



Minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Council Steering Committee held on April 10, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in the Dean's Conference Room (Room 103, 3605 de la Montagne).

PRESENT

Eidelman, David (Chair)
Filion, Françoise
Ortiz-Paredes, David

Brown, Karen
Kafantaris, Demetra
Robaire, Bernard

Colby, Diana
Marelli, Ariane
Sharif, Behrang

Regrets: Roncière, Léanne; Liu, Catherine; Berard-Giasson, Annick (delegate)

1. Review of the January 23, 2019 Steering Committee Minutes

The minutes were approved without change.

2. Review of the February 26, 2019 Faculty Council Minutes

The minutes were approved without change.

3. Review of topics for the May 21, 2019 FC meeting [education, research, students]

Student topic

Steering Committee members reviewed the student topics on our standing list and agreed that the two top options were as follows:

- 1) **SYBS** (Supporting Young Black Students): A longitudinal mentorship program between Black medical students & Black high school students from low socio-economic settings to foster interest in health professions.
- 2) **MedComm**: A medical student-led initiative that aims to facilitate finding translators for patient encounters at McGill-led hospitals. This initiative was submitted by L. Roncière for consideration as a student topic.

ACTION: D. Kafantaris will follow-up with SYBS to determine if they are available to present.

Education topic

The Steering Committee agreed on the presentation of an issue impacting all health professional schools, namely, **language proficiency**. The issue includes a notion of assessment, testing tools and expectations of level of proficiency for students newly admitted.

Leah Moss, the Associate Director for Educational Units will be presenting the findings and recommendations of a work group mandated by the Vice Dean Education to address this issue.

ACTION: D. Kafantaris will confirm L. Moss' availability to give the presentation.

Research topic

The Dean suggested inviting Dr. Brent Richards to present the project in Genomics, co-led by our recent CERC recruit, Dr. V. Mooser. Steering Committee members agreed on this topic.

ACTION: D. Kafantaris to verify with Dr. Richards as to his availability to present on May 21.

Business arising/updates

1. *Project Renaissance (strategic plan)*

- a) Creation of a “School of Medicine”
- b) Creation of a “School of Biomedical Sciences”
- c) Renaming of the Faculty of Medicine

D. Kafantaris presented an overview of the approval process to be undertaken with the University for these Project Renaissance proposals. The Dean will be presenting them to Senate (May 15), followed by a presentation to Faculty Council (May 21) and then to the Board of Governors (May 23). The intent is to communicate and socialize/sensitize the university’s governing bodies of the upcoming formal proposal for the above 3 recommendations. The formal proposals will be presented for approval to Senate and BOG in the fall, once they have been presented and ratified by Faculty Council. Upon hearing an overview of the Dean’s presentation, the following suggestions were made:

- Mention the existing Standing Committee on Research (SCoR) in the presentation related to the School of Biomedical Sciences
- Show the comparative data that was gathered and is available
- Note the importance of branding with the name change

2. *Space updates*

All agreed on the importance of the Dean providing an update on ongoing changes related to space. It was suggested that more effective means of communicating the status of renovation or space projects to local users affected are needed.

3. *General budget update*

The Dean noted the importance of presenting a brief update on the Faculty’s budget status. A more detailed presentation (State of the Faculty) will be presented in the fall Faculty Council meeting. All agreed on the importance of the Dean providing such an update. The focus will be on mentioning the significant increase in administration resource numbers and the need to align our administrative structure to the School structure as presented in Project Renaissance.

Standing/Routine Agenda Items

It was noted that the need for new Nominating Committee (x2) members must be mentioned at the Faculty Council meeting. No other discussion was had on standing/routine agenda items.

There being no other business to address, the meeting ended at 3:02 p.m.