

Colleagues,

The following is a summary of the Senate meeting which took place on Thursday, April 19, 2018.

The meeting began with Dean Nicell presenting a memorial tribute for Emeritus Professor Clifford Champness. Senate adopted the minutes of the last Senate meeting (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/senate_final_minutes_march_28_2018.pdf), the report of the Steering Committee (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/2_report_of_the_senate_steering_committee_26.pdf) and the agenda (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/1_senate_agenda_april_19_2018.pdf).

In her remarks from the Chair, Principal Fortier reported that the *dossier d'opportunité* for the R.V.H. site project has been completed and sent to the government. McGill is now awaiting the government's response to see if we will move to the next step, which would be the preparation of a *dossier d'affaires* containing more detailed plans and specifications for the project.

The Principal next addressed the issue of sexual misconduct, a subject about which she has met recently with SSMU and MAUT. She indicated that there is a diversity of policies at McGill relating to this matter, and she also noted that privacy laws restrict the information that can be disclosed by the University in cases involving possible sexual misconduct. Regarding the specific topic of intimate relationships between professors and students, Principal Fortier sought Senate's opinion on whether an ad hoc working group of Senate should be established to start doing policy work on this subject. The ad hoc working group would look at McGill's existing instruments, such as the *Regulation on Conflict of Interest*, to consider whether they are sufficient, whether they need adjustment, and whether a new policy on the subject should be developed. In response to a question from Senator Richard, Associate Provost Campbell noted that the Quebec government's Bill 151, *An Act to prevent and fight sexual violence in higher education institutions*, requires every educational institution to establish a policy to prevent and fight sexual violence, and that the policy must include a code of conduct specifying guidelines for such matters as intimate, amorous or sexual relationships that may develop between students and persons having an influence over their academic progress, whether personnel members or officers of the institution. Principal Fortier indicated that the next step will be for the Senate Nominating Committee to draft the mandate of the ad hoc working group and propose its composition.

Under the agenda point for formal questions, Senators Anjum and Wali posed a question regarding McGill's commitment to access to education; the response was provided by Provost Manfredi (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/3_question_and_response_re_mcgills_commitment_to_access_to_education.pdf).

Provost Manfredi gave a presentation (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4_d17-61_budget_presentation_fy19.pdf) on the McGill University budget for 2018-2019, which will go to the Board of Governors at its meeting of April 26. Senator Saroyan referred to the page titled "FY2019 and beyond: Expense pressures," whose Salary Commitments section includes the bullet point "For tenure track staff: maintain or improve our position within the U15 with respect to mean salary levels." She expressed concern over the concept of the maintenance of the position of salary levels, whose improvement has been a long-standing goal. Provost Manfredi responded that the phrasing of the bullet point may not have conveyed clearly its intended meaning, i.e. maintaining the progress which has been made and improving on it.

The Provost next presented the report of the Senate Nominating Committee (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/5_d17-62_nominating_report.pdf), which Senate approved. This report included the nomination of Mr. Daniel Boyer to the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures, and of Ms. Jenn Riley as an Alternate Chair for the University Tenure Committee for the Libraries. Senate next approved the appointment of two new Assessors under the *Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law* (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/6_d17-63_harassment_assessors.pdf).

Provost Manfredi and V.-P. Beauchamp presented for information the McGill University staffing report for 2016-2017 (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/7_d17-64_mcgill_university_staffing_report.pdf). This was followed by an update, presented by Dean Buddle, on the work being done to revise the *Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures* (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/8_d17-

[65 update on revisions to the code of student conduct.pdf](#)); the goal is to bring a draft of the revised Code to Senate for information in Fall 2018.

As the final item of business, Secretary-General Rogowska presented the report of the joint meeting of the Senate Steering Committee and the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/9_d17-66_report_of_the_joint_executive-steering_meeting.pdf).

The next Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 16, 2018. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Regards,
Your librarian Senate reps,

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