Roundtable Discussion topics for the November 2015 Joint Board-Senate Meeting

A “smart campus” is about more than just technology. A smart campus means being smart about the way we carry out our mission. For the 2015 Joint Board-Senate Meeting, we are asking you to focus on what a smart campus means for student life and learning at McGill. Ten years in the future, our vision is that McGill’s smart campus will integrate learning into every aspect of student life, so that formal, structured education and experiential learning are interwoven and complementary. What could “smarter” student life and learning look like in 10 years?

Format of discussion:
There are three themes. Under each theme are questions to start the discussion. Each table is asked to brainstorm to create a list of ideas as to what student life and learning might look like in these three areas 10 years from now. Then, choose your top five points on the theme that has been assigned to your table for purposes of recording. Have the rapporteur assigned for your table email your table’s top five points to: Georgia.ntentis@mcgill.ca

Tips:
- Free-association and “silly” ideas are often the path to useful insights.
- Don’t edit or analyze while brainstorming – it’s the volume of ideas that is important.
- Use “yes, and” rather than “no, but,” to help start the ideas flowing.
- Try using a different “frame”: e.g. what would this look like from a student’s point-of-view? From a professor’s POV? From a community partner’s POV?

Theme 1: Technology
- How could classroom and out-of-classroom experiences be more closely integrated using technology?
- How could technology be used to increase collaboration and innovation among McGill students?

Theme 2: Physical Campus and Face-to-Face Learning
- With learning technologies enabling more “virtual” education, how can we use our space so that the physical campus continues to add value to the student experience?
- What might face-to-face learning (whether professor-to-student or peer-to-peer) look like?
- What changes to physical space might be made to better spark collaboration and innovation?

Theme 3: Community Engagement
- How could we use technology or physical space to better exchange knowledge (research, student expertise) with our local, national and global communities?
- How could a smarter campus help students bring ideas with social, economic or cultural impact to the world?
- What role might technology play in helping alumni and community members mentor or guide students?