

# THE NUFA NEWS

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Murphy / Murton / Owens / Peters /

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## Article 18, Service, and You

*Nathan Kozuskanich, Associate Professor of History and President of NUFA*

We all know that full-time Members' workload is comprised of three elements: teaching, research, and service, as outlined in Article 18. As a small and primarily undergraduate institution whose lifeblood is tuition dollars and government grants based on enrolment, the importance of teaching is pretty easy to understand. Creating knowledge through research to support teaching, and to contribute to our professions, also makes sense as a priority. That leaves service, the perceived poor relation of workload often considered an obligation and a chore rather than an essential part of how the university functions.

Article 18. 4 (b) reminds us that service is the "right and the responsibility" of faculty Members, and that full-time faculty must "accept a fair and reasonable share of the governance and decision-making workload at the University." It is therefore incumbent upon us to actively participate in "academic unit, school, Faculty, Senate, Board and other University committees." While we must remain vigilant to protect our right to participate in decision-making processes at Nipissing, it is equally important that we accept the responsibility that right requires.

It is also crucially important that full time Members remain attuned to the issues that impact their part time colleagues. Part time faculty are marginalized in a variety of ways when it comes to decision-making: first, no service is expected of contract Members and thus any service they do is not compensated; second, while CASBU Members must be notified of all meetings of their academic unit, they are collectively granted only one vote; thirdly, they are excluded from any in camera sessions of Faculty Council (CASBU 18.4). Until we can bargain more equitable language, it is essential that full time Members remain in communication with contract faculty to ensure their concerns are heard and acted upon.

Think about how you can better serve Nipissing University, and then take action. Start by reading the materials for Senate, whether you are a senator or not. For those of you on committees and councils (thank you!), make sure you report back to those you represent (your department meetings are a good place to start). Encourage your colleagues to serve as well. I'm sure most of us were asked at one point in our careers to consider stepping up and participating in committee work outside of our departments. We have an impressive array of faculty here with many different skill sets they can bring to the table. And don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone to accept an assignment when asked, including work for NUFA. Many hands do indeed make for lighter work.

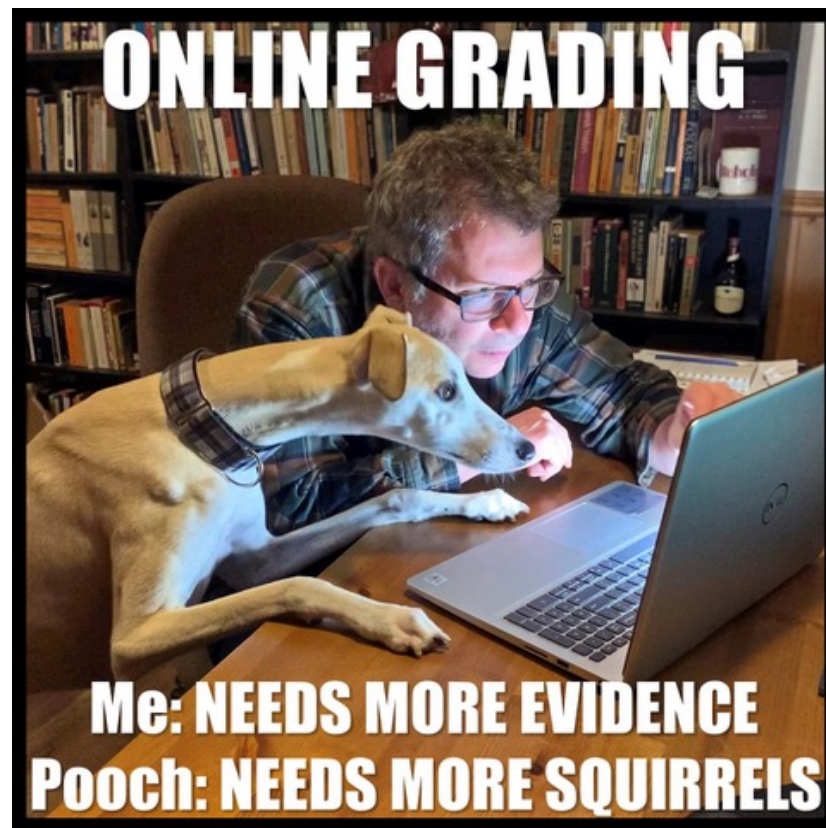
As 18.4 (c) reminds us, active service is crucial to the "collegial and peer judgment decision-making process[es]" that shape the university's direction. The current pandemic has highlighted that now more than ever we need to play an active and informed role in collegial governance. There are significant problems facing our institution and we must be part of the solution. Take ownership of your role in governance. If we don't help make decisions, then someone will make them for us.

## New Faculty Profile

*Tyson Stewart, Assistant Professor, Indigenous Studies*

Tyson Stewart is Anishinaabe from the Teme Augama Anishnabai with family from Temagami and Temiskaming Shores. He remains connected to the community and gains strength from his family and the Northern Ontario environment. Tyson studied film and media studies for his BA (Hons.) and MA at York University in Toronto and completed his PhD at Laurentian University in Sudbury. Tyson's doctoral research on film and philosophy drew from a few interconnected disciplinary approaches, such as deconstructive textual analysis, film and photography studies, and psychoanalytic theory. His first book, *Cinema Derrida* (to be published in late 2020 by Peter Lang, New York), charts Jacques Derrida's collaborations and appearances in film, video, and television beginning with *Ghost Dance* (dir. McMullen, West Germany/UK) in 1983 and ending with the 2002 biographical documentary *Derrida* (dir. Dick and Ziering, USA). Throughout the book, Tyson explains how various techniques and "spectral effects" such as slow motion, stillness, repetition, *mise-en-abîme*, direct address, and focus on body parts/bodily presence bring about a structure of spectrality wherein the past other returns to make impressions and ethical demands on the viewer.

Tyson is currently working on a SSHRC-funded research project that seeks to foster a critical perspective of how the Truth and Reconciliation Commission as a cultural and political phenomenon framed around the contentious concepts of "truth" and "reconciliation" has been processed by filmmakers. Drawing on film studies, Indigenous studies, and auto-ethnographic methodologies, the goal for this project is to bring about an awareness and engagement with the cultural politics of survivance and resurgence by studying the prominent themes in new Indigenous cinema. Since the Isuma-produced *Atanarjuat: The Fast Runner* in 2001 and the establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission there has been a major swell in Indigenous dramatic film productions in Canada. Indigenous filmmakers are finding ways of expressing new and traditional forms of Indigeneity, like the youthful survivance, two-spirited ways of knowing, and female resilience in films like *Every Emotion Costs* (dir. Naponse, 2010), *Rhymes for Young Ghouls* (dir. Barnaby, 2013), *Uvanga* (dir. Cousineau and



Ivalu, 2013), *Fire Song* (dir. Jones, 2015), *Searchers* (dir. Kunuk, 2016), and *Blood Quantum* (dir. Barnaby, 2019). Viewed through the lens of Thomas King's axiom "The truth about stories is that's all we are," this new crop of narrative films helps us navigate the world and all our relations within it. This project will also highlight the unique challenges that Indigenous filmmakers face as they integrate traditional knowledge and protocols into their productions and continue to make their community-based art with relatively low budgets in diverse locations, including Northern and remote areas.

## The First NUFA Virtual Cooking Class

Led by Susan Srigley and organized by Ali Hatéf



## Spotlight on Research

Rebecca Kasperavicius, Electronic Resource Librarian, Canadore/Nipissing Library

Rebecca Kasperavicius is Nipissing University and Canadore College's Electronic Resources Librarian. Rebecca's role involves managing the Library's electronic information resources, information literacy (IL) instruction, reference assistance, monograph donations, collection development/management and liaison work for Business, English Studies, Fine and Performing Arts, Gender Equality and Social Justice, Philosophy, Political Science, and Economics. Rebecca sits on numerous internal and external committees, including NUFA's Scholarship Committee and the Ontario Council of University Libraries Information Resources Committee. In addition to this full-time employment, Rebecca is in her first year of Nipissing's PhD program researching perceptions of Librarians and Librarianship, IL instruction, and embedded librarianship.

Librarianship, at its core, is a service profession. That being said, the ways in which Librarians serve their community has evolved and will continue to do so, so long as library users do. Within Academic Librarianship, however, one thing that remains slow to change is perceptions of Librarians and the work they perform. Research into perceptions of Academic Librarians, specifically those held by Faculty, is not a new endeavour (see Knapp, 1955) and literature in this area is quite extensive, gaining interest around the same time as Faculty unions and associations bring Librarians to their membership (Mills

and McCullough, 2018). This shift in labour relations transforms the role of the Librarian, making Librarians look more like Faculty, where their responsibilities include teaching, research, and service.

Inspired by the recent entry of Nipissing Librarians, Rebecca's research will investigate current perceptions of Librarians and Librarianship at a small Northern Ontario academic institution, paying particular attention to collaborations with Faculty during information literacy instruction and embedded librarianship programs. Rebecca hopes that if misconceptions are identified - misconceptions having unintended, yet harmful consequences (see Davis Kendrick, 2017) - creative and collaborative partnerships at the local level will bring about meaningful change for our institution and its stakeholders.

Those Faculty members interested in learning more about Rebecca's research or those willing to participate, should email [rebeccak@nipissingu.ca](mailto:rebeccak@nipissingu.ca). If you are curious about Rebecca's daily work activities, you can check out her posts on Instagram, where she did a [@lifeoflibrarians](#) account take over in September 2019.

### References

Davis Kendrick, K. (2017). The low morale experience of academic librarians: A phenomenological study, *Journal of Library Administration*, 57(8), 846-878.

Knapp, P. A. (1955). The college librarian: Sociology of a professional specialization. *College & Research Libraries*, 16(1), 66-72.

Mills, C., & McCullough, I. (2018). Academic librarians and labor unions: Attitudes and experiences. *Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, 18(4), 805-829.

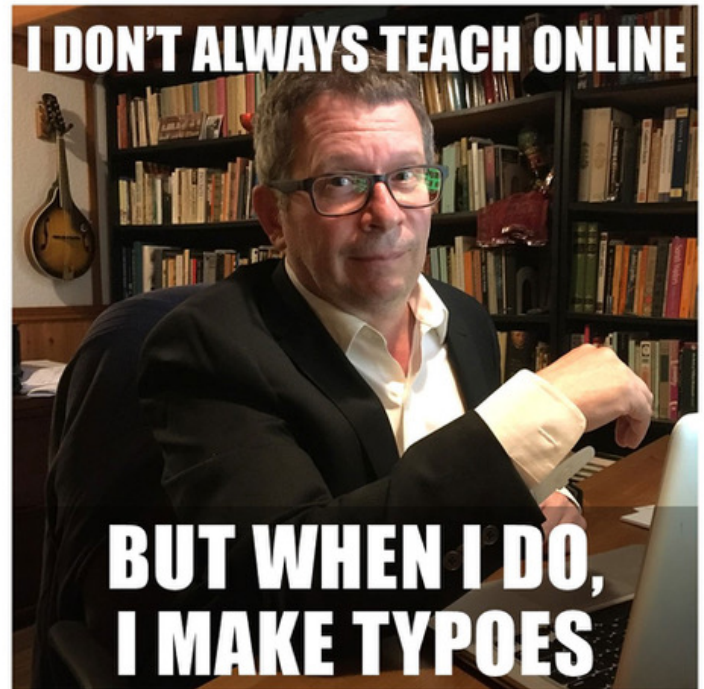


Image created by Lindsey McMaster and Rob Breton

## Nipissing University Tennis Association (NUTA) Inaugural Season

*Robin Gendron, Professor, Department of History*

The nets at the municipal tennis courts near the West Ferris Community Centre came down over the weekend of October 17-18, bringing to a close a tennis season that began in May. Regrettably, the members of the Nipissing University Tennis Association (disclaimer: NUTA is in no way accredited or endorsed by Nipissing University, particularly given its post-tennis activities) never got the chance to play the one last time that would have enabled Dean Hay to supply his promised round of post-match refreshments. Nonetheless, the season was a resounding success, providing its members with fun, exercise, companionship, laughs, the occasional bruise, thankfully few injuries, and a much-needed (socially distanced) release from pandemic related anxieties and restrictions. Many thanks to the city of North Bay for providing the courts and to the North Bay Pickleball Club for co-existing with an occasionally rowdy group of interlopers. We would also like to thank the Dech and Langdon families for tolerating our frequent use of their patios and/or decks for our post-match recovery.

With the end of the season, however, the time has come to announce the inaugural NUTA awards or the Nutties:

The 'I Thought I Got It Past Him' award for net play: Todd Horton

The 'Don't Hit It To His Backhand' award: Jeff Dech

The 'It's Like Playing Against a Wall' award: David Tabachnick

The Rookie of the Year award: Mike Parr (who joined late but came on furiously in the closing weeks).

The 6th Man award: David Zarifa (here's hoping he gets more court time next year)

The Reflexes of a Cat award: Adrian Langdon

The Silky Smooth (except when it isn't) Forehand award: Robin Gendron

The Best Use of Technology award: Jeff Dech (for the Dech Deck Cam) and Glen Sharpe (for the introduction of musical accompaniment)

The Poet Laureate award: Dean Hay ('There once was a man named Hay ...')

The 'I Left It All On The Practice Court' award: Jeff Scott

The Silken Laumann award for Resilience and Determination: Glen Sharpe (for returning to the court within a week of popping his shoulder)

The 'You Know It's Coming But Still Can't Do Anything About It' award for best dropshot: Dean Hay & David Tabachnick

The Bull in a China Shop award: Todd Horton (for his takedown of Adrian Langdon, his partner at the time)

Most Improved Player: a tie between all members of NUTA, with the quality of play by all concerned improving markedly over the course of the season.

With the arrival of the colder weather, we look forward to shifting our play indoors, with badminton a possibility. We will pick up our tennis racquets again as soon as possible in the spring, though, and all members of the Nipissing community of whatever age, gender, or skill level are welcome to join in the fun. Anyone interested should contact NUTA membership co-ordinator Jeff Scott at [jeffs@nipissingu.ca](mailto:jeffs@nipissingu.ca).



Image created by Lindsey McMaster and Rob Breton

## Guide to Grievance

Nathan Colborne and Sarah Winters

The last few months of forced transition to emergency remote teaching has meant a lot more work for all of us lucky enough to still have work at all. In this new situation, you are probably doing work you don't normally do and maybe being asked to do even more work by your Dean, Student Services, or others. You may be wondering if the demand to do all this new work is really consistent with the Collective Agreement. This may surprise you, but you can't rely on your employer to stay within the bounds of the CA or to warn you if they're about to breach it.

Of course, you can always check the CA for yourself, but if you have doubts about what is being asked of you, please contact your union. We are here to help but we can only help solve a problem we know about. So keep those lines of communication open!

As for whom you should contact first, and how, you have a number of options open to you. You can contact any member of the Grievance Committee but we encourage all members to start with the Grievance Officers, Nathan Colborne and Sarah Winters, while CASBU members also have the option of contacting CASBU Officer, Rhiannon Don and Member at Large for CASBU, Erin Dokis. As for how,

back in the old days of wine and roses, popping your head around an office door would have been a great way to ask a quick question but now we'd have to recommend email. Once that contact has been made, phone calls or Zoom meetings can easily be arranged if you need to talk something through at length. Please don't hesitate: every member of Grievance wants to help and needs to know.

Grievance email addresses:

Nathan Colborne [nathanc@nipissingu.ca](mailto:nathanc@nipissingu.ca) or ncolborne@hotmail.com

Sarah Winters [sarahw@nipissingu.ca](mailto:sarahw@nipissingu.ca) or sarahfionawinters@gmail.com

Rhiannon Don [casbuofficer@gmail.com](mailto:casbuofficer@gmail.com) or

[rhiannod@nipissingu.ca](mailto:rhiannod@nipissingu.ca) or rhiannon.don@gmail.com

Erin Dokis [erind@nipissingu.ca](mailto:erind@nipissingu.ca) or erindokis@gmail.com

Nathan Kozuskanich [nathank@nipissingu.ca](mailto:nathank@nipissingu.ca) or nathan.kozuskanich@gmail.com

Rob Breton [robbr@nipissingu.ca](mailto:robbr@nipissingu.ca) or robbreton@hotmail.com

And of course you can also contact Angela, at [nufaoffice@gmail.com](mailto:nufaoffice@gmail.com).

## NUFA's Instagram Account

*Wendy Peters, Associate Professor, Gender Equality and Social Justice*

As you may know, NUFA's Instagram is an outward facing account, meaning that it is *not* designed only for NUFA members, but also for students, staff and community members. The slogan is "We Live Here" and the goal is to showcase members as vibrant and committed to community. We know that you are massively busy, but if you are willing it would be interesting for our (presently) 197 followers to get a snapshot of what you are up to. What does online teaching look like for you? If teaching is *not* what you would like to highlight, we are also interested in member's community contributions or career successes. Our recent posts highlight Jennifer Barnett volunteering at the St. Andrew's food bank, Dean Hay teaching Phys. Ed. online from home (in a most excellently staged photo), David Borman's recent publication, the NUFA Social Committee's virtual cooking class (thank you Ali), Renee Valiquette's adorable child and Laura Peturson's new mural at the splashpad. Lindsey McMaster, Rob Breton and Anahita Baregheh sent us some memes that they made, but that is a high bar, obviously. We can't all be that good. You can see those memes in this issue of the News. If

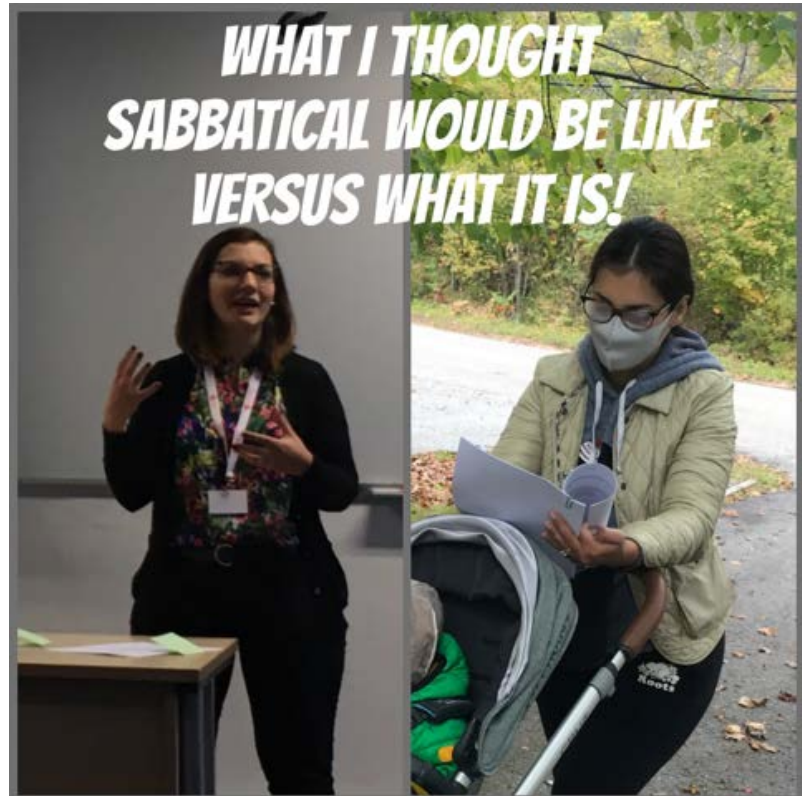


Image created by Anahita Beregheh

you are willing to contribute one image or some images for the NUFA Instagram account that profile your work, passions or community engagements please send them to [wendyp@nipissingu.ca](mailto:wendyp@nipissingu.ca). As you may know, we are looking for "good" photos; not high resolution, just better than average photos since Instagram is an image-based platform. This is *not* a text-based

platform. There is a rolling deadline, so sending a photo or a few photos anytime this year would be great. If you would like to see the Instagram account for inspiration, please search @nufacultyassociation on Instagram. Please know that we will not post all photos. For example, we can only post so many zoom screenshots before we will get unfollowed by all the people.

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## Call for Submissions – Union Stories

The NUFA News would like to hear about your experience with unions and labour issues prior to your arrival at Nipissing University. Some of you may have been involved in labour action, organizing, negotiating, or other union activities as a grad student, a limited-term instructor, or while working in the public school system or in a non-academic setting. Or you may have something to share about the experience of your parents or grandparents in the labour movement. We'd like to hear your stories and include them in our next issue. Submissions welcome to any member of the Communications Committee:

Margaret Owens [margareo@nipissingu.ca](mailto:margareo@nipissingu.ca), Dana Murphy [danam@nipissingu.ca](mailto:danam@nipissingu.ca), Wendy Peters [wendyp@nipissingu.ca](mailto:wendyp@nipissingu.ca), Jamie Murton [jmurton@nipissingu.ca](mailto:jmurton@nipissingu.ca).

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## Welcome to our New Members

Welcome to Dr. Sandra Goldsworthy in Nursing and Dr. Nancy Stevens in Indigenous Studies, who have recently joined us on tenure-track appointments.

Welcome to Alisha Millar and Dr. Anupriya Singh in Business, and Dr. Duane Rousselle in Sociology, who are joining us on limited-term appointments.

Returning in limited term appointments are: Dr. Adam Langridge in Philosophy, Jennifer Black in Nursing, Dr. Serena Kataoka in Social Welfare and Social Development, Dr. Adrian Langdon in Religions and Cultures, Dr. Paul Monaghan in Classical Studies, Dr. Renee Valiquette in Gender Equity and Social Justice, Dr. Eric Weichel in Fine and Performing Arts, and Jennifer Wraight in Sociology.

Welcome to all our new and returning part-time Members

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## Congratulations are in Order

Congratulations to our long-standing members who are now in tenure-track positions: Dr. Herminio Teixeira in Political Science, Dr. Tyson Stewart in Indigenous Studies and Dr. Jeffrey Thornborrow in Social Work.

Congratulations to Dr. Gordon Morrell (History) on his recent retirement.

# NUFA

Nipissing University Faculty Association