



Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Governors held on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 8:00 am in room 301 of the James Administration Building, 845 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal.

PRESENT:

Boyчук, Michael	Haynes, Bryan	Goldstein, Rose
Brulé-Champagne, Eric	Houri, Nadia	Masi, Anthony C.
Butts, Gerald (<i>by phone</i>)	Johnson, Juliet	Weinstein, Marc
Cobbett, Stuart (<i>Chair</i>)	Kalant, David	
Coughlin, Peter	Minzberg, Samuel	Strople, Stephen
Critchley, Ronald	Mooney, Jonathan	(Secretary-General)
de Grandpré, Lili, (<i>Vice-Chair</i>)	Munroe-Blum, Heather	Edyta Rogowska
Fazel, Kathy	Redel, Josh	(Governance Officer)
Généreux, Claude	Vroom, Ann	
Harpp, David Noble	Zorychta, Edith	
Hastings, Kenneth	Resource Persons	
Halperin, Stephen (<i>by phone</i>)	Aberman, Susan	
	Di Grappa, Michael	

REGRETS: Daniel Gagnier, Nadia Houri, Cynthia Price, H. Arnold Steinberg, Martine Turcotte, Thierry Vandal.

OPEN SESSION

10. Chair’s Remarks and Announcements

The Chair welcomed all and reconvened the meeting in Open session.

11. Approval of the Meeting Minutes (Open session) of December 13, 2012

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, the Minutes from a meeting held on December 13, 2012, were approved.

12. Principal’s Remarks (Continued)

The Principal described the challenges McGill and other Quebec universities were facing with respect to the government’s plan to cut \$124 million from post-secondary institutions each year for a two year period. She explained that the Provost and the Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance) would be holding Town Halls with members of the community in order to outline the severity of McGill’s financial situation. She reported that three Town Halls had recently been held and that more would follow. Noting that the University had received a number of suggestions from the community linked to how it could implement cuts or oppose the government’s decision, the Principal thanked members of the community for their support and interest in helping manage a difficult situation.

The Principal provided an update on the clean-up resulting from the January 29 flood, which had led to the relocation of the over a thousand people and the cancellation of eighty classes at the downtown campus. The Principal reported that University was in the process of examining damages, which currently amounted to approximately three million dollars.

The Principal spoke about the Provisional Protocol that had been established in February 2012 in the wake of the second occupation of offices in the James Administration Building. She reported that a permanent protocol had been drafted and circulated for comment. Further to feedback received in December, the protocol would be split into the documents: A Statement of Principles on Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Assembly and a document outlining operational procedures that would explain how demonstrations and similar on-campus events would be treated. In response to a question as to why the operating procedures document would not be presented to the Board or Senate, the Principal explained that operating procedures were an administrative matter.

The Principal ended her remarks by describing some of the recent achievements of the McGill community, including the award of five million dollars for the Canadian Field Robotics Network through the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada and a Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) award to three researchers involved in fields ranging from nonmedicine to structural biology and nanoelectronics.

13. ASAP 2012 Final Report

[GD12-23]

The Provost explained that the process in developing this new Academic Plan was led by factors identified in Strengths and Aspirations, the Principal's Task Forces and various conversations around the University over the past years.

The Provost presented the lessons learned throughout the consultation process, which resulted in the establishment of three strategic priorities focusing on advancing academic success, profile and reputation, achieving a sustained student focus that will enhance research and extra-curricular life and learning, and managing existing resources and diversifying revenue sources for maximum support of programs, research activities and community engagement.

The Provost summarized the general goals and the cross-cutting themes of internationalization, sustainability and innovation. He presented some of the major strategic objectives of ASAP 2012, including academic renewal, professional development and performance indicators. He indicated that over the next five years, ASAP 2012 would set academic priorities, provide a roadmap for McGill's excellence and serve as the driver for the University's financial plan and budget allocations.

A discussion about the need to prioritize objectives related to the ASAP Plan ensued. In their referring to some of the ASAP objectives, certain members suggested that the University work at determining which objectives it would address first and then work out a plan for addressing them.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, it was resolved that the Board of Governors endorsed the basic principles and broad outline of ASAP 2012 as McGill's strategic academic plan with the understanding that all items emanating from this plan that require governance oversight be returned to this body for appropriate deliberation and action.

14. Agreement with COPIBEC

[GD12-33]

Referring members to the meeting materials, the Secretary-General presented a request to approve a contract with *Société québécoise de gestion collective des droits de reproduction*, COPIBEC, noting that the agreement would cover reproduction of materials for a seventeen month interim period and would result in a reduction of fees for the University.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, it was resolved that the Board of Governors ratify the 2013-2014 Convention de licence concernant la reproduction d'oeuvres littéraires dans les établissements d'enseignement d'ordre universitaire between COPIBEC and The Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning / McGill University, to take effect on January 1, 2013, and authorize the Secretary-General to sign the agreement on behalf of the University.

15. Research Matters

15.1 Report on Research Funding Performance 2011-12

[GD12-21]

Dr. Rose Goldstein, Vice Principal (Research and International Relations) presented the highlights of the Annual Report on McGill's Research Performance and Innovation. The report provided a review of McGill's success in major funding programs, progress related to commercialization and the achievements of University researchers. The report also assessed McGill's competitiveness in major funding programs and in commercialization.

In summary, the Vice-Principal explained that the University's ability to obtain more public funds would face the challenge of constrained government support and increased competition from other universities. In noting that although the University had secured a stable share of the market, the Vice-Principal informed members that efforts would have to be made to increase McGill's market share in order to remain competitive with other universities, who were less-research intensive, but who were increasingly gaining more ground in the market.

15.2 Strategic Research Plan

[GD12-22]

Vice-Principal Goldstein presented the Strategic Research Plan 2013-2017 (SRP). She explained that the SRP was required by the major federal funding agencies, but it would also provide a reference for promoting existing research at McGill and enabling researchers to enhance the University's research capacity. She described McGill's seven areas of research excellence, as described in the meeting materials. Vice-Principal Goldstein provided an overview of the SRP implementation strategy.

In discussion, members expressed an interest to obtain more data on how the University ranks with its peers in relation to awards. Certain members asked what institutional efforts were in place to address researchers who do not meet the University's research criteria and performance measures. Members suggested that the Board revisit these questions at a future meeting, when an update on research funding performance and the SRP would be delivered.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, it was resolved that the Board of Governors endorsed the overall vision, core commitments, areas of research excellence, and implementation strategy outlined in the Strategic Research Plan 2013-2017.

16. Report of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee [GD12-34]

Governor Lili de Grandpré presented the Report of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee, arising from its meeting of February 7, 2013. The report contained a recommendation to implement an amendment in the Statutes concerning the start and end terms of student members serving on the Board. The rest of the report contained items for the Board's information.

1. Proposed Amendments to Statutes of McGill University

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, it was resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Nominating, Governance and Ethics Committee, approved the following amendments to section 1.1.6 of the Statutes of McGill University:

“In the case of governors elected by the students, their term of office shall commence on the first day of ~~September~~ June following their election. In cases where an election is held after the first day of ~~September~~ June for a term of office that was to commence on the first day of ~~September~~, June, the term of office shall then commence on the first day of the month following the election and terminate on the thirty-first day of ~~August~~ May next following.”

17. Report from Senate [GD12-35]

The Principal presented the Report from Senate, which contained a recommendation to combine three different sets of regulations pertaining to maternity, paternity and extended parental leave for members of the academic staff into one set, with a title that clarified the fact that the said regulations referred to all members of the academic staff not governed by a collective agreement.

1. Regulations Relating to Maternity, Parental and Extended Parental Leave for Members of the Academic Staff (Senate meeting of December 5, 2012)

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, it was resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate:

- i) Approved the Regulations on Maternity Leave, Parental Leave and Extended Parental Leave for Members of the Academic Staff to replace the Regulations on Maternity Leave for Tenured and Tenure Track Members of the Academic Staff, the Regulations on Parental Leave for Tenured and Tenure Track Members of the Academic Staff and the Regulations on Extended Maternity and Extended Parental Leave for Tenured and Tenure Track Members of the Academic Staff; and*
- ii) Approved the amendment of all references to the replaced regulations in other McGill policies and regulations.*

18. Other Business

There was none. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.