

Senate Meeting Report, 2018-02-21

Colleagues,

The following is a summary of the Senate meeting which took place on Wednesday, February 21, 2018

The meeting began with Dean Eidelman presenting memorial tributes for Emeritus Professors Christopher Thompson and Huntington Sheldon.

Senate adopted the minutes of the last Senate meeting

([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/senate\\_minutes\\_final\\_jan.17.2018.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/senate_minutes_final_jan.17.2018.pdf)), the report of the Steering Committee ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/2\\_report\\_of\\_the\\_senate\\_steering\\_committee\\_25.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/2_report_of_the_senate_steering_committee_25.pdf)) and the agenda ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/1\\_senate\\_agenda\\_feb\\_21\\_2018.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/1_senate_agenda_feb_21_2018.pdf)).

In her comments from the Chair, Principal Fortier indicated that Professor Spencer Boudreau's report regarding the events surrounding the SSMU General Assembly of October 23, 2017, has been received and has been made public. The Task Force on Respect and Inclusion in Campus Life is continuing its work; a progress report is part of today's Senate agenda. On the subject of government relations, the Principal reported that McGill and other stakeholders have been engaging in pre-budget advocacy. On the provincial side, the Principal has met with the Ministers of Finance and of Higher Education to advocate for increased investments. On the federal side, the next budget will be tabled on February 27; it is hoped that the budget will invest in fundamental research.

Under the agenda point for formal questions, a question regarding truncation error in foreign graduate student admissions calculations was submitted by Senator Hébert, with a response being provided by Dean Nalbantoglu ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4\\_question\\_and\\_response\\_re\\_truncation\\_error.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4_question_and_response_re_truncation_error.pdf)).

Senate held an open discussion on the theme of "The Engaged Classroom in a Digital World"

([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/5\\_d17-43\\_open\\_discussion\\_on\\_the\\_engaged\\_classroom.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/5_d17-43_open_discussion_on_the_engaged_classroom.pdf)).

Provost Manfredi presented the report of the Academic Policy Committee, which was in two parts

([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/6a\\_d17-44\\_485th\\_apc\\_report\\_part\\_a.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/6a_d17-44_485th_apc_report_part_a.pdf) and [http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/6b\\_d17-44\\_485th\\_apc\\_report\\_part\\_b.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/6b_d17-44_485th_apc_report_part_b.pdf)). The report was adopted by Senate; this included the approval of the addition of an Appendix C to the *Regulations Relating to the Employment of Tenure Track and Tenured Academic Staff*. This Appendix C, which provides Guidelines for Developing a Service Portfolio, complements Appendix A (Guidelines for Developing a Teaching Portfolio) and Appendix B (Guidelines for Developing a Research Portfolio), which are already part of the same *Regulations*. The Office of the Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic) is presently working with MAUT and the Trenholme Dean of Libraries to create Guidelines for Developing a Service Portfolio for Librarian Staff, for whom the definition of service is slightly different. It is projected that these service portfolio guidelines will form Appendix C of the *Regulations Relating to the Employment of Librarian Staff*; these *Regulations* already include an Appendix A (Guidelines for Developing a Teaching Portfolio for Librarian Staff) but do not yet include an Appendix B on research portfolio guidelines for librarians.

Provost Manfredi presented the report of the Senate Nominating Committee

([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/7\\_d17-45\\_nominating\\_report.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/7_d17-45_nominating_report.pdf)), which was adopted. This included the appointment of the following librarians to the University Tenure Committee Senate Pool for terms beginning May 1, 2018 and ending April 30, 2021: Megan Chellew, Valerie Mayman, Louise Robertson and Lonnie Weatherby. Senate also adopted a proposed revision to the key academic dates for Fall 2018 ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/8\\_d17-46\\_revision\\_to\\_key\\_academic\\_dates\\_for\\_fall\\_2018.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/8_d17-46_revision_to_key_academic_dates_for_fall_2018.pdf)), which was presented by Deputy Provost Dyens.

Secretary-General Rogowska gave a verbal update on the notice of motion which was presented to Senate in January regarding a proposal to include the Associate Provost (Equity and Academic Policies) as an ex officio member of Senate. Based on feedback from Senate and from the Senate Steering Committee regarding its potential impacts, the proposal is being deferred to a later time; this will allow the full examination of considerations such as the principle of academic majority and the requests made by various constituencies for seats on Senate. The composition of Senate undergoes formal review at least once every ten years; the last such review dates from December 2014, and it is proposed to begin the next review midway through the ten-year cycle, i.e. sometime in 2019. In anticipation of this process, the Secretariat will maintain a file of points to be considered during the review.

Professors Bruce Lennox and Nandini Ramanujam, Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Respect and Inclusion in Campus Life, presented a progress report on the work of the Task Force ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/9\\_d17-47\\_task\\_force\\_on\\_respect\\_and\\_inclusion\\_progress\\_report\\_0.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/9_d17-47_task_force_on_respect_and_inclusion_progress_report_0.pdf)). Professor Dimitrios Berk, Ombudsperson for Students, presented the 2016-2017 annual report of the Ombudsperson for Students ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/10\\_d17-48\\_ombudsperson\\_for\\_students\\_annual\\_report.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/10_d17-48_ombudsperson_for_students_annual_report.pdf)).

The last two items of business were the 2016-2017 annual report from Student Life and Learning ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/11\\_d17-49\\_student\\_life\\_and\\_learning\\_annual\\_report.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/11_d17-49_student_life_and_learning_annual_report.pdf)), which was presented by Deputy Provost Dyens, and the the 2016-2017 annual report of the Advisory Council on the Charter of Students' Rights ([http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/12\\_d17-50\\_advisory\\_council\\_on\\_the\\_charter\\_of\\_students\\_rights\\_annual\\_report.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/12_d17-50_advisory_council_on_the_charter_of_students_rights_annual_report.pdf)), which was presented by Professor Jane Everett, Chair of the Advisory Council.

The next Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 28, 2018. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Regards,  
Your librarian Senate reps,

Genevieve Gore  
Marc Richard  
Natalie Waters