

Senate met on April 22, 2015. This report contains items which are presented to the Board of Governors for consideration.

I. FOR ACTION BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1. McGill Mission Statement and Principles

McGill's Mission Statement

McGill's existing mission statement has not been reviewed in a long time. It is available at: <https://www.mcgill.ca/secretariat/mission>

Following a review of topics suggested by Senators, the Steering Committee selected "McGill's Mission Statement and Principles" as the topic for the February 18, 2015 Senate meeting. This open discussion provided an opportunity for Senators to discuss a draft revised Mission Statement and Principles, which has been developed in consultation with members of the University Community.

At its February 18 meeting, Senate asked that the Academic Policy Committee incorporate certain changes to the Mission Statement and Principles. The Academic Policy Committee most recently met on April 16 to consider the revisions. It presented a recommendation for Senate to approve the following mission statement:

MISSION

The mission of McGill University is the advancement of learning and the creation and dissemination of knowledge, by offering the best possible education, by carrying out research and scholarly activities judged to be excellent by the highest international standards, and by providing service to society.

PRINCIPLES

In fulfilling its mission, McGill University embraces the principles and values of academic freedom, integrity, responsibility, equity, and inclusiveness.

Senators were generally supportive of the revised mission statement. Following discussion which focused on the need for the mission statement to highlight the University's commitment to teaching and learning, and service to society, Senate agreed to approve the revised Mission Statement and Principles, following an amendment to withdraw from the Principles section the mention of "and values", which was believed to be redundant.

As such, it is proposed that the Board of Governors approve the revised mission statement as follows:

Be it resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the following Mission and Principles Statement:

MISSION

The mission of McGill University is the advancement of learning and the creation and dissemination of knowledge, by offering the best possible education, by carrying out research and scholarly activities judged to be excellent by the highest international standards, and by providing service to society.

PRINCIPLES

In fulfilling its mission, McGill University embraces the principles of academic freedom, integrity, responsibility, equity, and inclusiveness.

2. Appointments to University Appeals Committee

The Regulations on Appeals of Tenure Decisions (Regulations) were approved by Senate and the Board of Governors in February 2015. The Regulations call for the appointment of ten members of the academic staff. The previous Regulations called for six members, who were approved by Senate and the Board to form the Committee as follows:

Membership

Professor John Silvius (Biochemistry, MEDICINE) – 2018 (Vice-Chair)

Professor Kathleen Cullen (Medicine, MEDICINE) – 2016

Professor Robert Leckey (LAW) - 2016 (Chair)

Professor Emine Sarigollu (MANAGEMENT) - 2016

Professor Peter Grütter (Physics, SCIENCE) - 2017

Professor Frank Ferrie (Electrical and Computer Engineering, ENGINEERING) - 2017

In accordance with the new Regulations, the McGill Association of University Teachers (MAUT) and the Principal submitted to the Senate Nominating Committee a slate of names to fill current vacancies. Based on the recommendation of the Principal and the MAUT, the Senate Nominating Committee and Senate itself recommend that the Board of Governors approve four additional appointments to the University Appeals Committee:

Be it resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the appointment of Professors Jane Everett (French Language and Literature, ARTS), Marilyn Fitzpatrick (Educational and Counselling Psychology, EDUCATION), Marilyn Scott (Parasitology, AES) and Tim Moore (Geography, SCIENCE) as representatives of the academic staff to the University Appeals Committee for terms beginning September 1, 2015 and ending August 31, 2018.

II. FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1. Items Arising from the Report of the Senate Nominating Committee

i) Establishment of a Faculty Council, Faculty of Medicine

Senate approved a recommendation of the Senate Nominating Committee to establish a Faculty Council within the Faculty of Medicine.

For a number of years, the Faculty of Medicine has been using the “town hall” model for purposes of holding meetings of the Faculty. While this model allowed the Faculty to regularly meet and review Faculty activities and initiatives, it has proven to be limited in supporting the needs and objectives of the Faculty.

The Faculty Council allows the Faculty of Medicine to have a collegial setting for discussion of the governance, strategic direction and general management of the Faculty. The faculty council is based on a representative model, and composed of the faculty’s tenure track academic staff, contract academic staff, students and faculty administrators.

The process carried out for the establishment a Faculty Council within the Faculty of Medicine included consultations with students, faculty and staff, as well as other members of the McGill community, including the Deanery Executive Committee and the Faculty Leadership Council.

ii) Appointments to Senate Standing Committees and Committees Arising out of University Regulations

Senate approved the report of the Senate Nominating Committee, which contained recommendations to fill vacancies on various Senate Standing Committees and Committees Arising out of the University Regulations.

2. McGill University Budget 2015-16

Following a review of the proposed 2015-16 budget by the Finance Committee on April 21, Senate received a presentation on the main elements of the proposed 2015-16 budget, for information.

3. 464rd Report of the Academic Policy Committee

On the recommendation of the Academic Policy Committee (APC), Senate approved the Professional Development Certificate in Project Management.

On the recommendation of the Academic Policy Committee (APC), Senate approved the proposed revisions to McGill’s Mission Statement.

4. Progress Report on the Review of the *Regulation on the Conduct of Research*

Senate was informed that the Vice-Principal, Research and International Relations, had struck a working group to advise on how best to ensure, consistent with academic freedom, that McGill's research partnerships are aligned with the University's values and principles. She noted that consultations arising from the working group's review of the Regulation were ongoing and that an update would be provided to Senate in the fall. Proposed amendments to the Regulation will be presented to Senate and the Board at a future meeting.

5. Report on Scholarship and Student Aid

Senate received a report on Scholarship and Student Aid, which was submitted to Senate in accordance with the terms of reference of the Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs.

6. Annual Report on the Policy on Safe Disclosure (2013-2014)

Senate received the annual Report on the Policy on Safe Disclosure for information. The report will be delivered to the Board on April 28.

7. Report of the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees Meeting

Senate received the report the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees Meeting, which informed Senators that the topic of the 2015 Joint Board Senate meeting will be "Designing a Smart Campus for the 21st Century". The Board of Governors will receive this report on April 28.

END
April 2015