

Memorandum

Secretariat

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TO: Senate Steering Committee

FROM: Professor Suzanne Fortier, Principal and Vice-Chancellor

SUBJECT: Report of the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees Meeting

DATE: April 7, 2020

DOCUMENT #: D19-44

ACTION REQUIRED: ☒ INFORMATION ☐ APPROVAL/DECISION

ISSUE	A report on the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees meeting is presented for information.
BACKGROUND & RATIONALE	<p>Article 6.3.9.1 of the Statutes of McGill University provides that the Senate and the Board of Governors shall hold an annual joint meeting in the fall term where the Principal, the Provost, the Deputy Provost, and the vice-principals, as appropriate, shall present for discussion, matters they consider relevant to the University's mission for the ensuing year.</p> <p>On March 26, 2020, the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors and the Senate Steering Committee met to select a topic for the 2020 Joint Board-Senate meeting, which will be held on November 12, 2020. The Committees agreed to focus the general topic of the joint meeting on "Pandemic Planning and Preparedness: Local Impact of Global Health Crises."</p> <p>A working group will be established to develop the details of the program and background materials for the joint meeting.</p>
PRIOR CONSULTATION	Members of the Board of Governors and of Senate were asked to suggest potential topics in the evaluation form distributed at the last Joint Board-Senate meeting.
SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS	Sustainability factors will inform the development of the theme.
IMPACT OF DECISION AND NEXT STEPS	<p>A working group will be struck to develop the program and prepare the background materials.</p> <p>The Joint Board-Senate meeting will take place on November 12, 2020.</p>
MOTION OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL	This item is presented for information.
APPENDICES	Appendix A: Report of the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees Meeting of March 26, 2020

**Report of the Joint Senate Steering and
Board Executive Committees Meeting of March 26, 2020**

A joint meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors and the Senate Steering Committee took place on March 26, 2020 via the Zoom conferencing application to set the topic of the annual Joint Board-Senate meeting, scheduled for November 12, 2020. Based on the conversation at this meeting, the topic selected is:

Pandemic Planning and Preparedness: Local Impact of Global Health Crises

This topic was chosen based on the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic is having on McGill University. The Committees found value in exploring this topic at the local level, as well as carrying out a post-mortem on the University's actions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic so as to learn from the experience.

The Committees discussed possible keynote speakers, including:

- Dr. Tim Evans, who joined McGill University in September 2019, as the Inaugural Director and Associate Dean of the School of Population and Global Health (SPGH) in the Faculty of Medicine and Associate Vice-Principal (Global Policy and Innovation);
- Professor Fabrice Labeau, Deputy Provost (Student Life & Learning), who has been leading the Emergency Operating Centre's (EOC) activities relating to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- Other members of the McGill community, including students and members of other departments such as the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health, the Department of Economics and the Department of Sociology.

The Committees discussed the format of the session, which will include presentations and a panel discussion. Senators and Governors will also have the opportunity to engage in roundtable discussions on the topic.

The Committees agreed that prior to the meeting, Senators, members of the Board of Governors and guests would have the opportunity to view displays demonstrating initiatives and experiences at McGill related to the topic of pandemic planning, preparedness and responsiveness.

The Committees discussed possible questions that could be addressed in the context of developing the topic. A working group will be established to develop the program, design key questions that will guide the discussion and prepare the materials for the joint meeting.