

Senate Meeting Report, 2019-01-16

Colleagues,

The following is a summary of the Senate meeting which took place on Wednesday, January 16, 2019.

The meeting began with Dean Emami presenting a memorial tribute for Professor Emeritus Harry Rosen.

Senate adopted the minutes of the last Senate meeting

(https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/senate_final_minutes_dec.5.2018.pdf), the report of the Steering Committee (https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/2_report_of_the_senate_steering_committee_30.pdf) and the agenda (https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/1_senate_agenda_jan.16.2019.pdf).

In her comments from the Chair, Principal Fortier noted the recent appointment of David Lametti, McGill graduate and long-time professor at McGill's Faculty of Law, as Canada's new Minister of Justice. The Working Group on Principles of Commemoration and Renaming submitted its final report (https://mcgill.ca/provost/files/provost/final_report_working_group_commemoration_and_renaming.pdf) to the Provost in early December 2018.

Senate approved the 489th report of the Academic Policy Committee (https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4_d18-30_489th_apc_report_0.pdf), including a set of revisions to the *Regulation on the Conduct of Research* (appendix G of the APC report); the report was presented by Provost Manfredi.

Senate approved a set of revisions to the *Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures*

(https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/5_d18-31_code_of_student_conduct_revisions.pdf), presented by Dean Buddle. Senator Saroyan asked whether the term "advisor", which is now defined more carefully, includes retired members of the academic staff; Dean Buddle responded that this would have to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Senate endorsed the University's Strategic Research Plan (SRP) 2019 (https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/6_d18-32_srp_2019.pdf), which was presented by V.-P. Crago, and approved the appointment of an Assessor under the *Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law* (https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/7_d18-33_appointment_of_harassment_assessor.pdf), which was presented by Associate Provost Campbell.

Two related reports were presented to Senate for information: the report of the Ad Hoc Panel to Conduct a Campus Study of Sexual Violence (https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/8_d18-34_ad_hoc_panel_0.pdf), which was presented by Professor Shaheen Shariff, Chair of the Panel, and the report of the Committee for the Implementation of the Policy against Sexual Violence (https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/9_d18-35_implementation_committee_report.pdf), which was presented by Professor Lucyna Lach, Chair of the Committee. Senator Richard noted that the recommendation to create a Standing Implementation Committee responsible for ensuring that improvements to the *Policy against Sexual Violence* are put into effect across academic and administrative units is in line with Bill 151 (*An Act to prevent and fight sexual violence in higher education institutions*), which requires institutions to establish such a standing committee. In response to a question from Senator Richard about another recommendation which aligns with a provision of Bill 151 (the requirement for mandatory annual training activities for students and staff members), Dean Buddle and Associate Provost Campbell indicated that three training modules (one for students, one for academic staff, and one for other staff categories) are under development and will be rolled out over time beginning this spring.

Regarding the Campus Study, Senator van der Berg requested that two documents which were used to conduct the study be added to the report: the questionnaire and the focus group protocol. He noted that while the survey report clearly indicates that a problem exists, statistical inferences about the extent of the problem cannot be drawn with confidence because of the low response rate of 6% and because the individuals surveyed did not constitute a random sample. Senator Wilson cautioned that the low response rate should not lead to the conclusion that no action needs to be taken on the problems identified by the survey.

The biennial report to Senate on the implementation and application of the *Policy against Sexual Violence* (https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/10_d18-36_svp_annual_report.pdf) was presented by Provost Manfredi, and the annual report on Student Life and Learning (https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/11_d18-37_sll_annual_report_1.pdf) was presented by Deputy Provost Labeau.

Dean Cook presented for information an overview of major Library projects (<https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/12. d18-38 mcgill library presentation.pdf>). Also presented for information were the annual report of the Advisory Council on the Charter of Students' Rights (<https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/13. d18-39 advisory council annual report.pdf>), which was presented by Senator Sladek, and the most recent report from the Board of Governors to Senate (<https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/14. d18-40 board to senate report.pdf>), which was presented by Senator Hobday.

The next Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2019. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Regards,
Your Librarian Senate reps,

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