Dean Lennox called the meeting to order at 3 p.m., and welcomed members to the Faculty of Science Degree meeting.

1) Adoption of Agenda

Prof. Blanchette moved, seconded by Prof. Perepichka, that the Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

2) Candidates for Degrees

a) Bachelor of Arts and Science
b) Bachelor of Science

Associate Dean Mittermaier said there were 10 students graduating with the B.A. & Sc. degree, and 56 students graduating with the B.Sc. degree. The honorifics cut-offs (below) were calculated in May 2021 and based on the graduating classes of February and May 2021.

Honorifics cut-offs for the B.A. & Sc. and B.Sc. degrees were:

**B.Sc.:**
- Dean’s Honours List (top 10%) \(\geq 3.95\)
- Distinction (next 15%) \(\geq 3.85\)

**B.A.&Sc.:**
- Dean’s Honours List (top 10%) \(\geq 3.93\)
- Distinction (next 15%) \(\geq 3.85\)

Associate Dean Mittermaier moved, seconded by Prof. Fabry, that the above degree lists be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Bachelor of Arts and Science degree, and for the Bachelor of Science degree.

The motion carried.

c) Diploma in Environment
d) Diploma in Meteorology

There were no students graduating with the Diplomas in Environment and Meteorology.

Associate Dean Mittermaier further moved, seconded by Prof. Fabry, that the Dean be given discretionary power to make such changes as would be necessary to prevent injustice.

The motion carried.

In reply to Dean Lennox about the Fall 2021 Convocation ceremonies, Mr. Barry (Chief Academic Advisor, SOUSA) said he had not been aware of the University’s decision to hold in-person Convocation ceremonies, but he would report back to Faculty at the next meeting.
Secretary’s Note: On 22 October 2021, Principal Fortier announced that the Fall 2021 Convocation ceremonies would be held in person. The ceremonies for the B.A.&Sc. and B.Sc. degrees will take place on 25 November 2021 at Place des Arts.

3) Minutes of 7 September 2021 S-21-3

Prof. Kirshbaum moved, seconded by Prof. Stix, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

4) Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

5) Reports of Committees

a) Nominating Committee (Pages 3, 4, Items 6, 7) S-21-2 (rev)

Dean Lennox said that the membership of the following two standing Committees was incomplete at the Faculty of Science meeting held on 7 September 2021. The membership was now complete and it was being brought back to Faculty for approval.

Item # 6. Scholarships, Fellowships and Awards Committee (for approval):
The Vice-Dean or Associate Dean (Academic) or Associate Dean (Education) or delegate serves as the Chair of the Committee. The Committee is also made up of department representatives.

Item # 7. Leo Yaffe & Principal’s Prizes Committee (for approval):
The Leo Yaffe and Principal’s Prizes Committee recommends candidates for these awards for excellence in teaching.

Prof. Kirshbaum moved, seconded by Prof. Stix, that the memberships of the Scholarships, Fellowships and Awards Committee, and the Leo Yaffe & Principal’s Prizes Committee be approved.

The motion carried.

b) Academic Committee S-21-9

Associate Dean (Academic) Axel Hundemer described the following new and revised course and program proposals that were approved at the Academic Committee meeting on Tuesday, 21 September 2021.

1. Faculty of Science

New Course:
FSCI 500 Science Communication and Outreach AC-21-1
3 credits

The goal of the above new course, FSCI 500, was to teach students how to present their science knowledge to a non-specialist or potentially to a non-scientific audience.

Associate Dean Hundemer moved, seconded by Prof. Riva, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

2. Biology

Course Revisions:
BIOL 111 Principles: Organismal Biology AC-21-3
Changes: Supplementary Calendar Information
3 credits

**BIOL 101** Organismal Biology Laboratory
Changes: Prerequisites, Supplementary Calendar Information
1 credit

**BIOL 112** Cell and Molecular Biology
Changes: Supplementary Calendar Information
3 credits

**BIOL 102** Cell and Molecular Biology Methods
Changes: Prerequisites, Supplementary Calendar Information
1 credit

The above course revisions were housekeeping in nature and to bring them in line with the current eCalendar.

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Fussmann, that the changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

3. **Psychology**
   **Course Revisions:**
   **PSYC 439 (from -536)** Correlational Techniques
   Changes: Course renumbering, Description, Prerequisites, Restrictions
   3 credits

The renumbering of the above course will provide U2 undergraduate students with the necessary background to take the 500-level courses in U3. Graduate students will acquire the appropriate knowledge in a 600-level course. The Department intends to offer more courses in the area of quantitative research at the 500-level.

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Stix, that the changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

**New Course:**
**PSYC 750** Graduate Applied Bayesian Statistics
3 credits

The new course, PSYC 750, in statistics represents the formalization of an existing generic topics course.

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Bendixen, that the course be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

4. **Bieler School of Environment**
   **New Course:**
   **ENVR 494** Joint Honours Research
   3 credits
ENVR 494 is a three-credit research honours course for Arts students enrolled in a joint honours component in conjunction with another unit that required three credits of honours research. ENVR 494 will be added to the B.A. Joint Honours in Environment Component (below) and will be approved by the Faculty of Arts. In contrast, the Faculty of Science must approve all environment courses of Science since it is the administrating faculty.

Associate Dean Hundemer moved, seconded by Prof. Fabry, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

B.A. Program Changes (For Information Only):

- Joint Honours in Environment Component AC-21-10

5. Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ATOC 530</td>
<td>Paleoclimate Dynamics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course Retirement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ATOCS 530 was being retired because the course had not been offered for a number of years and the Department has no plans in offering it in the near future.

Associate Dean Hundemer moved, seconded by Prof. Fabry, that the retirement be approved.

The motion carried.

Associated Program Changes:

- Honours in Atmospheric Science AC-21-12
- Major in Atmospheric Science AC-21-13
- Liberal Program – Core Science Component in Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences AC-21-14
- Major in Atmospheric Science & Physics AC-21-15
- Minor in Atmospheric Science AC-21-16
- Diploma in Meteorology AC-21-17

A research methods course, ATOC 570, was added to the lists of Complementary courses in the above programs.

Associate Dean Hundemer moved, seconded by Prof. Riva, that the above program changes be approved.

The motion carried.

Dean Lennox thanked the Academic Committee and Associate Dean Hundemer for the excellent report. It was very important that the Faculty, especially student members, have the opportunity to ask questions or raise concerns before submitting the proposals to the next approval body.

6) Dean's Business

a) Announcements

i) New Promotions to Full Professor:

Dean Lennox congratulated the following newly promoted Full Professors for their outstanding contributions and accomplishments.

Effective October 1, 2021:
• Professor Jelena Ristic, Department of Psychology
• Professor Irene Gregory-Eaves, Department of Biology

Effective November 1, 2021:
• Professor James Gleason, Department of Chemistry
• Professor Jon Unruh, Department of Geography
• Professor Louigi Addario-Berry, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

ii) Fall Convocation 2021
Dean Lennox announced that the University would confirm whether the Fall Convocation ceremonies would be held in-person in the near future.

iii) Homecoming 2021
Dean Lennox announced that a virtual roundtable/conversation titled “Communicating Science” had been held during Homecoming weekend on 1 October 2021. The guest speakers were Marcy Slapcoff (Director) and Dr. Diane Dechief from the Office for Science Education, and the Dean as the discussion moderator. The discussion attracted considerable interest amongst Science alumni attendees. In attendance were colleagues in the Faculty and from across McGill. Dean Lennox thanked Jennifer Abbott for her organization of this event.

iv) The New Vic Project
Dean Lennox announced that the New Vic Dossier d’opportunité was approved by the Government of Québec on 25 May 2021 and McGill Board of Governors on 7 October 2021. The Project is undergoing some changes to keep within the projected budget. Mandatory public consultations, run by the Office des consultations publiques de Montréal (OCPM), began on 8 September 2021 but are currently suspended due to the upcoming Montréal municipal election (7 November 2021). The submission of the Dossier d’affaires is slated for the Spring 2022, and the Project is expected to be completed by 2028. Dean Lennox welcomed questions or comments from members of Faculty Council.

b) Dean’s Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research List (DMURL) S-21-8

Dean Lennox described the DMURL. The DMURL provides recognition for students who have completed at least nine credits of graded research-based courses in at least two different units, and who have a minimum GPA of 3.00 on these courses. There were two B.Sc. students listed in Document S-21-8 who would be graduating with this honour, and one B.A. & Sc. student graduating with the DMURL designation.

7) Science Undergraduate Society (SUS) Report

The following report was prepared by Mr. Rohan Bhutkar, President of the SUS, and presented by Ms. Asma Khamis.

Since the new guideline, EOC, the SUS, and all student councils have begun to take advantage of in-person event capabilities. The majority of the Science units have hosted outdoor welcome back events such as BBQs. The SUS committees have followed suit with a mountain hike and paint event held by our sustainability committee. Following up on the Departmental Orientation Day on 11 September 2021, where each departmental executive was paired up with a member of the SUS to help them get settled into their new role, all departmental executives were provided with equity training.

In terms of social events, plans have begun for the next major event, Science Games, for the winter semester. The Vice-President (Internal) has hired coordinators and plans to hold a Hype Night on 14 November 2021 to get students excited for the weeklong winter event. The Science Internal Committee has also been very active and has already had its first event.
The SIC BBQ was held a few weeks ago, and it was an excellent opportunity for students to mingle with people from other departments. A Halloween event is being planned for late October 2021.

Under the Mental Health Committee, the Sustainability Portfolio has officially launched the SUS Buddy Program (another initiative to support incoming students by pairing them with upper-level students). Additionally, the Social Sustainability Committee has highlighted relevant social justice topics, shared them on their platforms, and planned events surrounding social sustainability. One of the events planned is a speaker series to highlight important voices in our community.

In October 2021, the SUS will form the First Year Undergraduate Science Society, engaging first-year students during their transition to university life. The first meeting was held the previous week, and a timeline has been set. Plans are underway to continue the annual Meet Your Major showcase and First-year buddy program and add new events for first-year students to socialize outside of the classroom. The Vice-President (Communications) has also completed the SUS Handbook, which was overhauled from previous years such that it can be used by all students rather than just first-year students. The handbook includes information about planning students’ time at McGill and navigating the university and greater Montreal community. It is now available from the SUS office in Burnside Hall.

This month, the After-Hours Committee has been established to find a place near campus where Science students can gather after classes. Gert’s Bar is one of a few venues to host weekly events. The committee plans to work with departments to host the event and provide a space for students to meet.

The next major event the SUS will be hosting is the annual graduate fair, which will be held online over two days this year. The Vice-President (Academic) has been working with the Arts Undergraduate Society to ensure a robust space for schools to interact with students. This year, there will be a greater range of schools; over 60 have confirmed attendance, and more are scheduled to join before the event. Some schools in attendance include Cornell, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, UofT, Imperial, and Columbia.

The SUS Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with McGill University has been expired for a while, and renegotiations are still on hold. Meetings with the Deputy Provost of Student Life and Learning Office concerning the MOA are shelved due to COVID-19 issues.

The start of the 2021-2022 academic year has been very successful and adapting well given the uncertain conditions. The SUS is looking forward to working with members of the Faculty of Science.

Dean Lennox thanked Ms. Khamis for the report and all the SUS executives’ members and looked forward to collaborating with the SUS.

8) Science Equity and Climate Committee

Associate Dean (Graduate Education) Laura Nilson reported that the first annual report of McGill’s Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 will be presented by Associate Provost (Equity and Academic Policies) Angela Campbell at the next Senate meeting on 20 October 2021. After that, the annual report will be made available to the public. The format of the report reflects the plan's structure, which in turn tracks the five priorities (listed below) that Principal Fortier has named for McGill during her leadership.

1. Students
2. Research
3. Outreach
4. Workforce
5. Space

Below are some of the highlights that are reflected in the plan:
(a) the launch of a student survey will be developed to provide a better understanding of the composition of the student body;
(b) the launch of the Action Plan to Address Anti-black Racism, and this commits to actions that will enhance the representation and success of black students, faculty, and staff at McGill;
(c) the launch of the Provost’s Faculty Mentorship Network. The goal of this group is to offer mentoring and support opportunities to all new tenure track academic staff from the start of their careers at McGill;
(d) the appointment of an accessibility advisor whose responsibility is to raise disability awareness and address the needs of faculty and staff living with disabilities.

9) Provost’s Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism (AP-ABR)

Associate Dean (Graduate Education) Laura Nilson reported that the first annual report of the Provost’s Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism would be presented to Senate on 20 October 2021, and after that, available to the public. The AP-ABR annual report has the same structure as the above report, i.e., students, research, outreach, workforce, and space. The issues that motivated this plan are complex and long-standing, but it is impressive how McGill has taken many specific actions in the previous 12 months.

In 2020-2021, the Faculty of Science was awarded three provostial hiring licenses under the AP-ABR. These licenses were received in the context of the 18 licenses that were awarded across the university, with the goal of enhancing representation of Black faculty and recruiting faculty with research and teaching expertise relevant to Black experiences, histories, communities. There were 18 licenses issued in 2020-2021 and an additional 20 in 2021-2022. McGill has hired so far 15 new faculty members under the Plan, with 13 searches currently underway (including the three in Science).

Dean Lennox thanked Associate Dean Nilson for these extremely important reports.

10) The New Vic Project Update

See above under Dean's Business, Item #6 (a) Announcements (iv).

11) Reports of Associate Deans

a) Associate Dean (Academic) Axel Hundemer

– Admissions and Enrollment

Associate Dean Hundemer presented the Admissions and Enrolment Report for fall 2021. He said that McGill's enrollment is always an important topic, and even more concerning during the pandemic and travel restrictions, because McGill relies on enrollment from international students and other provinces.

Table 1. There was a 0.4% decrease in the total Science enrollment for fall 2021 and a 2.8% increase in the B.A.&Sc. The table (below) also shows the Fall 2019 (pre-pandemic) enrollment for Science and the B.A.&Sc. The overall enrollment for McGill has decreased by 1.5%, which is more significant than Science (0.4% decrease).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021 Δ% 19/20</th>
<th>Δ% 20/21</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Desautels Faculty Management</td>
<td>2454</td>
<td>2413</td>
<td>2329</td>
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<td>153</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>2.6</td>
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<td>1419</td>
<td>1445</td>
<td>1.1</td>
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<td>703</td>
<td>693</td>
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<td>753</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
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<td>4901</td>
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<td>Graduate Studies</td>
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<td>9660</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ingram School of Nursing</td>
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<td>693</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfaculty, B.A. &amp; Sc.</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>688</td>
<td>707</td>
<td>17.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Dentistry</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Postdoctoral Fellows</td>
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<td>School of Continuing Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>School of Phys &amp; Occ Therapy</td>
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<td>520</td>
<td>490</td>
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<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>40258</strong></td>
<td><strong>39646</strong></td>
<td><strong>0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2*. U1 B.Sc. students apply to one of the following program groups:
- Biological, Biomedical and Life Sciences (BBL group)
- Bio-Physical-Computational Sciences
- Physical, Earth, Math and CS (PEMC group)
- Neuroscience (NEUR group)

There was a decrease in the BSC-BBL group, and a very small decrease in the BSC-PEMC group. The remaining groups are much the same as in previous years.

*No Degree = Québec Inter-University Transfer Students
Table 3. The BSC-P EMC group has increased to 40.9%, which is the Faculty’s goal.

Table 4. The table below gives the percentage of the fee status for new Science students and all students at McGill. McGill's international incoming student population (24%) has increased, but not for Science (21.3%). The change could mean that Science students studying outside of Canada or US could be Canadian citizens or residents, although these students apply as international students. Before the pandemic, the breakdown was comparable to McGill's overall international student intake.
Table 5. The table below indicates the number of students in each year. The U0 students in Engineering take the same courses as the Freshman Science students. In the U3 year, there is an increase of 10.2% due to the increase in enrollment over several years. The increase in U3 will have less impact than in U0 since these students do not take the same courses.

Table 6. As shown in the table below, the Faculty of Science instructors teach students in the B.Sc. degree and many students registered in other degrees.
Table 7. The number of new students has decreased, but the total number has increased. The U3 enrollment has increased (16.1%) as there was an increase over the last number of years.

### BASc Admissions by Student Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continuing</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Admit Fall</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>153</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Admit Fall CEGEP</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Admit Total</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>584</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>707</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### BASc Students by Curriculum Year

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021 % Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U0</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U1</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continuing</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Admit Fall</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Admit Fall CEGEP</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>28</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>U2</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>181</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U3</td>
<td>165</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dean Lennox thanked Associate Dean Hundemer for a fantastic and informative report.

b) Associate Dean (Student Affairs) Anthony Mittermaier
Associate Dean Mittermaier announced that the student exchange programs for winter 2022 had been cancelled due to the continuing unpredictability of events worldwide.

c) Associate Dean (Graduate Education) Laura Nilson

Associate Dean Nilson announced that GPS had changed the graduate funding formula. This will result in a roughly 30% increase in the Faculty of Science’s annual amount for direct support of graduate students. This will apply to the 2022/23 academic year, and further details will be forthcoming.

d) Associate Dean (Research) John Stix

Associate Dean Stix gave a short update on CFI 11. The University is finalizing the selection process for the different CFI projects submitted by the various faculties. There should be an announcement of the selection committee’s results in several weeks. The call for submission of projects will be in January 2022 and final submissions will be in June 2022.

12) Report on Actions of Senate

– Senate Meeting of 22 September 2021: Senator Mathieu Blanchette

The Principal’s opening remarks included the following highlights.

• She reported that 85% of course activities were being held in-person this term, and reminded people about McGill’s effort to get students vaccinated and about the work done by the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) since the beginning of the pandemic.
• She noted that there had been no substantial changes in enrolment for Fall 2021.
• The dossier d’opportunité of the New Vic Project was approved by Québec. The Office de consultation publique will deliver its final report in March 2022.
• The principal congratulated recipients of major recognitions, including many from the Faculty of Science: Victoria Kaspi (Physics) was the co-winner of the 2021 Shaw Prize in Astronomy; Andrew Hendry (Biology) was elected Fellow Royal Society of Canada, and three new members were elected to the RSC College of new Scholars: Rowan Barrett (Biology), Darryl Haggard (Physics), Anna Weinberg (Psychology); Catherine Potvin received the RSC’s Sir William Dawson Medal; David Rolnick (Computer Science) was named an MIT Technology Review 2021 Innovator Under 35.
• She reported that McGill moved up in the Shanghai and the QS World University Rankings, but dropped a few spots in the Times Rankings.
• She also talked about the role the University intends to play in the discussions relating to the Government of Quebec public hearings on Bill 96, An Act respecting French, the official and common language of Québec. Anglophone universities were not going to participate in the hearings but will meet with the Minister and send a letter to the Premier.

Following remarks from the President regarding the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and the activities planned at McGill to celebrate it, Senator Daryanani read a tribute in honour of the victims and survivors of the residential school system.

Two motions of interest were presented and discussed:

• A motion to enforce the vaccine passport everywhere on campus was submitted to the Senate Steering Committee prior to the Senate meeting, but was not accepted due to legal and operational concerns. However, a revised motion was included on the Senate agenda and presented by Senator Campbell. The motion urged the implementation of further COVID-19 prevention measures to enhance the safety of our teaching and learning physical spaces, which may include the extension of the Vaccination Passport to curricular activities if the University deems this to be operationally enforceable and justified. It also called for the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee that would liaise with the administration, including the EOC, on matters related to academic life at the university.
and report to Senate. This would allow Senate to exercise oversight in the EOC’s decision-making process. The motion was passed.

- Senator Campbell also presented the report of the Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity, with a focus on the work done in the first year of the implementation of McGill’s Strategic EDI Plan and its Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism. She also proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference of the committee, which is now renamed the McGill EDI Committee and has its composition revised to better blend commitment to EDI and institutional knowledge and expertise. The revision aims to not only permit it to make policy recommendations but also to hold the university administration to its EDI commitments. The motion was passed.

The Senate also heard reports from the Committee on Investigation of Research Misconduct and from the Committee on Student Services – they are available on the Senate’s website.

13) **Members’ Question Period**

There were no members’ questions.

14) **Other Business**

Their being no further business, Prof. Perepichka moved, seconded by Prof. Blanchette, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

**The motion carried.**