



Minutes of the 25th meeting of the Faculty Council held on February 22, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom.

FACULTY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT (via Zoom)

Allard, Robert	Gonnerman, Laura	Nardini, Sonia
Arora, Anish	Gratton, Alain	Ouellet, Jean
Backman, Steven	Haggar, Catherine (Emergency Medicine delegate)	Park, Morag
Barralet, Jake	Henry, Melissa	Quesnel-Vallee, Amelie
Beaudry, Jonas-Sébastien	Huang, Sidong	Robaire, Bernard
Bessissow, Ali	Kearney, Robert	Robbins, Shawn
Biskin, Robert Simon	Kilpatrick, Kelley	Rollin, Marie-France
Burnier, Miguel	Lamy, Genevieve (DPS delegate)	Sacre, Lauralicia
Cambrosio, Alberto	Loiselle, Carmen	Saunders, Sara Elizabeth
Chabot, Zoë	Loganathan, Sampath	Sekhon, Harmehr
Chaffer, Jordi	Lomber, Steve	Soufi, Ghassen (ARM delegate)
Chen, John	Maedler-Kron, Chelsea	Tonin, Patricia
Cloutier, Jean-Francois	Mandato, Craig (Anatomy delegate)	Toussaint, Paule-J.
Cybulsky, Andrey	Marchionni, Caroline	Tulandi, Togas
Daniel, Sam	McArthur, Juliet-Ann	Valerio, Alexander
Eidelman, David	McWatt, Sean	Wein, Theodore
Fu, Lili	Mondou, Mélanie	White, John
Gagnon, Robert	Naiyeju, Ibukunoluwa	Yang, Stephen

REGRETS

Tracie Barnett, Rislaine Benkelfat, Erica Chelini, Vanessa D’Aquila, Michelle Elizov, Timothy Evans, Marie-An Hoang, Kevin Jutras, Srinivasan Krishnamurthy, Mark Levental, Ariane Marelli, Arnim Pause, Ciriaco Piccirillo, Joella Reev, Charles Rohlicek, Catherine St-Cyr, Leon Tourian, Sophie Vaillancourt, Francine Wein.

SECTION I

(D. Eidelman)

1. Welcoming Remarks from the Chair

The Chair welcomed Faculty Council members and guests, including three newly appointed graduate student representatives: Ibukunoluwa Naiyeju (School of Biomedical Sciences), Tomer Jordi Chaffer (School of Medicine) and Kevin Jutras (School of Population and Global Health).

2. Approval of the agenda

The Chair presented the agenda, outlining several presentations.

3. In Memoriam

A moment of silence was observed to remember those in our Faculty community who had recently passed: Gaston Schwarz and Jason Young, and medical student Justine Renaud. For those who have concerns, several resources for both [students](#) and [staff](#) were shared (see presentation for additional resources). The Chair indicated that a specific presentation on the issue of suicide amongst students in our community will be made at a future meeting.

The Chair proceeded to provide a few updates, outlining several leadership appointments that have recently been filled as well as some that have yet to be filled. On the return to campus, the Chair mentioned an increasing removal of restrictions, noting the expectation by mid-March to normalize and to return to full in-person for the Fall 2022 session; however he also noted the need to remain cautious.

The Chair then outlined some Faculty priorities for 2022, including Words Matter: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; Microaggressions, for which a series of visits to each clinical department Grand Rounds meeting are being planned. Another priority being worked on by Aimee Ryan, Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs, is Harmonized Graduate Student stipends, which has become a norm in our competitor institutions and for which the Chair encouraged as much of the Faculty as possible to move to a system where graduate stipends are recognized minima.

He shared that McGill 24, the largest single-day university fundraiser in Canada, is coming up on March 9, noting we have been the leading Faculty within the University each time. He noted our policy is the money raised during McGill 24 stays in one's own unit, so he encouraged everyone to get involved. Those interested in participating should contact Jason.gooding@mcgill.ca

SECTION II

4. McGill Journal of Medicine

(S. Perrier, M. Michell-Robinson)

S. Perrier presented the McGill Journal of Medicine (MJM), an international peer-reviewed publication run entirely by the medical and science students of McGill University (see presentation for details). M. Michell-Robinson spoke about the types of articles the MJM publishes, noting the majority of its readers are in Canada, with significant readership in the US as well and to a lesser degree in the UK. He noted that over the past five years, they have increased their numbers dramatically across all of the different article categories, which he explained is a result of the focus on web publishing and social media. He also shared the recent launch of their podcast, called MJM MedTalks, and noted workshops are also offered (see presentation).

B. Desormeau proceeded to note they also publish conference proceedings taking place both within McGill as well as in the province or elsewhere in Canada. He expressed the MJM is always interested in creating new partnerships and expanding their publication of conference proceedings, for which he encouraged anyone holding a conference to consider having an abstract published with the MJM (see presentation). To learn more about the MJM, he invited those interested to visit their [website](#). The Chair congratulated and thanked the presenters for their successful efforts.

5. Anti-Black Racism Plan update: Black History Month *(S. Razack, I. Ahmed)*

S. Razack provided an update on the Anti-Black racism plan which was presented to Faculty Council in 2021 and is available online. He outlined specific activities relating to the student experience, noting that one item that came out very strongly which is included in their action plan was to increase training in microaggressions. He further indicated that over the past year, there have been multiple sessions offered such as the EDI Lunch and Learns among others (see presentation). In terms of research and knowledge, he explained the focus is on capacity development in curriculum design. He outlined several specific outreach activities from the past year and shared future goals, including the development of a Black Students Community of Support which aims to support students who are interested in medicine and health professions to think about application (see presentation).

6. Research: Opportunities for Improvement *(M. Crago)*

M. Crago presented trends in McGill's tri-agency research performance with a focus on CIHR (see presentation). She indicated McGill's CIHR share, which funds health and medical research, is showing a downward trend. She explained there was a lot more funding in fiscal year 21 mainly due to COVID which we did not capitalize on, however the good news is the share is going to go back up following a dip. In terms of CIHR COVID-19 funding program results for fiscal year 21, McGill ranked last among its peer institutions but 8th in the U15 (Canadian Universities) overall (see presentation). A lively discussion ensued, which can be referred to in the [recording](#).

7. Planetary Health issues *(E. Iny, O. Luo, A. Gaita, T. Morin, M. Blydt-Hansen)*

E. Iny provided a brief context, indicating they have been involved in two planetary health reports that evaluated the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at McGill, for which the findings will be used to recommend areas in which the Faculty can become a leader in planetary health (see presentation for details on each of the report's findings). Based on the two reports, five recommendations were outlined (see presentation). The hope is not only to set an example for fellow Canadian medical schools but also other programs within McGill. The Chair thanked the students for their thoughtful presentation and indicated that following this presentation which was made to the School of Medicine Advisory Committee at an earlier date, the committee is looking into ways of trying to move closer to addressing these recommendations.

SECTION III

8. Report from the Steering Committee *(D. Eidelman)*

The Chair confirmed that at its meeting on January 26, the Steering Committee reviewed and adopted the agenda for this meeting of the Faculty Council. Their report was made available to all members of the Faculty Council and was posted online.

9. Consent Agenda
i. Faculty Council Minutes (December 7, 2021)

The minutes of the Faculty Council meeting held on December 7, 2021 were presented on the consent agenda, for which the link was sent to all members following the meeting. The Chair asked for a motion to approve, for which a first and seconder came forward. He then asked if there were any objections or abstentions, hearing none, the minutes were approved.

SECTION IV

10. Kudos *(D. Eidelman)*

The Chair went over a robust list of accomplishments within the Faculty and congratulated an impressive number of faculty and staff members as well as students who have been publicly recognized for their accomplishments in recent months (see presentation). Congratulations to all!

SECTION V

Open Session/Town Hall

The Chair extended thanks to all for their efforts. He invited Faculty Council members and guests to put forward any questions or issues they wished to discuss. He noted having received some private direct messages about research performance and encouraged anybody who has comments about that to send him or any of the presenters an email. There being no other business to address, the meeting ended at 5:58 p.m.

The complete set of documents, including PowerPoint presentations made at the Faculty Council meetings and video links of the meeting, are kept as part of the official minutes and can be found in the [Governance section](#) of the Faculty website.