

McGILL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Minutes of Open Session

Thursday, September 27, 2012 12-13 BR:01

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Governors held on Thursday, September 27, 2012 in room 301 of the James Administration Building, 845 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal.

PRESENT:

Boychuk, Michael Brulé-Champagne, Eric Cobbett, Stuart (*Chair*) Coughlin, Peter Critchley, Ronald de Grandpré, Lili Fazel, Kathy Généreux, Claude Harpp, David Noble Hastings, Kenneth Kalant, David Minzberg, Samuel Mooney, Jonathan Munroe-Blum, Heather

Pekeles, Gary Price, Cynthia Raz, Amir Redel, Josh Steinberg, H. Arnold *(Chancellor)* Turcotte, Martine (by phone) Vroom, Ann **Resource Persons** Aberman, Susan Di Grappa, Michael Goldstein, Rose Marcil, Olivier Masi, Anthony C. Weinstein, Marc

Strople, Stephen (Secretary-General) Edyta Rogowska (Secretariat)

Guests: Ellen Aitken, Dean, Faculty of Religious Studies; Ian Soutar, Chair, Investment Committee.

REGRETS: Gerald Butts, Morna Flood Consedine, Nadia Houri, Thierry Vandal.

OPEN SESSION

The Chair welcomed all Governors and guests to the first open session meeting of the 2012-13 governance year.

7. Approval of the Meeting Minutes (open session) of May 17, 2012

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, the minutes from a meeting held on May 17, 2012, were approved.

8. Chair's Remarks

He introduced Mr. Josh Redel and Mr. Jonathan Mooney, two new student Governors to their first meeting. He also welcomed Ms. Nadia Houri and Mr. Eric Brulé-Champagne, two new student observers.

The Chair asked Governors to complete a meeting evaluation card, which had been distributed to members at the beginning of the meeting.

9. Principal's Remarks (Continued)

The Principal reported on the University's enrollment objectives noting the goal to maintain the overall number of undergraduate students, with growth in targeted areas, including the

Macdonald Campus and specific programs with capacity. The Principal spoke about enrolment targets for undergraduate and graduate students and reported that in comparison to last year, there had been a 0.9 % increase in overall enrolment for 2012, which amounted to 38 185 students.

The Principal commented on the success of the orientation week and informed members of the University's record in setting a new fruit salad record in the Guinness Book of World Records. She also acknowledged a recent ceremony, which was held in recognition of his Excellency, the Governor-General and McGill's former Principal, as McGill's visitor.

The Principal described some changes in the security level of the James Administration Building, which had resulted following consolations undertaken with the McGill community. In summary, she stated that card access was no longer required at the front door of the Building and added that the University would maintain an appropriate level of security for staff in the building, while maintaining access to the community.

The Principal acknowledged that a number of Governors had asked about the University's disciplinary cases and measures resulting from last year's occupations. She reported that disciplinary measures were addressed by a disciplinary officer and would be taken into account in the review of the student code of conduct.

In referring to the work of the Open Forum on Peaceful Assembly and Free Expression, the Principal announced that she would be sharing Dean Manfredi's report with the Board of Governors and the whole of the McGill community.

The Principal shared some of her priorities for this academic year. These include realizing the implementation of the Strategic Reframing Initiative, advancing major progress in national and international research resources, leading initiatives to make teaching programs and methodologies reflect the highest international standards of quality and innovation, and achieving progress in the advancement of the McGill Academic Health Network.

The Principal reminded members that this year's Homecoming would be held from October 11 to October 14 and the Convocation ceremonies on October 31. She encouraged all members to attend both events.

The Principal expressed her congratulations to Professor Graham Bell, James McGill Professor and Chair of McGill's Biology Department for being elected as President Elect to the Royal Society of Canada. She extended her congratulations to eight other McGill professors who had been elected to the Society. In addition, the Principal announced that fourteen McGill graduate students had received the 2012 Vanier Canada Graduate Award worth \$50, 000 per year for a period of three years.

10. **Report from Senate**

The Principal presented the Report from Senate, arising from its meeting of September 20, 2012. She stated that the report contained three recommendations endorsed by Senate for approval to the Board of Governors.

[GD12-09]

10.1 **Revisions to Regulations Relating to the Employment of Academic Staff**

The Principal presented Senate's recommendation to approve revisions to the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Academic Staff.

10.1.1

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approved the change of date from August 31 to June 1 in all McGill regulations where reference is made to the date for electing to defer tenure consideration on the basis of an authorized leave.

10.1.2

The Principal presented Senate's resolution to amend certain sections of the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Academic Staff and the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Librarian Staff. Based on Senate's recommendation, the Principal proposed an addition to the resolution specifying that references to section 8.22 and 4.9 be deleted in all parts of the said regulations.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approved the deletion of section 8.22 of the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Academic Staff and section 4.9 of the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Librarian Staff and any references thereto in the said regulations.

11. Joint Board-Senate meeting November 27, 2012

In his capacity as Chair of the joint meeting, the Chancellor informed members that this annual meeting was mandated by the University Statutes for the purpose of providing an opportunity for the Board of Governors to meet with the fellows of the University Senate in order to discuss matters relevant to the University's mission.

He stated that this year's meeting would be held on Tuesday, November 27, 2012, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. He added that the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning) and his team were working on developing the meeting's background materials.

12. **Board of Governors Handbook 2012-2013**

The Secretary-General noted that the 2012-2013 Board of Governors Handbook had been updated to reflect the Board's current membership and was available online. It is intended as a reference document.

13. **Faculty Presentation**

Professor Ellen Aitken, Dean, Faculty of Religious Studies, delivered a presentation on the activities and initiatives of the Faculty. She underscored about the importance of religion in societies, culture and politics, noting that it impacted every aspect of human life. She described

3

[GD12-10]

Verbal report

Presentation

the Faculty's objective to provide analytical and engaged perspectives of the world to its scholars and students and described some of the Faculty's partnerships initiatives and outreach activities undertaken in the recent past.

Board members thanked the Dean for her presentation. In response to a question concerning gender diversity, the Dean stated that while the B.A. program was mainly composed on female students, studies and the graduate level and theological degrees were pursued by an equal number of males and females.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.