

Senate Meeting Report, 2015-10-21

Colleagues,

The following is a summary of the Senate meeting which took place on Wednesday, October 21, 2015.

The meeting began with memorial tributes being presented by Dean Nicell for Professor Lucjan Kops, by Senator Ponech for Professor John Ripley, and by Senator Richard on behalf of Dean Cook for Professor Hans Möller. The text of the tribute for Professor Möller was as follows:

It is with deep regret that I inform you of the death of Hans Möller, former McGill Director of Libraries (Acting), at his home on September 7, 2015, at the age of 96. Born in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1918, Hans was blessed with the traditional Scandinavian thirst for education, earning a Ph. D in Danish Literature and a Major in Classics from the University of Copenhagen.

However, it was his bravery outside the classroom during World War II that distinguished him as a young man. As war raged across Europe, Hans worked to smuggle Jews out of Nazi-controlled Denmark, hiding evacuees and driving them to the coast of the Strait of Oresund where they were brought by fishing boats into Sweden. He was also active in the Danish resistance efforts, working as a courier for the underground and publishing an illegal newspaper that countered Nazi propaganda efforts by culling news from the BBC.

After the war, Hans returned to his intellectual roots, working in the University of Copenhagen and Denmark's Royal Library. In 1955, he immigrated to Canada and later became Executive Producer in charge of educational and scientific programming for the National Film Board of Canada.

After holding librarian positions in Toronto and Ottawa in the early 1970s, including two years as President of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries, Hans began his McGill career as an Area Librarian in the Undergraduate Library in 1977. There he showed an appreciation for the technological advancement that would radically alter library mandates, focusing on changing evaluations of research collections and the impact of automation.

Hans also served as a lecturer in the Department of German Studies and Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Library Science, eventually becoming Director of the latter in 1981. In 1984, he would begin a two-year mandate as the Director of Libraries (Acting).

After stepping down as Acting Director in 1986, Hans was appointed Research and Development Librarian and remained an active part of McGill in and outside the classroom.

While continuing his role as Associate Professor of Scandinavian Language, Hans founded and served as editor of *Fontanus*, an annual scholarly journal produced by McGill librarians that showcased the University's extensive Rare Books and Special Collections. Hans would serve as the publication's editor for almost a decade, even having his work schedule reduced to half-time in 1996 so he could focus on *Fontanus*.

Hans would finally step down and retire in 1997, but remained an avid supporter of the Library and McGill as a whole and a champion for the importance of education among youth. He donated generously to the Library throughout his life and was an avid supporter of the University's Faculty and Staff Fund.

After his retirement, Hans worked with and served as President of the Canadian Scandinavian Foundation, which helps raise funds for young Canadians looking to study or conduct research in the Nordic countries.

After his passing, Hans gave one final gift to the University and his students by allowing his body to be donated to science at McGill. Throughout his life, Hans displayed exemplary bravery, compassion and intelligence and with his death, we have lost an exemplary member of the Library community. The Library extends its condolence to his wife, Jane Yapple-Möller, and family.

Senate adopted the minutes of the last Senate meeting (not yet posted), the report of the Steering Committee ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/1\\_report\\_of\\_the\\_senate\\_steering\\_committee.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/1_report_of_the_senate_steering_committee.pdf)) and the agenda ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/0\\_agenda - senate oct. 21 2015.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/0_agenda_-_senate_oct_21_2015.pdf)).

In her remarks from the Chair, Principal Fortier reported on a recent meeting of the Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire (BCI) which was attended by the new Deputy Minister of Education, Sylvie Barcelo. The government committee which was tasked with re-examining the funding formula for Quebec universities will be reactivated. With regard to McGill's senior administration, the Principal reported that the Board of Governors has approved a one-year extension to Dr. Rose Goldstein's term as Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations). The extension allows her to complete several research initiatives and activities that she is leading. As Dr. Goldstein has expressed her wish to not serve as V.-P. past June 30, 2017, a search for her successor will begin in Spring 2016. A committee has been put in place to seek a successor to Secretary-General Strople, whose term ends in June 2016 and who has indicated that he does not wish to be considered for a further term. Principal Fortier indicated that an advisory committee for the search for a new Secretary-General is not required under the Statutes but that a committee is already in place regardless of that. A search committee has also been put in place with regard to the position of Vice-Principal (Communications and External Relations).

Vice-Principal Goldstein spoke about the Centraide campaign which has raised 57% of the goal of \$475,000 so far this year. A target participation rate of 12% has been set for this year. The tagline of this campaign is "bring along a friend." It was noted that the minimum amount for the Leader category of donations is now over \$1,200 per year rather than \$1,000 and that new Leader gifts as well as increases of over 10% to existing Leader gifts are matched through a Centraide fund from the private sector.

Under the agenda point for formal questions, a question was posed by Senator Brunot regarding the current refugee crisis, with an answer being provided by Deputy Provost Dyens ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/question\\_and\\_response\\_regarding\\_the\\_current\\_refugee\\_crisis.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/question_and_response_regarding_the_current_refugee_crisis.pdf)).

Principal Fortier turned the Chair over to Secretary-General Strople for the next agenda item, an open discussion on McGill's International Strategy ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4\\_d15-06\\_open\\_discussion\\_on\\_mcgills\\_international\\_strategy\\_web.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4_d15-06_open_discussion_on_mcgills_international_strategy_web.pdf)). Senator Saroyan inquired about the motivation for this item. Principal Fortier responded that the motivation behind the International Strategy is not financial; rather, it is felt that a richer learning and research environment is created by bringing together people from different countries. Senator Richard noted that some of the points in the consultation document are framed in terms of competition, without answering the implied questions "competition against whom?" and "competition for what?" He asked whether internationalization was being pursued simply as a good thing in and of itself or whether it was being pursued as a means of achieving a specific goal. The Principal responded that internationalization is linked to excellence, that its aim is to attract the best students and the best professors, and that it allows us to reinforce our foundation.

Senator Rourke commented that McGill needs to do more to welcome and support its international students. Senator Brunot argued that contact with different cultures raises intercultural skills, and therefore that internationalization brings added value to an academic environment. Senator Zorychta described alumni as a tremendous resource and expressed the wish for a way to maintain better contact with them. Senator Lannes spoke about the need for a better online education portal of McGill's website. Senator Mucci felt that the pillars described in the consultation document are too internal to McGill; he would like to see McGill build a capacity to teach outside its walls, for example by inviting retired McGill professors to teach in foreign countries.

Principal Fortier thanked Senators for their contributions. Today's discussion was just a first step aimed at determining whether the foundations and pillars identified in the consultation document are correct; a more detailed strategy will now be developed.

Senate adopted the 467th report of the Academic Policy Committee ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/5\\_d15-07\\_467th\\_apc\\_report.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/5_d15-07_467th_apc_report.pdf)) and received for information the annual report of the Academic Policy Committee ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/6b\\_d15-08\\_annual\\_report\\_of\\_apc\\_to\\_senate\\_oct\\_2015.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/6b_d15-08_annual_report_of_apc_to_senate_oct_2015.pdf)), which were presented by Provost Manfredi. Senate also adopted the report of the Senate Nominating Committee ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/7\\_d15-09\\_report\\_of\\_the\\_nominating\\_committee.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/7_d15-09_report_of_the_nominating_committee.pdf)), which included the appointments of Ms. Tara Mawhinney to the Senate Committee on Libraries and of Ms. Joan Hobbins to the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures.

Professor Abraham Fuks, Research Integrity Officer, presented the Annual Report Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/8\\_d15-10\\_annual\\_report\\_investigation\\_of\\_research\\_misconduct\\_2014-15.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/8_d15-10_annual_report_investigation_of_research_misconduct_2014-15.pdf)). Senator Saroyan asked whether there is anything which faculty members can do to decrease the number of cases of alleged misconduct. Professor Fuks stressed the importance of education and mentorship, particularly in relation to graduate students, to ensure that researchers are familiar with the applicable regulations and policies both within McGill and externally (for example, with regard to journal specifications for the attribution of authorship).

Vice-Principal Weinstein presented the University Advancement annual report ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/9\\_d15-11\\_university\\_advancement\\_annual\\_report\\_2014-15\\_web.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/9_d15-11_university_advancement_annual_report_2014-15_web.pdf)), and Associate Vice-Principal Couvrette presented the annual report from the Senate Committee on Physical Development ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/10\\_d15-12\\_scpd\\_annual\\_report\\_2014-15rev1.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/10_d15-12_scpd_annual_report_2014-15rev1.pdf)).

As the last two items of business, Ms. Cynthia Price presented the report from the Board of Governors to Senate ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/11\\_d15-13\\_report\\_from\\_bog\\_to\\_senate\\_october\\_2015\\_0.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/11_d15-13_report_from_bog_to_senate_october_2015_0.pdf)), and Secretary-General Strople presented the notice of the Joint Board-Senate Meeting which will be held on November 3, 2015 ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/12\\_d15-14\\_joint\\_board-senate\\_meeting.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/12_d15-14_joint_board-senate_meeting.pdf)).

The next Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2015. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Regards,  
Your librarian Senate reps,

Genevieve Gore  
Marc Richard  
Natalie Waters