



Memorandum

Secretariat

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TO: Senate
FROM: Stephen Strople, Secretary-General
SUBJECT: Report of the Joint Board-Senate Meeting
DATE: November 15, 2013
DOCUMENT #: D13-26

ACTION

REQUIRED: INFORMATION APPROVAL/DECISION

ISSUE: Presentation of the report of the Joint Board-Senate Meeting 2013-2014.

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE: The Statutes of McGill University state:

6.3.9.1 The Senate and Board of Governors shall hold an annual joint meeting in the fall term. At this meeting, 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.

At the Joint Executive Committee/Senate Steering meeting of March 27, 2013, the topic of *Mental Health* was proposed and agreed upon for the next Joint Board/Senate meeting. The Joint Board-Senate meeting was held on November 12, 2013.

MOTION OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL: N/A

PRIOR CONSULTATION: N/A

NEXT STEPS: N/A

APPENDICES: Appendix A - Report of the Joint Board-Senate Meeting of November 12, 2013

Report of the Joint Board-Senate Meeting of November 12, 2013

The Chancellor welcomed the 87 Senators, members of the Board of Governors and guests who attended the joint meeting, and introduced the meeting's topic, *Mental Health*. The Principal also welcomed attendees explaining that mental health is one of the most important factors affecting the success of our students, staff, faculty and the entire McGill community. The Provost subsequently elaborated on the topic and highlighted that that the meetings discussion should focus on those aspects of McGill's environment that we can and should change or improve in order to promote a healthful environment.

Following a presentation entitled "The Future of Mental Health: Prevention and Early Intervention in Youth – How can the McGill University Learning Environment Help?" by Ms. Lynne McVey, the Executive Director of the Douglas Mental Health University Institute, Senators and members of the Board of Governors engaged in roundtable discussions. The roundtable discussions were organized around case studies pertaining to students, faculty and staff. The case studies generated strong discussion and a number of interesting ideas were generated.

The Provost synthesized the discussion. He pointed out that improving the mental health of all members of the McGill community is key to promoting a healthy University environment. The Deputy-Provost (Student Life and Learning) will be considering possible follow-up coming out of the discussion.

Feedback provided from Senators and members of the Board of Governors was generally positive and will be taken into account in planning future Joint Board-Senate Meetings.