

Senate Meeting Report, 2019-12-04

Colleagues,

The following is a summary of the Senate meeting which took place on Wednesday, December 4, 2019.

The meeting began with Dean Nicell presenting a memorial tribute for Professor Wissam Musallam and Dean Eidelman presenting a memorial tribute for Professor Prem Ponka.

Senate adopted the minutes of the last Senate meeting

([https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/final\\_senate\\_minutes\\_nov.20\\_2019.pdf](https://mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/final_senate_minutes_nov.20_2019.pdf)), the report of the Steering Committee ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/02\\_report\\_of\\_the\\_steering\\_committee\\_1.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/02_report_of_the_steering_committee_1.pdf)) and the agenda ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/01\\_senate\\_agenda\\_dec.4\\_2019.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/01_senate_agenda_dec.4_2019.pdf)). The Steering report includes as an appendix a set of Guidelines for the Review of Questions and Motions by the Senate Steering Committee. The Guidelines were developed during the fall semester by a working group composed of Senators Campbell, Richard and Wilson, with support provided by the Secretariat, and were approved by the Steering Committee on November 26.

In her remarks from the Chair, Principal Fortier indicated that the December 2019 report of the Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility (CAMSR) is available

([https://www.mcgill.ca/boardofgovernors/files/boardofgovernors/13\\_gd19-29\\_camsr\\_report.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/boardofgovernors/files/boardofgovernors/13_gd19-29_camsr_report.pdf)) and will be presented to the Board of Governors for approval at its meeting of December 5. Further to a point raised by Senator Hébert at the last meeting of Senate about the lack of a Minister of Science in the new federal cabinet, the Principal noted that science is now a component of the portfolio of Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry. More will be known about the subject once the ministerial mandate letters have been released. The Principal also spoke about the events being planned for December 6 to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the École Polytechnique shooting of 14 women, including a commemorative ceremony which will be held on the downtown campus.

Under the agenda point for formal questions, Senators Mecabô, Wilson and Duckett posed a question regarding the recruitment of out-of-province Canadian students; the response was provided by Provost Manfredi

([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/qa\\_re\\_recruitment\\_canadian\\_students.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/qa_re_recruitment_canadian_students.pdf))

Senate approved a set of proposed revisions to the Policy Related to the Naming of University Assets

([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/05\\_d19-22\\_naming\\_policy\\_1.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/05_d19-22_naming_policy_1.pdf)), presented by V.-P. Weinstein.

The annual report on the financial state of the University for 2018-2019

([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/06\\_d19-23\\_financial\\_state\\_of\\_the\\_university.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/06_d19-23_financial_state_of_the_university.pdf)) was presented by V.-P.

Beauchamp. This was followed by this year's first report to Senate on budget planning for 2020-2021

([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/07\\_d19-24\\_budget\\_report\\_i\\_0.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/07_d19-24_budget_report_i_0.pdf)), which was presented by Provost Manfredi.

Deputy Provost Labeau presented the annual report of the Senate Committee on Libraries for 2018-2019

([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/08\\_d19-25\\_libraries\\_annual\\_report.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/08_d19-25_libraries_annual_report.pdf)). Senator Wilson asked for an update on the timeline for the repair work being done at the Schulich Library of Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, and Engineering, and for the Fiat Lux project. Dean Cook responded that the timeline for the former has slipped, with a closure of 2.5 to 3 years currently being anticipated; the Fiat Lux project, however, is basically on schedule. Senator Elbourne asked whether major projects, such as development of the offsite Collection Management Facility and the move to OCLC WMS library management system, could be iterative processes in order to allow user input as parameters change; she also expressed concerns about ensuring that major building projects did not impact library collection development. On the first point, Dean Cook responded that the Library continuously asks for input from users in a deliberate and systematic way. On the second point, she indicated that operations and buildings are funded from separate budget envelopes.

As its final items of business, Senate received for information the annual report of the Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs for 2018-2019 ([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/09\\_d19-26\\_cesa\\_annual\\_report.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/09_d19-26_cesa_annual_report.pdf)), which was presented by Deputy Provost Labeau, and a report on the 2019 Joint Board-Senate Meeting

([https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/10\\_d19-27\\_joint\\_board-senate\\_report.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/10_d19-27_joint_board-senate_report.pdf)), which was presented by Principal Fortier.

The next Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 15, 2020. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Regards,  
Your librarian Senate reps,

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Marc Richard  
Natalie Waters