

This report contains items arising from Senate's meetings of December 3, 2014 and January 21, 2015 which are presented to the Board of Governors for consideration.

Meeting of December 3, 2014

FOR ACTION BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1. 460th Report of the Academic Policy Committee (APC)

On the recommendation of the Academic Policy Committee, Senate approved the proposed renaming of the "McGill Centre for the Study of Host Resistance" to the "McGill International Tuberculosis Centre," and recommended that it be approved by the Board of Governors.

Be it resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the proposed name change for the "McGill Centre for the Study of Host Resistance" to the "McGill International Tuberculosis Centre" (MITBC)/ "Centre international de la tuberculose McGill."

Senate also considered and approved the *Regulations on Cyclical Academic Unit Reviews*. These regulations reflect feedback received from review committees, and intend to streamline and improve the review process.

As part of this report, Senate considered a proposed *Policy on Late Withdrawals*. The intention of this Policy is to set accurate, fair and compassionate guidelines to address difficult situations students may encounter, such as mental and physical illness, and personal tragedies. It would permit undergraduate students the ability to withdraw from courses warranted by such exceptional difficulties without a record of the courses on their transcript. Senate approved the Policy at its January 20 meeting and will review it after three years to examine any implementation issues.

I. FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1. Annual Report on the Financial State of the University

Senate received this report for information. Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance) Michael Di Grappa informed Senate of the current financial state of and funding challenges facing the University.

2. Budget Planning 2015-2016: Report I

Senate received this item for information. The Provost, Professor Anthony C. Masi, explained that the development of the fiscal year 2016 budget is being driven by the University's strategic academic priorities, and highlighted McGill's goals for the next fiscal year. The Provost also outlined financial uncertainties which could impact the next budget. The subsequent discussion was centred on enrolment matters and the deregulation of international tuition fees.

3. Annual Report of the Committee on Libraries (2013-2014)

Senate received this annual report for information, in accordance with the Committee's terms of reference. Senators discussed the quality of access to print materials and to the digitization of print materials once they are removed from the shelves.

4. Report of the Advisory Council on the Charter of Students' Rights (2013-2014)

Senate received this annual report for information, in accordance with the Committee's terms of reference. Senators were informed that the Council did not convene as no matters were referred to it.

5. Report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee

Senate received the report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee in confidential session.

Meeting of January 21, 2015

1. Report of the Senate Nominating Committee

Senate approved an appointment for an alternate graduate student on the Academic Policy Committee. It also learned that the Senate Nominating Committee is considering possible revisions to the terms of reference of the Academic Policy and Senate Steering Committees to further enhance Senate's engagement. Recommendations for Senate's consideration will be presented at a future meeting.

2. 461st Report of the APC

Senate received this item for information. Senators learned that the APC approved the creation of a B.Com. in General Management; Information Systems; Digital Innovation. They were also informed of revisions to some existing programs, and the creation of a global designation for the B.Sc. degree to recognize students who have gone beyond the normal degree requirements by broadening their horizons by including language courses, independent research, global-related study and/non-McGill study or work experience in their program.

3. Annual Report on Research Performance and Innovation (2013-2014)

Senate received this annual report, which presented key indicators of McGill's research funding performance and innovation, for information. The report will be presented to the Board of Governors on February 2, 2015.

4. Annual Report on Student Life and Learning (2013-2014)

Senate received this report, which provided an overview of Student Life and Learning's current activities and goals, for information. The report will be presented to the Board of Governors on February 2, 2015.

5. Progress Report on the Quartier de l'Innovation

Senate received a progress report on the Quartier de l'Innovation. Senators were informed of the initiative's achievements to date and of next year's goals and priorities. The report will be presented to the Board of Governors on February 2, 2015.

6. University Advancement Annual Report (2013-2014)

Senate received this report, which provided an overview of philanthropic results for FY2014 and identified future fundraising challenges and opportunities, for information. The report will be presented to the Board of Governors on February 2, 2015.

7. Report from the Board of Governors to Senate

Senate received this report, which provided a summary of matters reviewed at the October 2014 Executive Committee meeting and the December 2014 Board of Governors meeting, for information.

END
January 2015