

Senate Report, 2023-12-06

Colleagues,

The following is a summary of the Senate meeting which took place on December 6, 2023.

The session began with Senate observing a minute of silence in memory of the 14 women who were murdered and the 14 others who were injured at Polytechnique Montréal on December 6, 1989.

Memorial tributes were presented by Dean Lennox for Professor Emeritus Douglas Stairs and Professor Emeritus Byung Chan Eu. The scheduled memorial tribute for Professor Jerry Pelletier was postponed until the next Senate meeting.

Senate adopted the report of the Steering Committee https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/01_report_of_the_senate_steering_committee_23-24_04.pdf, the minutes of the November 2023 meeting of Senate [not yet posted], and the agenda https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/00_senate_agenda_december_6_2023.pdf.

In his comments from the Chair, Principal Saini provided an update on the provincial government's plans to change funding and tuition at Quebec universities. Discussions with the government are ongoing, but an announcement about a final decision is expected in the near future, possibly even within a day or so.

Senate approved the proposed revisions to the McGill University Sustainability Policy https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-23_proposed_revisions_to_the_mcgill_university_sustainability_policy.pdf.

The next agenda item was the report of the Academic Policy Committee https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-24_report_of_the_academic_policy_committee.pdf. Senate approved Section I and discussed Section II, the latter being a set of proposed revisions to the Regulation on Conflict of Interest and to its companion document on recognizing such conflicts (see Appendix C of the report). The revised documents are expected to return to Senate for approval in January.

Senate received for information a report from the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-25_report_of_the_equity_diversity_and_inclusion_committee_edic_.pdf.

Deputy Provost Labeau presented on behalf of Provost Manfredi the first of the three budget planning reports to Senate which will be given in 2023-2024 https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-26_budget_planning_2024-2025_report_i.pdf. The first part of the report is an update on the current Fiscal Year 2023-2024. The second part of the report is a discussion of budget planning for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and it provides analysis of the situation created by the Quebec government's announced plans to change the funding model related to university tuition.

Senate received for information the report on the 2023 Joint Meeting of the Board of Governors and Senate https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-27_report_on_the_2023_joint_meeting_of_the_board_of_governors_and_senate.pdf. The theme of the meeting was "Building on McGill's Record of Excellence for the Third Century: Challenges and Opportunities Ahead."

Senate received for information the annual report on the financial state of the University <https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23->

[28 annual report on the financial state of the university.pdf](#). A question was posed by a student Senator in relation to the potential consequences on the Fiat Lux project of the Quebec government's contemplated funding model changes. Deputy Provost Labeau indicated that the University may need to re-evaluate major infrastructure projects if the government's decision materially affects McGill's position.

As its last items of business, Senate received for information the following annual reports:

- Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures [https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-29 annual report of the committee on staff grievances and disciplinary procedures.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-29_annual_report_of_the_committee_on_staff_grievances_and_disciplinary_procedures.pdf)

- Office of Indigenous Initiatives [https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-30 annual report of the office of indigenous initiatives.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-30_annual_report_of_the_office_of_indigenous_initiatives.pdf)

- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Strategic Plan [https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-31 annual report on the edi strategic plan.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-31_annual_report_on_the_edi_strategic_plan.pdf)

- Action Plan to address Anti-Black Racism [https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-32 annual report on the action plan to address anti-black racism.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-32_annual_report_on_the_action_plan_to_address_anti-black_racism.pdf)

- University Advancement [https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-33 annual report on university advancement.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d23-33_annual_report_on_university_advancement.pdf)

The next meeting of Senate will take place on January 17, 2024. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Regards,

Your librarian Senate reps,

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