environment. Issue 22 (March 2015) addressed the recent staffing cuts made by the administration and focused in particular on the elimination of twenty-two contract faculty positions and the consequences of those cuts for academic integrity of Nipissing University.

Issue 23 has since been completed and has been submitted for executive approval. Issue 23 focuses the current contract negotiations with the employer, with articles addressing the recent audit of the University's current financial position, possible reforms to the Faculty pension program, and the first piece dedicated to strike preparedness. The Communications Committee considered running an article on the sudden rise in senior administrative salaries at a time when faculty are being let go, but felt that more time was needed to sort through the rather complicated salary structures of senior administrators. The Committee will reconsider this article for the next issue (Issue 24), which should come out later in the Spring, and which will continue to focus on negotiations with the employer and strike preparedness.