



Memorandum

Office of the Provost
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TO: Senate

FROM: Prof. Anthony C. Masi, Provost

SUBJECT: Update on Administrative Response to the Principal’s Taskforce on Diversity, Excellence and Community Engagement

DATE: 18 April 2012

DOCUMENT #: D11-60

ACTION REQUIRED: INFORMATION APPROVAL/DECISION

ISSUE: This presentation provides an update to Senate on the Administrative Response to the Principal’s Taskforce on Diversity, Excellence and Community Engagement being developed by the Office of the Provost.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE: In fall 2009, Principal Heather Munroe-Blum convened a Task Force on Diversity, Excellence, and Community Engagement comprised of 25 individuals drawn from across the McGill community. Its purpose was “to create a forum for new ideas, initiatives, and mechanisms to better achieve excellence in pursuing our academic mission.”

After extensive consultation with the McGill community, the Task Force offered three broad recommendations that emphasized:

- 1) a firm commitment to the recruitment, retention, and professional development of a diverse and excellent academic, administrative and support staff, and students;
- 2) a broadened definition of excellence that would ensure the indicators with which we measure ourselves reflect the University’s distinctive mission; and,
- 3) an affirmation of McGill’s service to society that builds on our history and expands the University’s commitment to positive engagement with—and impact on—external communities.

As requested by the Task Force, the Office of the Provost is developing a response to the Report, and this presentation to Senate offers an update on this work.

MOTION OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL: N/A

PRIOR CONSULTATION: Senior administration
Faculty Deans

NEXT STEPS: The final Administrative Response to the Principal's Taskforce on Diversity, Excellence and Community Engagement will be presented to Senate in the Fall term, following which it will be implemented.

APPENDICES: PowerPoint Presentation
