



Memorandum

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TO: Senate
FROM: Professor Anthony C. Masi, Provost
SUBJECT: Report of the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees
DATE: April 23, 2014
DOCUMENT #: D13-63

ACTION REQUIRED: INFORMATION APPROVAL/DECISION

ISSUE: Presentation of the report of the Joint Executive-Steering meeting of March 27, 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.

On March 27, 2014, the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors and the Senate Steering Committee met to select a topic for the 2014-2015 Joint Board-Senate meeting, which will likely be held in November 2014.

MOTION OR RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL: N/A

PRIOR CONSULTATION: N/A

NEXT STEPS: N/A

APPENDICES: Appendix A - Report of the Joint Executive-Steering Meeting of March 27, 2014.

Report of the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees - Meeting of March 27, 2014

On March 27, 2014, the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors and the Senate Steering Committee met to select a topic for the 2014-2015 Joint Board-Senate meeting, which will be held on November 2014, during McGill Innovation Week. The Committees considered a number of topics such as the development of partnerships, the use of technology in teaching and learning, mentorship, sustainability, multiculturalism and internationalism at McGill, and community engagement.

The Committees emphasized the need for the chosen topic to be one in which all those attending the Joint Board Senate meeting will have an interest and relevant viewpoints to bring to the discussion. Members agreed that the topic for the 2014-2015 Joint Board-Senate meeting will be “Strengthening McGill’s Engagement with the External Community”.

Partnerships are important in order to increase the impact of McGill’s knowledge, discoveries and students on communities and their challenges, including innovative outcomes. Innovation is also critical to building and enhancing partnerships. How McGill can become a better partner, particularly through and in support of innovation, would be a timely topic for discussion at the Joint Board Senate meeting. This topic also fits well in the theme of McGill Innovation Week.

Developing more robust partnerships means McGill becoming more open and responsive to collaboration, to taking McGill more into communities, and to finding new ways to stand out in a changing landscape, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. This in turn will mean engaging multiple partners in hospitals and health care services, the private sector, industry, government agencies, non-government organizations, the not-for-profit sector, social organizations, alumni and the community, and expanding partnership opportunities in all areas of the University. Strengthening engagement also means ensuring that a relationship with McGill has mutual benefits and adds value for our partners.

The Committees mandated the Provost to strike a working group that is to develop the necessary background materials and plan the agenda of the joint Board-Senate meeting.