

Colleagues,

The following is a summary of the Senate meeting which took place on Wednesday, March 27, 2019.

The meeting began with Dean Eidelman presenting a memorial tribute for Professor Richard Haber. Senate adopted the minutes of the last Senate meeting ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/senate\\_minutes\\_final\\_feb\\_20\\_2019.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/senate_minutes_final_feb_20_2019.pdf)), the report of the Steering Committee ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/02\\_report\\_of\\_the\\_steering\\_committee.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/02_report_of_the_steering_committee.pdf)) and [https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/04\\_follow-up\\_to\\_question\\_re\\_steering\\_documents.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/04_follow-up_to_question_re_steering_documents.pdf)) and the agenda ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/01\\_senate\\_agenda\\_march\\_27\\_2019.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/01_senate_agenda_march_27_2019.pdf)).

In her comments from the Chair, Principal Fortier noted some highlights of the March 19 federal budget and the March 21 Quebec budget, which both included additional investments in higher education and research. The federal budget provides support for students through such measures as funding to encourage outgoing mobility for Canadian students and to attract top international students to Canada, funding to support work integrated learning (i.e. internships), and an expansion of parental leave support for students and postdoctoral fellows who receive funding from granting councils. Investments are also being made which target specific research areas and organizations. The Quebec budget includes additional general funding for university operations, funds for infrastructure support (such as maintenance), and research and innovation investments.

Under the agenda point for formal questions, a question regarding course evaluations was posed by Senators Labonté and Malik; the response was provided by Deputy Provost Labeau ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/question\\_and\\_response\\_-\\_course\\_evaluations.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/question_and_response_-_course_evaluations.pdf)). A question regarding library subscriptions and open access was posed by Senator Dunn; the response was provided by Dean Cook ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/question\\_and\\_response\\_-\\_academic\\_publishing\\_and\\_open\\_access.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/question_and_response_-_academic_publishing_and_open_access.pdf)). Senator Dunn asked a follow-up question on whether all research published by members of the McGill community might be made available through open access in the future. Dean Cook responded that she will take up this matter with the Senate Committee on Libraries; she added that McGill librarians believe strongly in open access and try to operationalize it with our resources as much as possible. Senator Bernard asked whether McGill has taken a position regarding Plan S, the open access science publishing initiative launched by Science Europe. Principal Fortier indicated that McGill is tracking developments in Europe regarding Plan S; she added that open access is potentially a good topic for a future open discussion in Senate. Senator Lametti asked how McGill sees its future relationship with Copibec. Dean Cook responded that this a complex issue requiring extensive discussion; Quebec universities have been scrutinizing the matter carefully, and that their opinion is to stay with Copibec for now.

Provost Manfredi presented the second of this year's budget planning reports for 2019-2020 ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/07\\_d18-47\\_budget\\_planning\\_report\\_ii.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/07_d18-47_budget_planning_report_ii.pdf)). Senator Saroyan asked for clarifications about two items from page 6 of the report: Enrolment Smoothing and Loi 100 Productivity Cuts. The Provost indicated that the first item refers to money provided by the government to help universities transition from the old funding formula to the new one, and that the second item refers to a budget cut measure which was implemented by the government approximately five years ago.

Provost Manfredi presented for information the 491st Report of the Academic Policy Committee, which contained no items requiring approval by Senate ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/08\\_d18-48\\_491th\\_apc-report.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/08_d18-48_491th_apc-report.pdf)), and the report of the Senate Nominating Committee, which was adopted ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/09\\_d18-49\\_nominating\\_report.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/09_d18-49_nominating_report.pdf)). The latter included the following appointments:

- to the University Tenure Committee Senate Pool, each for terms beginning May 1, 2019 and ending April 30, 2022: Ms. Carole Urbain, Mr. Joseph Hafner, and Mr. Eamon Duffy.
- to the Advisory Committee for the Possible Reappointment of the Dean of Management: Ms. Natalie Waters.

Associate Provost Campbell presented the proposed revisions to the *Policy against Sexual Violence* ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/10\\_d18-50\\_policy\\_against\\_sexual\\_violence.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/10_d18-50_policy_against_sexual_violence.pdf)) and the proposed revisions to the *Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law* ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/11\\_d18-51\\_harassment\\_policy\\_revisions.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/11_d18-51_harassment_policy_revisions.pdf)), both of which were adopted. Comments during the discussion of the revisions to the *Policy against Sexual Violence* generally described the revised document as a significant improvement over what existed previously, but also regarded sexual violence prevention and response efforts at McGill as a work in progress and underlined the importance of continuous review and improvements.

Provost Manfredi and V.-P. Beauchamp presented the staffing report for 2017-2018 ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/12\\_d18-45\\_staffing\\_report.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/12_d18-45_staffing_report.pdf)). Senator Hastings inquired about the reasons driving the increase in clinical contract academic staff. Dean Eidelman responded that under the accreditation rules applying to the Faculty of Medicine this designation covers anyone who, other than tenure-track staff, has any teaching role, even just a small one; typically, these individuals are clinicians who provide educational experience to medical students, who have zero-salary academic appointments, and who bill the provincial health authority for the time they spend teaching. Senator Robaire commented that the number of administrative and support staff has gone up but that these increases are not being seen at the departmental level. Provost Manfredi responded that the number of people working in student services has gone up, and he also noted that there have been increasing demands pertaining to the accreditation of professional programs.

Senate received for information the annual report on research and innovation, which was presented by V.-P. Crago ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/13\\_d18-52\\_research\\_and\\_innovation\\_report.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/13_d18-52_research_and_innovation_report.pdf)) and the annual report on enrolment and strategic enrolment management, which was presented by Deputy Provost Labeau ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/14\\_d18-53\\_enrolment\\_report.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/14_d18-53_enrolment_report.pdf)).

Dean Buddle and Senator Dunn presented a verbal report on their work to date as Senate representatives to the Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility and on the recent information session ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/program\\_info\\_session\\_march\\_19\\_2019.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/program_info_session_march_19_2019.pdf)) at which Ms. Sophie Leblanc, Chief Investment Officer and Treasurer, gave a presentation on McGill's investment framework.

As the last item of business, Senate received for information the latest report from the Board of Governors to Senate, which was presented by Ms. Tina Hobday ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/15\\_d18-54\\_board\\_to\\_senate\\_report.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/15_d18-54_board_to_senate_report.pdf)).

The next Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2019. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Regards,  
Your librarian Senate reps,

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Marc Richard  
Natalie Waters