#### MCGILL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS



# **Report from Senate**

GD23-57

Board of Governors Meeting of April 25, 2024

Since last reporting to the Board of Governors, Senate met on March 20 and April 18, 2024. This report contains items which are presented to the Board of Governors for its consideration and information.

#### I. FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

## 1. Report of the Senate Nominating Committee

[D23-57]

## 1.1 Appointments to the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures

Senate's recommendations concerning appointments to the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures are submitted, for approval, to the Board of Governors in accordance with the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Academic Staff.

Be it resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the following:

- The appointment of **Svetlana Kochkina** as Vice-Chair of the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures, for a term beginning September 1, 2024, and ending August 31, 2025.
- The appointments of **Eran Shor** and **Gil Bub** to the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures, each for a term beginning September 1, 2024, and ending August 31, 2027.

## 1.2 University Appeals Committee

Senate's recommendation concerning an appointment to the University Appeals Committee is submitted for approval to the Board of Governors in accordance with the <u>Regulations on Appeals of Tenure Decisions</u> and the <u>Regulations Relating to the Employment of Academic Staff.</u>

Be it resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the following:

- The appointments of Marta Cerruti, Robert Hasegawa, and Brian Lewis to the University Appeals Committee, each for a term beginning September 1, 2024, and ending August 31, 2027.

#### II. FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

#### 1. Report of the Senate Nominating Committee

[D23-49]

On the recommendation of the Senate Nominating Committee, Senate approved the Establishment of an Ad hoc Committee Review the Composition of Senate and appointments to Senate Standing Committee, and various Committees arising from University Regulations.

# 2. Report of the Academic Policy Committee

[D23-58]

This report provided an overview of matters considered by the Committee at its meeting of March 28, 2024, which were presented for Senate's consideration. On the recommendation of the Committee, Senate approved academic terminology relating to online/blended learning, academic program types, and the definition of experiential learning.

## 3. Proposed Policy on Student Safety Abroad

[D23-51]

Senate received this item for information and discussion.

The current International Mobility Guidelines date from 2009 and must be updated to reflect recommendations from Internal Audit.

The International Mobility Guidelines are being replaced by the Policy on Student Safety Abroad. This Policy provides University-wide standards for international experiential learning opportunities and aims to ensure safer and more consistent experiences for students engaging in this growing and important academic activity. Procedures pursuant to this Policy are being developed by International Education in the Office of the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning). It is anticipated that the Policy will be presented for approval in May.

## 4. Policy on Indigenous Membership/Citizenship Validation

[D23-59]

Senate received this item for information and discussion. It is anticipated that the Policy will be presented for approval in May.

In 2016-2017, McGill struck a Task Force on Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Education. It resulted in 52 Calls to Action, which include specific calls focused on increasing Indigenous representation throughout our workforce, notably among our academic staff (see especially calls #44 and #45). McGill's efforts to respond to these calls require a robust and equitable policy on Indigenous membership/citizenship. Such a policy is an institutional imperative. McGill is not alone in its efforts. Through the National Indigenous National Indigenous University Senior Leaders' Association (NIUSLA), and U15, McGill has worked alongside other institutions that have similar interim or final policies in place (e.g., Saskatchewan, University of Alberta, Queen's and Wilfrid Laurier). Our work also tracks with the muchanticipated 2024 report of the federal Tri-Agency (CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC) Ad Hoc Working Group on Indigenous Citizenship and Membership. This report states:

"[S]elf-identification alone is now insufficient to support claims to Indigenous citizenship/membership where such claims result in material advantage, either financially or, in some cases through engagement, reputationally."

This assertion extends to all Canadian universities, including McGill.

## 5. Budget Planning (2024-2025) Report II

[D23-52]

Senate received this report for information. It was the second of three presentations relating to the planning of the University Budget for the upcoming fiscal year (2024-2025).

# 6. Annual Report on Enrolment and Strategic Enrolment Management

[D23-55]

Senate received this report for information. It provided an overview of matters considered, and activities undertaken relating to Enrolment and Strategic Enrolment Management up to Fall 2023.

## 7. Annual Report on the Policy on Harassment and Discrimination

[D23-61]

Senate received this report for information. Senate received this annual report for information. It provided an overview of activities undertaken in 2022-2023 to support and uphold the University's commitments to fighting harassment and discrimination. It also contained information relating to cases and developments under, or in connection with, the Policy from January 1 2023 to December 31, 2023.

## 8. Open Discussion

[D23-50]

Topic: Developing, Fostering, and Consolidating meaningful Research Collaborations between the Social Sciences, Humanities, and Health Sciences. Senators explored the opportunities and challenges relating to interdisciplinary research, funding, and scholarly work in the University context, both contemporarily, and in the future.

# 9. Annual Report on the Policy against Sexual Violence

[D23-62]

Senate received this annual report for information. It provided an overview of activities undertaken in 2022-2023 to support and uphold the University's commitments against sexual violence. It also contained information relating to cases and developments under, or in connection with, the Policy from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

# 10. Annual Report on Research and Innovation

[D23-63]

Senate received this annual report for information. It provided an overview of research funding performance, as well as performance in areas related to innovation and partnership-building between the University and external communities.

#### 11. Report of the Joint Board Executive and Senate Steering Committees Meeting [D23-60]

Senate received this report for information. On March 21, 2024, the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors and the Senate Steering Committee met to select a topic for the 2024 Joint Board-Senate meeting, which will be held on November 7, 2024. The Committees considered the following general theme: *Consultations on Vision 2050: Building McGill's Third Century*.

## 12. Annual Report on Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

[D23-56]

Senate received this report for information. It provided an overview of matters considered, and activities undertaken relating to Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies in 2022-2023.

END April 2024