

Senate met on April 19, 2022. This report contains items which are presented to the Board of Governors for its consideration.

I. FOR APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1. 511th Report of the Academic Policy Committee [D21-49]

1.1 Creation of the McGill Institute of Genomic Medicine

Senate reviewed a recommendation of the Academic Policy Committee to approve the creation of the McGill Institute of Genomic Medicine. Following its review, Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors for approval the proposed creation the McGill Institute of Genomic Medicine.

The Institute will harness the University's diverse scientific expertise, research infrastructures and medical resources to achieve rapid advances in large-scale biology and "big data" science through interdisciplinary, convergence research, with the ultimate goals of improving human health and diminishing disease burden across lifespan. Creation of the Institute will further the multidisciplinary research culture that has grown at McGill around genomic medicine, promote innovation and position McGill to benefit from new, emerging funding opportunities.

The Institute's strong cross-institutional and interdisciplinary culture will empower McGill investigators to work together to tackle major challenges that are beyond the reach of individual research laboratories.

Be it resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the proposed creation of the McGill Institute of Genomic Medicine.

1.2 Creation of the Laidley Centre for Business Ethics

Senate approved a recommendation of the Academic Policy Committee to create the Laidley Centre for Business Ethics. The Centre, named after Mr. David Laidley (BCom 1967), Chairman Emeritus of Deloitte LLP, will be the University's central hub for the support of teaching, academic research and community engagement for ethical behaviour in business. It will foster the multi-disciplinary research in areas of business, law, public policy, economics, engineering, religion and psychology. A multi-disciplinary approach will extend to course and program development for undergraduate and graduate students and to its offering of activities to professionals and other learners.

On March 24, 2022, the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors approved to name the Centre for Business Ethics within the Desautels Faculty of Management, as the "Laidley Centre for Business Ethics / Centre Laidley pour l'éthique des affaires", subject to the approval of the creation of the Centre by the Board of Governors at a future meeting.

Be it resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the proposed creation of the Laidley Centre for Business Ethics.

II. FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1. Open Discussion: CAMSR Report Recommendations and Implementation Plan (2019-2020) [D21-56]

Following the submission of a motion calling for Senate to express its disagreement with the Board on the question of divestment and to create a Senate-Board Conference Committee on fossil-fuel divestment, the Senate Steering Committee agreed that a motion on the topic of divestment by Senate could only be entertained following an occasion for Senate to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the University's plans in this regard. As such, the Senate Steering Committee recommended that an open discussion on the CAMSR Report Recommendations and Implementation Plan (2019-2020) be held at the Senate meeting at the April 19, 2022, meeting.

The open discussion focused on the implementation plan contained in the CAMSR Report that was adopted by the Board of Governors in April 2020. Senate received, prior to the discussion, a presentation from the Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer and the Chair of the Board's Investment Committee relating to the University's strategy.

2. 511th Report of the Academic Policy Committee [D21-49]

On the recommendation of the Academic Policy Committee, Senate approved the creation of the proposed B.A.; Faculty Program in Population and Global Health (54 cr.) as well as the creation of the proposed Certificate in STEM Foundations (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) (30 cr.).

3. Report of the Senate Nominating Committee [D21-50]

On the recommendation of the Senate Nominating Committee, Senate approved a series of appointments to Committees arising from University Regulations.

4. Presentation on McGill University Budget 2022-2023 Report II [D21-51]

Senate received a presentation on the key elements of the proposed FY2023 budget for information. The budget was presented to the Finance Committee of the Board of Governors on April 14, 2022, and will be presented to the Board of Governors on April 21, 2022.

5. McGill University Staffing Report [D21-52]

Senate received the 2022 McGill University Staffing report for information. The report provided an accounting of the academic, administrative and support staff of McGill University. This report was presented to the Human Resources Committee on March 22, 2022 and will be presented to the Board of Governors on April 21, 2022.

6. Revisions to the Policy on the Assessment of Student Learning [D21-53]

Senate received, for information, the proposed revisions to the Policy on the Assessment of Student Learning. The current University Student Assessment Policy (USAP) was approved in 2011 with the most recent amendment passed in 2016. The Assessment Policy Revision Working Group (co-chaired by the Associate Dean of Students and the Director of Teaching and Learning Services, with faculty and student members) has been working for two and a half years to replace the current University Student Assessment Policy (USAP) with a principles-based Policy on Assessment of Student Learning (PASL).

The Principles have been presented at Senate and the policy drafts have benefitted from extensive discussions within the Working Group and multiple Faculties, instructors, and student groups, and some members of the Senior Administration.

The Policy will provide guidance to McGill’s academic units and instructors, articulate mandatory procedures, and establish the limits of permissible practice. The new Policy will require the modification of some current assessment strategies at McGill, which in turn may entail changes to teaching strategies.

The targeted outcome for this project is to have an approved policy by the end of this academic year, with full implementation at the start of the Fall 2024 academic term.

7. Annual Report on Research and Innovation [D21-54]

Senate received this report for information. The report contained key indicators of McGill’s performance in major funding programs and progress in areas related to innovation and partnerships. The Board of Governors will receive this report on April 21, 2022.

8. Report of the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees Meeting [D21-55]

Senate received this report for information. The report indicated that the topic of the 2022 Joint Board-Senate meeting will focus on “Experiential Learning Opportunities at Local, National, and International Levels”. The Board of Governors will receive this report on April 21, 2022.

END
April 2022