

Colleagues,

The following is a summary of the Senate meeting which took place on Wednesday, October 25, 2017.

The meeting began with memorial tributes being presented by Senator Bede for Professor Terry Wheeler, by Dean Lennox for Professor Allan Hay, and by Senator Roulet for Professor Warwick Armstrong. Senate adopted the minutes of the last Senate meeting (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/senate_minutes_sept.19_2017.pdf), the report of the Steering Committee (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/2_report_of_the_senate_steering_committee_21.pdf) and the agenda (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/1_agenda_senate_oct.25_2017.pdf).

In her remarks from the Chair, Principal Fortier noted that she has sent an email to the McGill community on the subject of upholding McGill's values; the email underlines the importance of maintaining an environment where different views and ideas can be expressed and debated with mutual respect. On the topic of government relations, the Principal noted that Bill 62 has recently been adopted; she has issued a statement on this subject which reminds the McGill community that the University adheres to the principles of religious neutrality and accommodation for religious differences. Principal Fortier indicated that, based on the information which McGill currently has, Bill 62 will not affect our existing policies and practices. At the federal level, there have been a number of meetings with members of Parliament and with senior civil servants regarding the Naylor Report on fundamental science; McGill is also working with the U15 group and with Universities Canada on this subject. The latest Maclean's university ranking has placed McGill at the top of the medical/doctoral category for the 13th year in a row. The latest Times Higher Education World University Ranking includes a new ranking for law; McGill's Faculty of Law is ranked 13th in the world.

[Note: In the section on the remarks from the Chair, our report on the September 2017 meeting of Senate incorrectly stated that final enrollment figures would only be known in February. The correct date for these final numbers is actually the third week of October. We regret this error.]

Associate Provost Campbell presented parts A and B of the report of the Academic Policy Committee (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4a_d17-10_part_a_482nd_apc_report_to_senate.pdf and http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4b_d17-10_part_b_482nd_apc_report_to_senate.pdf). With regard to part B, Dean Bajoux-Besnainou presented a motion to table the resolution to approve the proposed Professional Development Certificate in Data Analytics for Business in the School of Continuing Studies; the motion to table was defeated, and the APC report was approved. Professor Campbell also presented for information the 2016-2017 annual report of the Academic Policy Committee (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/5_d17-11_apc_annual_report_2016-17.pdf).

Senate adopted the report of the Senate Nominating Committee (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/6_d17-12_nominating_report.pdf), which included proposed revisions to the terms of reference of the Senate Committee on Physical Development. Dean Buddle presented a set of proposed Revisions to the Charter of Students' Rights (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/7_d17-13_charter_of_students_rights.pdf), which Senate approved. Senate also approved proposed revisions to the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Contract Academic Staff and to the Regulations on Retirement of Academic Staff, and the proposed creation of new Regulations Relating to Visiting Academic Appointments; these proposals (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/8_d17-14_academic_policies.pdf) all relate to the situation of Contract Academic Staff.

Senate received for information the annual report Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/9_d17-15_annual_report_concerning_the_investigation_of_research_misconduct_2016-17.pdf), which was presented by V.-P. Crago and by McGill's Research Integrity Officer, Dr. Christina Wolfson. Senate also received for information the University Advancement annual report for 2016-17 (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/10_d17-16_university_advancement_annual_report_0.pdf), which was presented by V.-P. Weinstein. Ms. Tina Hobday presented the latest report from the Board of Governors to Senate (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/11_d17-17_report_from_the_board_of_governors_to_senate.pdf); she noted that the Board has approved a policy framework for development and review of governing documents (Appendix A of http://www.mcgill.ca/boardofgovernors/files/boardofgovernors/gd17-12_nge_committee_report_r_0.pdf), which provides for definitions of types of institutional governing documents (policies, regulations, procedures and guidelines),

clarification of the roles and responsibilities for the development and review of governing documents, introduction of a five-year review cycle of governing documents and the establishment of an official repository for governing documents.

Principal Fortier presented for information the notice of the Joint Board-Senate Meeting which will be held on November 15, 2017 (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/12_d17-18_notice_of_joint_board-senate_meeting.pdf) and whose topic will be "Building stronger communities and citizenship through mentorship."

As the final agenda item, Senate moved into confidential session to discuss the report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee.

The next Senate meeting will be held on Thursday, November 23, 2017. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Regards,
Your librarian Senate reps,

Genevieve Gore
Marc Richard
Natalie Waters