



# McGill

**MCGILL UNIVERSITY SENATE**

## Question

**TO:**

Senate

**DATE SUBMITTED:**

March 13, 2008

**FROM:**

Mr. Aneerudha Borkotoky

**SENATE MEETING DATE:**

March 26, 2008

**SUBJECT: Applied learning**

**PREAMBLE:**

In the prospective students section of the McGill website, the university asserts that:

“McGill prepares you for the real world...many of your courses give you practical skills you’ll need in the work environment...” (<http://www.mcgill.ca/viewbook/future/>)

McGill prides itself on being a research intensive university that provides its students with the opportunity to succeed in the world outside and inside academia. It does this by giving them a variety of academic experiences during their time here. The university has also made it clear that it does not provide applied training to its students.

Assuming that there is some student demand for applied training, it has been proposed that this training be facilitated by career services at the University. Such a model was implemented by Management Career Services this year when they brought in a company (Wall Street Prep) to prepare students on the ways in which their academic training in Finance is applied in the industry.

Nonetheless, it would appear that the McGill’s website contradicts other statements made by its administrators.

**QUESTION:**

- How does the university differentiate between applied learning, applied training and non-applied learning and training?
- What policies and procedures are in place to ensure that students gain practical skills at a research intensive university that ‘does not provide applied training’? (Provost Masi; Senate; September 19, 2007)
- While providing students with world-class academic programs, how does the University deliver the practical skills mentioned on its website to all programs across the university?
- Does the university believe that career services are an appropriate forum to facilitate applied training? If not, where?

