

Minutes

Wednesday, January 15, 2020 19-20:05

Minutes of the meeting of Senate held on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. in the Robert Vogel Council Room (Room 232, Leacock Building)

PRESENT

Animesh, Animesh	Kamen, Amine	Rogers, Dakota
Arseneault, Louis	Kemeni, Chloe	Rohrbach, Petra
Bajeux-Besnainou, Isabelle	Kemme, Bettina	Saumier, Geneviève
Beauchamp, Yves	Komarova, Svetlana	Scholtz, Christa
Bede, Jacqueline	Labeau, Fabrice	Sekhon, Harmehr
Belzile, Bruno	Lametti, André	Shor, Eran
Bonneau, Vanessa	Laywine, Alison	Shrier, Alvin
Buraga, Bryan	Leckey, Robert	Sladek, Robert
Campbell, Angela	Liboiron-Ladouceur, Odile	Snider, Laurie
Cook, Colleen	Maioni, Antonia	Stephens, David
Duckett, Sebastien	Manfredi, Christopher	Theodore, David
Dworek, Nikulas	McCullogh, Mary Jo	Tremblay, Michel
Eidelman, David	McKenzie, Jeffrey	Vallée, Jean-Sébastien
Emami, Elham	Mecabô, Henriquet	Vennat, Manon
Eperjesi, Debbie	Mikkelson, Gregory	Voudouris, Nellie
Fortier, Suzanne (Chair)	Nicell, Jim	Waters, Natalie
Frona, Michael	Nilson, Laura	Weil, Carola
Garneau, Jeremy	Nycum, Gillian	Weinstein, Marc
Geitmann, Anja	Nystrom, Derek	Wilson, Madeline
Gongora, Esteban	Quitoriano, Nathaniel	Yalovsky, Morty
Gonnerman, Laura	Rassier, Dilon	Yang, Mu Rong
Hakim, Joseph	Raveendra, Keerth	Yau, Peter
Harpp, David	Ravenscroft, Brenda	Zabowski, Glenn
Hastings, Kenneth	Richard, Marc	Zorychta, Edith
Hébert, Terry	Riches, Caroline	
Hurtubise, Jacques	Robaire, Bernard	

REGRETS: Bob Babinski, Tatiana Bedjanian, Daniel Bernard, Avery Bonair-Cyrus, Martha Crago, Julie Cumming, Noémie-Manuelle Dorval Courchesne, Susan Drouin, Gael Eakin, Elizabeth Elbourne, Eleanor Elstein, Jim Engle-Warnick, Peter Grütter, Julia Kafato, Lucyna Lach, Erik Larson, Bruce Lennox, Rod Louisa, Michael Meighen, Josephine Nalbantoglu, Momar Ndao, Ronald Niezen, Ram Panda, Jennifer Ronholm, Kamal Salmasi, Henri Schoucair, Ada Sinacore, Tabitha Sparks, Lisa Starr, Stefano Stifani, Adrienne Tessier, Tracy Webb, Laura Winer, Lucille Xiang.

SECTION I

1. Welcoming Remarks

The Chair welcomed Senators to the fifth Senate meeting of the 2019-2020 governance year. She reminded Senators, guests and spectators that the use of electronic devices is permitted for viewing meeting documents, but that the Senate Standing Rules of Procedure prohibit the recording of sound or images, as well as the communication or posting of Senate deliberations. She also mentioned that the Senate meeting was being livestreamed and that the recording would be accessible until the approval of the meeting minutes at the subsequent meeting.

2. Memorial Tributes: Professors Eigil Pederson, Theodore Maroun and Ernest Seidman

Senator Rassier read the following memorial tribute for Professor Pederson, which Senate subsequently unanimously approved:

A self-made scholar, Eigil Pedersen attended evening high school classes while pursuing an apprenticeship as a silversmith in Montreal. He continued his studies at the School for Teachers at Macdonald College of McGill University.

While teaching full-time, Dr. Pedersen continued to pursue his studies, earning his Bachelor of Arts in 1956 at Sir George Williams University, a Master's degree in 1961 at McGill, and a doctorate in the Sociology of Education in 1966 at Harvard.

Dr. Pedersen held many positions during his 32-year tenure at McGill, including becoming a full professor, Dean of Students, Provost, and Vice-Principal Academic. As Vice-Principal during the 1970s – a time of political unrest in Quebec, he was instrumental in helping to ensure continued provincial funding of English-speaking universities.

Though busy as an administrator, Dr. Pedersen found the time to undertake research and publish. Perhaps his most important research demonstrated that the long-term adult success of students was strongly correlated to the quality of the teaching they received as children, as opposed to social factors such as students' socio-economic and parental background were the predominantly determining factors.

Dr. Pedersen ended his thirty-two year career at McGill University having been given the honorary title of Professor Emeritus in 1990.

Our condolences go out to Dr. Pedersen's family, friends and colleagues. He will be missed by all. May we honour him by continuing his important work in the field of educational and counselling psychology.

Senator Rassier then read the following memorial tribute for Professor Maroun, which Senate subsequently unanimously approved:

Ted Maroun received his bachelor's degree from Potsdam State and his Masters degrees from Canisius College and State University of New York at Buffalo. He went on to earn his doctorate in education from the University of Indiana.

Dr. Maroun became a part of the faculty of McGill's Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology in 1970. He was known to be a joy to work with as well as a selfless, caring person who promoted a sense of community within the department. Ted was a resource to his colleagues and an insightful mentor to many students, guiding their approaches to research and theory. He retired from McGill several years ago as one of our most respected and knowledgeable professors in the field of counselor education.

Our condolences go out to Dr. Maroun's family, friends and colleagues. He will be missed by all. May we honour him by continuing his important work in the field of educational and counselling psychology.

Senator Eidelman read the following memorial tribute for Professor Seidman, which Senate subsequently unanimously approved:

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Dr. Ernest Seidman, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at McGill University and a world-renowned clinician and researcher who dedicated his career to advancing knowledge and treatment of Inflammatory Bowel Disease.

A two-time McGill graduate, Dr. Seidman completed both his Bachelor of Science degree in Honors Physiology, graduating Magna Cum Laude in 1974, and his medical degree in 1978 at the University. Following residency training in pediatrics at McGill, he completed a clinical fellowship year in pediatric gastroenterology at Université de Montreal, followed by a postdoctoral research fellowship in pediatric gastroenterology at Harvard.

After more than twenty years of being an attending, teacher and researcher, first at Harvard and then at Université de Montreal, in 2004 Dr. Seidman returned to McGill, as tenured Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics and as the Bruce Kaufman Endowed Chair in IBD. In 2019 he was named a James McGill Distinguished Professor.

Dr. Seidman worked tirelessly for his patients. His contribution to the development of therapeutic drug monitoring for disease and leadership of the McGill IBD Research Group are two examples of the ways through which he has improved the lives of many. A prolific researcher, he published nearly 300 peer-reviewed papers, authored more than 80 book chapters, editorials, invited reviews and letters and delivered over 600 invited lectures.

A pillar in the gastroenterology community across the globe, Dr. Seidman was a "giant" as one colleague called him, noting he was a unique blend: a prolific researcher in Inflammatory Bowel Disease as well as an outstanding clinician, scholar and teacher. Dr. Seidman's influence in the field was highlighted in 2018 with an international symposium on gastroenterology held in his honour at the McGill University Health Centre. The event gathered more than 100 medical professionals from across Canada, the United

States, Europe and the Middle East whose lives have been influenced in some way by Dr. Seidman, all renowned experts in IBD, all either former trainees or close colleagues.

A valued member of the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Seidman was a devoted teacher and mentor, serving as an exemplary role model for the numerous undergraduate and graduate students, residents and fellows who had the fortune to train with and learn from him.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Dr. Seidman's wife Marcy, to his children and their partners, to his grandchildren as well as to his other family members, his many friends, colleagues and all those whose lives he touched. He will be greatly missed.

3. Report of the Steering Committee (19:20-05)

Senate received the Report of the Steering Committee (19-20:05).

Item 1. Approval of Minutes of Senate – December 4, 2019.

Item 2. Approval of Agenda.

Item 3. Review of Questions and Motions. The Steering Committee received two questions for its review (one of which was deferred from the December 2019 meeting) and approved them for inclusion on the Senate agenda.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the Report of the Steering Committee.

4. Business Arising from the December 4, 2019 Senate Minutes

There was none.

5. Chair's Remarks

The Chair began her remarks by extending her condolences to the families and friends of those who lost their lives in the Ukraine International Airlines flight PS752 crash, near Tehran, Iran. She stated that universities across Canada observed a minute of silence earlier that day to honour the victims and that the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences would be holding a memorial service on January 16th in honour of Negar Borghei, a McGill student in the School of Human Nutrition who was killed in the crash.

Regarding government relations, the Chair reported that the Prime Minister released the mandate letters for the cabinet ministers. She highlighted that Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry Navdeep Bains was asked to focus on innovation ecosystems (particularly those based on partnerships between businesses and post-secondary institutions) and tasked with positioning Canada as a global leader in clean technology. She also noted that Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion Carla Qualtrough was tasked with increasing non-repayable Canada Student Grants by up to \$1,200 per year for post-secondary education

students. At the provincial level, the Chair spoke about her meeting with Minister of the Environment and the Fight against Climate Change Benoit Charette, noting that the Minister was interested in learning about the various sustainability initiatives at McGill. She then mentioned that she would be meeting with Minister of Education and Higher Education Jean-François Roberge in February to discuss the New Vic Project.

Regarding community relations, the Chair reported that the consultation process to find a new name for the McGill men's varsity teams was ongoing. She stated that the Men's Varsity Teams Naming Committee has received over 500 name submissions and welcomed input from the McGill community.

The Chair concluded her remarks by giving highlights of the kudos circulated prior to the meeting. She shared that the Governor General announced new appointments to the Order of Canada, which included Professor Daniel Jutras (Faculty of Law), two retired McGill professors and nine McGill graduates. She congratulated Professor Victoria Kaspi (Department of Physics) on being named to Nature's annual list of 10 "people who mattered" in science and PhD student Daniel Almeida (Integrated Program in Neuroscience / Douglas Research Centre) on being included in Forbes Magazine's Top 30 under 30 list. She then shared that research from McGill topped *Québec Science's* annual list of the 10 most important scientific breakthroughs, including research by Professors Günther Grill and Bernhard Lehner (Department of Geography); Professor Tomislav Friščić (Department of Chemistry); Professors Heidi McBride (Departments of Neurology and Neurosurgery and Anatomy and Cell Biology) and Samantha Gruenheid (Department of Microbiology and Immunology); and Professor Ehab Abouheif (Department of Biology).

SECTION II

Part "A" – Questions and Motions by Members

1. Question Regarding the Rights of Senators and the Role of the Chair

Senators Mecabô, Wilson, Duckett and Dworek submitted the following question:

The intention of this question is to clarify Senators' rights and responsibilities, specifically when speaking at Senate meetings, and the role of the chair during these meetings, considering the Statutes of McGill University, the McGill Senate Rules of Procedure and, more generally, *Robert's Rules of Order*. Of course, if these rules have gaps, these gaps are to be filled by the chair's interpretations of the rules when establishing common practice at Senate meetings.

The Senate Rules of Procedure seem to outline only one condition that would warrant an obstruction or interruption of a senator's speech: the chair deeming that a senator is disrupting the order of the meeting "by disorderly words or disorderly conduct."¹

¹ McGill Senate Rules of Procedure, Article XIX.B, available at <https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/standingrules/parts16-20>.

Additionally, the Statutes of McGill University and the McGill Senate Rules of Procedure do not clearly differentiate the role of the Principal as an ex officio member of Senate and as the chair of Senate meetings. There are, however, indications that neutrality of the chair is a requirement for the meetings. First, as outlined in the Statutes of McGill University, a Principal only gets to vote in their role as chair in “the event of a tie vote.”² Additionally, according to the Senate Rules of Procedure, a Principal is to step down from the role of chair while answering questions regarding the position of Principal, having the Secretary-General assume the chair of Senate for the duration of the question and its reply, and any supplementary questions and their replies.³

A Principal’s input and opinion are enormously valuable as they might well be the individual who best understand the functioning of McGill as an institution. However, based on the aforementioned procedures and their indication of neutrality of the chair as a requirement, it can be inferred that a Principal could only express their opinions when addressing the McGill Senate as a regular senator, not while occupying the neutral and moderating role of chair, regardless of how well-informed or well-intentioned an opinion might be.

- (1) Under what circumstances, if any, beyond a disruption of order, can a senator have his or her speech obstructed or interrupted by other senators or by the chair?
- (2) What, if anything, differentiates the role of the Principal as a senator and as the chair of McGill Senate meetings?
- (3) Under what circumstances, beyond addressing a question regarding the position of Principal, would a Principal have to temporarily step down from the role of chair in order to address the Senate?
- (4) Given that the rules indicate that the neutrality of the chair is required, would expressions of personal opinion or expressions of opinion related to the role of Principal be included in these special circumstances?
- (5) If a Principal wants to address Senate to express their opinion or provide additional information related to the topic being discussed, would they, as chair, simply allow themselves to speak, or would they first request that another person assume the position of chair and then wait to be recognized by this new chair before speaking?

The Secretary-General provided the following written response prior to the Senate meeting:

- (1) To ensure that it can conduct its business efficiently and effectively, Senate normally follows the University Statutes, Standing Rules of Procedure Governing the Proceedings of the Senate of McGill University and Robert’s Rules of Order⁴.

² Statutes of McGill University, Article 3.7, available at https://www.mcgill.ca/secretariat/files/secretariat/statutes_of_mcgill_university.pdf.

³ McGill Senate Rules of Procedure, Article VIII, available at <https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/standingrules/parts6-10>.

⁴ *This response has been drafted based on information provided in the Statutes, the Senate Rules of Procedure and Robert’s Rules of Order, 10th edition, published in 2000 and cited as the parliamentary reference point for Senate in the Senate Rules of Procedure. As a new edition (11th edition, published in 2011) has replaced the 2000 edition, the latter is no longer the official edition of Robert’s Rules. The question of updating the reference*

It is the Chair's responsibility to maintain order at Senate meetings. In doing so, the Chair must exercise discretion and use his or her judgement to ensure that the rights of Senate and Senators are protected. To that end, the Chair recognizes Senators who wish to exercise their right to speak, while not allowing members to dominate the discussion. Furthermore, it is usual for the Chair to use his or her privilege to refocus a discussion that has wandered off point, highlight key points made during a discussion or clarify any misunderstandings that could occur in the context of a discussion. In the context of their participation at meetings, members of Senate could also bring up certain procedural matters. For example, a Senator noticing that the agenda of the meeting is not being followed could interrupt another speaker to raise this point and ask that Senate conform to the order of the agenda.

- (2) Based on section 3.7 of the University Statutes⁵, the Principal is a member of Senate “with all the privileges attached thereto”. The Principal has the additional responsibility of being the Chair of Senate and, as such, in accordance with section 3.7 of the Statutes, the Principal:

“shall preside over its meetings; and in the event of a tie vote shall have an additional or casting vote; the Principal may call special meetings of the Senate upon giving, in writing, notice as prescribed by Article 6.4.2 of [the] Statutes.”

As Chair, the Principal is responsible for keeping order at the meeting.⁶ It is, amongst other things, the duty of the Chair, as the presiding officer of the meeting, to announce the business that comes before the Senate, to enforce the rules relating to debate⁷ as well as those relating to order and decorum, to expedite business and to decide on questions of order.⁸ The Chair may also be asked to respond to “inquiries of members relating to parliamentary procedure or factual information bearing on the business of the assembly.”⁹

- (3) The Principal would normally relinquish the chair to another member of Senate in order to participate in debate, as a member of Senate, on a particular matter. In such a circumstance, another member of Senate would take the chair on a temporary basis for the purpose of presiding over the discussion. The Principal would resume the role of Chair after the discussion.

In addition, the Principal would normally step down from the role of Chair in order to address a question, which is submitted to Senate for consideration during “Question Periods”¹⁰. The Secretary would normally assume the role of Chair for the duration of the question and its reply, and any supplementary questions and replies.

to the most current edition of Robert's Rules or another parliamentary procedure will be addressed in the context of the current review of Senate's Rules of Procedure.

⁵ *Statutes of McGill University*, Board of Governors, McGill University, enacted 1 May 1972 (last amended 25 May 2017) (hereinafter referred to as “Statutes”) online: https://www.mcgill.ca/secretariat/files/secretariat/statutes_of_mcgill_university.pdf, section 3.7.

⁶ *Standing Rules of Procedure, Governing the Proceedings of the Senate of McGill University*, Senate, McGill University, enacted 26 September 1977 (last amended 10 January 2010) online: <https://mcgill.ca/senate/standingrules> (hereinafter referred to as “Rules of Procedure”).

⁷ ROBERT III, Henry, EVANS, William J., HONEMANN, Daniel H. and BALCH Thomas J., editors. *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, 10th ed., Cambridge: Perseus Publishing, 2000, section 47, p. 434.

⁸ *Ibid*, section 47, p. 434.

⁹ *Supra*, note 4, section 47, p. 434.

¹⁰ *Rules of Procedure*, section VIII.

- (4) The Chair's role is to conduct the meeting in a manner that allows Senate to carry out its functions in a timely and orderly fashion. Chairing a meeting is a matter of judgement and common sense and relies on the Chair to strike an acceptable balance between the need for discussion on points of relevance to Senate's business and the objective of decision making and completing the business of the agenda. It is also the Chair's prerogative to respect rules of order and procedure and to allow for the expression of a variety of points of views so as to support Senate in the discharge of its duties and responsibilities.
- (5) It is normal practice for the Chair to make brief remarks or comments to ensure the proper conduct of meetings, or to facilitate discussion. As mentioned above, should the Chair wish to participate more fully in discussion or debate as a member of Senate, the Chair would normally relinquish, on a temporary basis, the role of Chair to another member.

As a supplementary question, Senator Mecabô asked if it would be appropriate to establish a procedure whereby Senators could invite the Principal to relinquish the chair in order to participate in a debate. The Secretary-General indicated that questions regarding the role of the chair of Senate could be further explored in the context of the review of the Senate Standing Rules of Procedure. Senator Wilson then asked whether the Principal should have relinquished the chair at the September 2019 Senate meeting during the debate on the "Motion Regarding Cancellation of Classes on September 27, 2019" and inquired about the procedure for similar cases. The Secretary-General, noting that she was not in a position to comment on past instances, stated that Senate would normally follow the procedure described in the written response to the Question Regarding the Rights of Senators and the Role of the Chair.

2. Question Regarding the McGill Board of Governors' Response to Senate's Recommendation Concerning Divestment from Fossil Fuels

Senators Shor and Wilson submitted the following question:

At its September 12, 2018 meeting, Senate voted overwhelmingly to "inform the Board of Governors, through the Principal, that it favours, in principle, a move to divest the endowment from all companies whose primary business is the extraction, distribution, and/or sale of fossil fuels; and from all mutual funds that invest in such companies."

The Board of Governors referred the Senate's recommendation to its Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility (CAMSR), who issued their report on December 3, 2019. That report argues at length that "divestment from the fossil fuel sector is not advisable."

However, in their statement to the McGill Community issued on December 5, 2019, Board Chair Ram Panda and Principal Suzanne Fortier stated that CAMSR's recommendations (which were approved by the Board on that same day) meant that McGill will "[r]educe the overall carbon footprint of the McGill Investment Pool ('MIP'), which will result in divesting from highly carbon intensive companies, including those within the fossil fuel industry." Many in the university community took this announcement to mean that McGill was indeed moving toward fossil fuel divestment.

Can the Principal please clarify the university's policy with respect to fossil fuel divestment? Has McGill agreed, in principle, to move to divest the endowment from all companies whose primary business is the extraction, distribution, and/or sale of fossil fuels; and from all mutual funds that invest in such companies? Or has McGill resolved to continue investing, at least in part, in the fossil fuel industry for the foreseeable future?

The Secretary-General provided the following written response prior to the Senate meeting:

At its meeting of December 5, 2019, the Board of Governors (“Board”) approved all of the recommendations proposed by CAMSR in its report. One of the recommendations relates to decarbonization. By approving this recommendation, the Board confirmed McGill's commitment to reducing the overall carbon emissions of the endowment portfolio.

As is noted more precisely in the report, this commitment “will involve a reduction of exposure to the highest carbon intensive companies in the portfolio, including some within the fossil fuel industry.¹¹” Unlike the divest movement, which targets exclusively fossil fuel companies, a reduction of exposure to the highest carbon intensive companies will involve a review of investments in all high carbon emission level companies, in and outside the fossil fuel industry, with the aim of reducing the overall carbon emissions of the portfolio.

CAMSR's findings and observations on the issue of divestment are explained in the report, notably on pages 14 to 16. The report is available online at:
https://www.mcgill.ca/boardofgovernors/files/boardofgovernors/13_gd19-29_camsr_report.pdf

As indicated in its report, CAMSR is now working to develop an implementation plan to operationalize the approved recommendations. The plan will be presented to the Board by its April 23, 2020. Regular updates on CAMSR's activities, in preparation for the Board's meeting, will be available on its [website](#).

Certain Senators commented that the use of the term “divesting” in the communication issued to the McGill community created confusion and asked for further clarification as to whether the University was divesting the endowment from all fossil fuel companies. The Principal explained that “divesting” referred to the act of selling off an asset. She clarified that the Board of Governors agreed to decarbonization, which involves selling off certain investments in carbon intensive companies, some of which may be in the oil and gas industry while others may not.

Senator Mikkelson stated that the purpose of the divestment movement was to keep the vast majority of fossil fuels in the ground while decarbonization focused on how efficiently fossil fuels were extracted and excluded scope 3 emissions. Given that McGill divested from the tobacco industry due to the harm caused by their product, he asked why the University was continuing to invest in the fossil fuel industry, which, in his opinion, was causing greater harm. The Secretary-General highlighted that more information on the recommendation to reduce the overall carbon

¹¹ McGill University, Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility of the Board of Governors, Report of the Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility, GD19-29, Board of Governors, 3 December 2019, page 17.

emissions of the endowment portfolio and next steps was available in the CAMSR Report. She noted that the Board had previously addressed the question of social injury and fossil fuel divestment and that the criterion of social injury was not part of the current review. Senator Nystrom commented that the Board's decision conflicts with Senate's support for divestment and encouraged Senators to reflect upon the mechanisms available to deal with this situation.

Part "B" – Motions and Reports from Organs of University Government

Open Session

1. 496th Report of the Academic Policy Committee (D19-28)

Senator Manfredi presented this report for Senate's consideration. The report contained recommendations for two new teaching programs within the Faculty of Medicine, revised guidelines for University-wide teaching awards and the creation of the McGill Cancer Institute.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the proposed M.Sc. (Applied) in Translational Biomedical Engineering: Non-Thesis (45cr.).

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the proposed Graduate Diploma in Oncology (30cr.).

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the proposed Revised Teaching Award Guidelines.

Regarding the creation of the McGill Cancer Institute, Senator Robaire requested that a description of the role and responsibilities of the Director be made available. Senator Eidelman agreed to add this to the proposal, noting that this was an evolving role that would build on what is currently being done at the Rosalind and Morris Goodman Cancer Research Centre.

[*Secretary's Note: Subsequently to the meeting, the proposal was revised to include a description of the role of the Director. See page 52 of the proposal (page 164 of the Academic Policy Committee Report), which is available at <https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/senate-2019-2020/senate-meeting-documents-2019-2020/january-15-2020>.]

Senator Hastings commended the inclusion of academic freedom among the core values of the proposed Institute and expressed that it should be listed in proposals for all new or restructured institutes and other academic units at McGill, especially those that include public outreach and engagement among their major goals.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors for approval, the creation of the McGill Cancer Institute / Institut du cancer de McGill.

2. Annual Reports (2018-2019)

2.1 Student Life and Learning (D19-29)

Senator Labeau presented this report for Senate's information. The report provided an overview of the activities of the six units comprising Student Life and Learning (Enrolment Services; Student Services; Student Housing and Hospitality Services; Teaching and Learning Services; the Office of the Dean of Students; Athletics and Recreation) and emphasized initiatives recently undertaken to improve services to students at McGill. Senator Labeau highlighted several significant changes that occurred in 2018-19, including: the transfer of the international education portfolio (McGill Abroad) back to Student Life and Learning; the appointment of Gillian Nycum as Registrar and Executive Director of Enrolment Services; the transfer of outreach activities from the Social Equity and Diversity Education (SEDE) Office to Enrolment Services; the opening of the Wellness Hub; the awarding of a food services contract to a new vendor (Dana Hospitality); the implementation of the Mercury course evaluation system; the revisions to the *Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures*; and the implementation of the *Women in Sports* program.

Senator Wilson asked if any actions were taking within Student Housing and Hospitality Services (SHHS) further to the cyclical review that concluded last year. As an example, Senator Labeau indicated that work is being done to clarify the unit's mission, as a lack of clarity was one of the issues identified during the review. He mentioned that the primary mission (for the residence portion of the portfolio) is to offer a place for every eligible first-year student who applies for a residence spot by the deadline.

Senator Harpp asked whether every residence has a Floor Fellow. Senator Labeau responded in the affirmative, noting that residences also have professional staff that manage the Floor Fellows.

Senator Quitariano asked if detailed metrics could be included in future reports. Senator Labeau indicated that since further details could be found in other reports that are presented to Senate (such as the Annual Report of the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures and the Annual Report on Enrolment and Strategic Enrolment Management) and offered to expressly list these documents in future reports.

2.2 Advisory Council on the Charter of Students' Rights (D19-30)

This item was deferred to the next meeting as the Chair of the Advisory Council on the Charter of Students' Rights was unable to attend the meeting.

3. Report from the Board of Governors to Senate (D19-31)

Senator Zorychta presented this report for Senate's information. The report contained an overview of matters considered by the Board of Governors on December 5, 2019 as well as the Executive Committee of the Board on October 31, 2019. Senator Zorychta highlighted that the Board approved several decanal reappointments. She then reported on policy matters, noting the approval of the new *Policy Concerning Alcohol, Cannabis and Other Drugs*, the repeal of the *Paper Use Policy* and revisions to the *Gift-In-Kind Policy* and the *Policy Related to the Naming of University*

Assets. Finally, Senator Zorychta highlighted other items approved by the Board, including the establishment of a permanent Department of Emergency Medicine within the Faculty of Medicine (as recommended by Senate), the creation of a Sustainability Committee as well as the recommendations contained in the CAMSR Report.

Senator Dworek, who is also an observer on the Board, commented on the disruption that occurred at the December 5th Board meeting during the presentation of the CAMSR Report and asked several procedural questions relating to the role of the chair of the Board. The Chair reminded Senators to focus their questions and comments on the contents of the report. Senator Wilson asked why CAMSR did not consider social injury during its process. The Secretary-General stated that, as explained in the CAMSR Report, CAMSR's review of the Senate resolution was carried out in accordance with the Committee's terms of reference and related to CAMSR's broader mandate of advising the Board on matters pertaining to social responsibility related to University investments within the mandate of the Investment Committee of the Board. She then reminded Senators that written questions on matters within the mandate of the Board may be submitted for the community session, which is being held on February 13, 2020. Senator Wilson asked what tangible actions would be taken to reduce the carbon footprint of the portfolio. The Secretary-General indicated that CAMSR would be making recommendations to the Board on this matter at the April 2020 Board meeting. Senator Dworek asked why the Investment Committee did not lead the review instead of CAMSR. The Secretary-General stated that the Committees have different mandates and reiterated that questions on this topic could be submitted to the Board of Governors for consideration.

Senator Mikkelson commented that the University of California Senate recommended full divestment to its Board of Regents last summer and shortly thereafter in the fall, the university announced that it would be divesting its \$70 billion US pension fund and \$13.4 billion US endowment. He then questioned why McGill's Board of Governors was unable to act more quickly and do more in response to the Senate resolution on divestment. The Chair clarified that McGill's pension fund was outside the purview of the Board, noting that it was overseen by the Pension Administration Committee. Senator Zorychta mentioned that the timeline could be explained by CAMSR's thorough review of the matter and its detailed analyses.

Senator Dworek asked why the *Paper Use Policy* was replaced by *Guidelines for the Purchase and Use of Printing Paper and Printing Services* in support of the *Procurement Policy*. Senator Zorychta indicated that the Guidelines support McGill's institutional commitment to sustainable procurement and are expected to enhance adherence to best practices with respect to the purchase and use of printing paper.

In response to Senator Lametti's question on the scope of the provision in the *Policy Concerning Alcohol, Cannabis and Other Drugs* regarding the prohibition of cannabis possession at the University, Senators Beauchamp and Manfredi confirmed that this prohibition was in accordance with the *Cannabis Regulation Act*, as amended in November 2019 by *An Act to tighten the regulation of cannabis*.

4. Other Business

There being no other business, on a motion duly proposed and seconded, the meeting ended at 3:45 p.m.

END

The complete documents, including presentations at Senate, are kept as part of the official Senate record.