

Senate report for Wednesday, January 17, 2018
2:30 in the Robert Vogel Council Room (rm 232), Leacock Building

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SECTION I

The Chair began by welcoming everyone to the first meeting of the year.

1. Memorial Tributes

Memorial Tributes were read for Emeritus Professor Eric Adler of the Faculty of Engineering, Emeritus Professor John Durnford of the Faculty of Law, and Emeritus Professor Abby Lippman, Faculty of Medicine.

2. Report of the Steering Committee

Senate received the Report of the Steering Committee.

3. Business Arising: There was no business arising.

1. Principal's Remarks

Provincial level

Discussions are ongoing regarding the upcoming regulations on marijuana. The Ministry of Education is developing a new funding policy for Universities and some changes are expected. There have been several meetings with the Minister of Higher Education and other ministers, and the Mayor of Montreal to discuss the RVH. Feasibility studies are ongoing.

Federal level

Discussions are ongoing urging the government to follow the recommendations on funding fundamental research.

International level

The Principal will attend the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting from January 23-26 in Davos, Switzerland as a member of the Global University Leaders Forum (GULF), which is comprised of the presidents of 27 of the world's top universities.

i. Kudos

The Chair provided information on several kudos.

McGill researchers contributed to three of 10 'discoveries of year' as selected by Québec Science magazine. The annual list has highlighted top scientific research from across Quebec for the past 25 years, and McGill has been cited more than any other

institution during that quarter-century. The selected discoveries involving McGill scientists for the past year include: Biofilms: the eradication has begun – Prof. Don Sheppard, PHD student Brendan Snarr (Microbiology & Immunology); An infallible hand-held probe to aid cancer surgery – Dr. Kevin Petrecca (MNI); and Five McGill researchers contributed to an Alzheimer’s study led by researchers at UQAM.

McGill Arts student Hannah Taylor was recognized with the most prestigious honor given to a philanthropist in Quebec, the Award for Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy, awarded by the AFP–Quebec Chapter, for starting the Ladybug Foundation to fight homelessness across Canada.

McGill alumna Mélodie Daoust (BEd Phys Ed 2017) is among 23 players who were named to the Canadian Olympic women's hockey team heading to the 2018 Winter Olympics (Feb 9 – 25) in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

Eleven McGillians were part of the 125 new appointments to the Order of Canada, including Law Professor François Crépeau and Senator Martha Crago, who were appointed Officer and Member, respectively. Prof. Emeritus Barry Pless was promoted to Officer. Landscape architect and honorary doctorate recipient Cornelia Hahn Oberlander was promoted to Companion, the highest rank in the Order of Canada. In addition, three McGill alumni were appointed Officers: Sally Armstrong (BEd’66, DLitt’02), human rights activist, journalist and author Joseph Martin (DSc’94), neurobiologist and former Chair of McGill’s Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery, and William Shatner (BCom’52, Hon DLitt’11), film and television actor. Other McGill alumni named as Members of the Order include: John W. Hilborn (MSc’51, PhD’54), nuclear physicist, Judy Illes (MA’83), neuroscientist, John Lord (BEd’64), disabilities researcher and advocate, and Nancy Neamtan (BA’72), social and economic advocate.

SECTION II PART A: Questions and motions by members

None.

SECTION II PART B: Motions and Reports from University Government

1. 484th Report of the Academic Policy Committee

Senator Manfredi presented the 484th Report of the Academic Policy Committee. At a meeting on December 14th, 2017, APC reviewed and approved the revisions to the Guidelines for the Principal’s Prize for Excellence in Teaching presented by Teaching and Learning Services. For clarification purposes, TLS revised the eligibility criteria and the wording in point 7.0 Evidence of Teaching Excellence. Changes were also made to the submission requirements, which now include an intact set of comments from students in one course for one term instead of a sample, as it has been the case since 2015.

Senate approved the following resolution: Be it resolved that Senate approve the proposed revisions to the Guidelines for the Principal’s Prize for Excellence in Teaching.

2. Report of the Senate Nominating Committee

Senator Manfredi presented the Report of the Senate Nominating Committee. Senate approved the appointment of Mr. David Curtis to the Committee on Libraries for a term beginning immediately and ending August 31, 2020.

3. Proposed Revision to the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Contract Academic Staff Approval

Senator Campbell discussed a proposed revision to the regulations relating to the employment of contract academic staff. The Regulations were last reviewed in Fall 2017. The Faculties and Academic Personnel are of the view that it would be useful to add one new category of ranked contract academic staff to those currently recognized under these Regulations. This new designation, "post-retirement", for nil salary appointments of up to three years that allow newly-retired academic staff to continue, post retirement, research activities or graduate supervision in accordance with guidelines set by the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

Senate approved, and recommend to the Board of Governors for approval, the proposed revision to the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Contract Academic Staff.

4. Faculty of Medicine Faculty Council Terms of Reference

Senator Eidelman presented the Faculty of Medicine Faculty Council Terms of Reference. The Faculty of Medicine Faculty Council Terms of Reference were provisionally approved by Senate on April 22, 2015 (Minute IIB3.2). With Faculty Council membership fully constituted in December 2015, the inaugural meeting was held on February 16, 2016. The Terms of Reference provide as follows: Clause 5. Changes to these Terms of Reference, a) Within two years of Senate's initial approval of these Terms of Reference, the Faculty Council shall undertake a review and possible revision of the Terms of Reference. A review of the Terms of Reference was undertaken by the Faculty Council within two years of initial approval and no revisions are deemed necessary at this time. The Terms of Reference were presented to Senate for final approval.

Senate approved the Terms of Reference of the Faculty of Medicine Faculty Council.

5. Notice of Motion to Include the Associate Provost (Equity and Academic Policies) as an Ex Officio Member of Senate

A notice of motion to amend article 6.1.1 of the Statutes of McGill University to include the Associate Provost (Equity and Academic Policies) as an ex officio member of Senate was presented to Senate.

Senate approved, and recommended to the Board of Governors for approval, the following amendment to section 6.1.1 of the Statutes of McGill University:

6.1.1 The Senate shall be composed of: a) The Chancellor; The Principal and Vice-Chancellor; The Chair of the Board of Governors; The Provost; The Associate Provost (Equity and Academic Policies); The Deputy Provost; The vice-principals; The deans of

faculties; The Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies; The Dean of Students; The Dean of Continuing Studies; The Director or Dean of Libraries; The University Registrar and Executive Director of Enrolment Services; and the Director of Teaching and Learning Services.

6. Annual Report on Research and Innovation 2017

Senator Crago presented the annual report of the Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation), which presents key indicators of McGill's recent research funding performance as well as its performance in areas related to innovation and partnership-building between the University and its external communities.

Highlights of the report are as follows:

1. McGill is one of the U15 institutions that depends most on public funds.
2. Although McGill performs well in Tri-Agency funding overall and in CIHR programs specifically, improvements can be made in NSERC funding programs.
3. In FRQ programs, McGill consistently ranks below Université de Montréal, because we are not leading networks and teams at a comparable level.
4. There is room for improvement in McGill's performance in FRQ-NT and FRQ-SC funding programs.
5. The need remains for McGill to make improvements in key non-government funding categories, particularly from industry, not-for-profits, and foundations.

7. Report from the Board of Governors to Senate

Ms. Tina Hobday, Representative of the Board of Governors to Senate, presented the Report of the Board of Governors on the Board meeting of December 12, 2017 and the Executive Committee meeting of November 1 and December 14, 2017 to Senate for information. One highlight of the report was the Policy Concerning Smoking at McGill University. The Board of Governors, on the recommendation of the Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance), approved the Policy Concerning Smoking at McGill University. The Policy is in accordance with the Tobacco Control Act, as amended by the Act to Bolster Tobacco Control, which requires college- or university-level educational institutions in Quebec to adopt a tobacco control policy geared to establishing a smoke-free environment. The Policy prohibits smoking on University property outside of designated smoking areas. Designated smoking areas will be a transitional measure and will be phased out within a maximum period of five years, making the University completely smoke-free. The Policy is accompanied by implementation procedures that will facilitate its application once it is effective in May 2018.

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment