

Senate Report 2021-10-20

Colleagues,

The following is a summary of the Senate meeting which took place remotely on October 20, 2021.

Senate adopted the minutes of the September 22 regular Senate meeting https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/final_senate_minutes_september_22_2021.pdf, the minutes of the special Senate meeting of October 4 https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/final_senate_minutes_october_4_2021.pdf, the report of the Senate Steering committee for the meeting of October 20 https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/02_report_of_the_senate_steering_committee_9.pdf, and the agenda for the October 20 meeting https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/00_senate_agenda_oct.20.2021-web.pdf.

Principal Fortier opened her remarks from the Chair by welcoming Chancellor John McCall MacBain to his first meeting of Senate in this capacity. Regarding COVID-19 vaccinations, the Principal reported that, according to figures received from Quebec's Ministry of Higher Education, 94.9% of McGill students are adequately protected against the virus. Plans are being made for the upcoming Fall Convocation to be held in person, and an announcement of the dates for the event will be forthcoming; this was done in an email to the McGill community sent out on October 22, the dates being November 25 and 26 and the location being Place des Arts. Principal Fortier indicated that the latest Maclean's ranking of Canadian universities shows McGill at the top of the medical / doctoral category for the 17th year in a row. Following the Principal's remarks, Vice-Principal Arsenault encouraged participation in this year's Centraide campaign, which he is co-chairing with Dean Geitmann.

Senate approved the 506th report of the Academic Policy Committee, which included recommended revisions to the Policy on Copyright and Policy on Inventions and Software and to the academic organizational structure for the School of Continuing Studies, as well as the transfer of the McGill Writing Centre from the School of Continuing Studies to the Faculty of Arts https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/03_d21-08_506th_apc_report.pdf.

Senate approved part II of the report of the Senate Nominating Committee (https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/04_d21-07_nominating_report_part_ii.pdf), part I having already been approved at the special Senate meeting of October 4 (https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/02_d21-07_nominating_report_part_i.pdf).

Senate received for information two related reports: the report on the implementation of the Strategic Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Plan https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/05_d21-09_edi_implementation_report.pdf and the report on the implementation of the Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/06_d21-10_abr_implementation_report.pdf

Senate also received for information the first monthly report of the new Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on COVID Academic Planning and Policies https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/07_d21-11_ad_hoc_committee_report.pdf.

The Ad Hoc Advisory Committee meets weekly, and the minutes of its first two meetings are included in the document. The Secretariat has set up a page for the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on the Senate website (<https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/committeesofsenate/ad-hoc-committees/ad-hoc-advisory-committee-covid->

[academic-planning-and-policies](#)), and links to the minutes of its meetings are provided at the bottom of the page.

The last two items of the open session, which were presented for information, were the report from the Board of Governors to Senate https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/08_d21-12_board_to_senate_report.pdf and the notice of the Joint Board-Senate Meeting which will be held on November 11, 2021 https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/09_d21-13_notice_of_joint_board-senate_meeting.pdf

As its last item of business, Senate moved into confidential session to consider the report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee.

The next Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Regards,
Your librarian Senate reps,

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