

MINUTES OF THE SENATE – OCTOBER 10, 2007

SENATE  
MCGILL UNIVERSITY

07-08:02

Minutes of a meeting of Senate held on Wednesday, October 10, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in the Robert Vogel Council Room (Room 232), Leacock Building.

---

**PRESENT:**

Aitken, Ellen	Kasirer, Nicholas
Algieri, Stefano	King, Daniel
Angus, Adrian	Kreiswirth, Martin
Arnaert, Antonia	John Kurien
Bailey, Kyle	Lai, Pamela
Barralet, Jake	Levin, Richard
Beheshti, Jamshid	Lewis, Brian
Blachford, Gregg	Low, Bronwen
Blackett, Adele	Lowther, David
Borkotoky, Aneerudha	Lund, James
Boulet, Benoit	Luther, Ryan
Bourgault, Maryse	Manfredi, Christopher
Bracewell, Robert	Martin, Erica
Burns, David	Masi, Anthony
Butler, Ian	McSweeney, Kerry
Cartwright, Glenn	Moore, Timothy
Chapdelaine,, Annick	Munroe-Blum, Heather ( <i>Chair</i> )
Chase, Ronald	Ngadi, Michael
Cooke, Rosemary	Oong, Daniel
Dear, Judy	Oxhorn, Philip
Etemad, Hamid	Paré, Anthony
Everett, Jane	Pেকেles, Gary
Ezzy-Jorgensen, Frances	Peterson, Kathryn
Fujinaga, Ichiro	Quaroni, Enrica
Gehr, Ronald	Richard, Marc
Goldbloom, Michael	Roulet, Nigel
Gowrisankaran, Kohur	Ryan, Dominic
Grant, Martin	Sedgwick, Donald
Harpp, David	Smith, Michael
Henderson, Ian	Stroud, Sarah
Henderson, Jim	Tallant, Beverlea
Hobbins, John	Thérien, Denis
Ismail, Ashraf	Todd, Peter
Itzkowitz, Jake	Van der Vooren, Jessica
Jonsson, Wilbur	Wade, Kevin
Jordan, Steve	Waugh, Sean
Karmouty, Harry	Whitesides, Sue
	Wolfson, Christina

**REGRETS:** Vikram Bhatt, Frederick Kingdom, Sally McDougall, Donald McLean, Morton Mendelson, Michael Ngadi, Christophe Pierre, Bernard Robaire, Janine Schmidt, Maria Zannis-Hadjopoulos

**I. SECTION ONE**

**1. Resolution on the Death of Professor Charles Abbott Conway**

The following resolution on the death of Professor Abbott Conway was read by Professor Christopher Manfredi, Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

*It is with deep regret that the Department of English notes the death of Professor Charles Abbott Conway, who passed away peacefully on August 26, 2007, at his home in Great Tew, Oxfordshire, England. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, his daughters, Alison, Catherine, and Sarah, and his three grandchildren.*

*Abbott Conway grew up in Huntsville, Ontario . He received a BA with Honors in Music from Trinity College, University of Toronto, in 1963. In 1965, he received an MA from the University of Toronto, and in 1976, he achieved his PhD from the Centre for Mediaeval Studies at the University of Toronto. From 1966 to 1967, he also studied theology at Wycliffe College. He joined McGill in 1970 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of English. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1978, and was tenured in 1983. In 2002, he took early retirement to become the Rev. Prof. Conway, Vicar of St Michael and All Angels in Great Tew, and its associated parishes of Little Tew and Nether Worton.*

*Abbott Conway served the university in a variety of ways. He was Associate Chair of the Department of English from 1974 to 1976, and served on the Faculty of Arts Planning and Development Committee from 1981 to 1983. He became President of the Faculty Club for 1980 to 1981. He was elected Vice-President External of MAUT for 1984 to 1986, and was President of MAUT from 1987 to 1988. In 1989, he was appointed Dean of Admissions and held that post until 1994. He also served on the Board of Governors Executive Committee, the Academic Planning and Policy Committee, the University Admissions and Scholarships Committee, and as chairman of the Cyclical Review Committee for the Faculty of Religious Studies. His service to the academic community extended beyond McGill; among his several contributions, he was president of the Associate of Teachers of English of Quebec in 1973, a member of the Conseil des universités du Québec from 1990, and chairman of the then Committee I of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowships awards in the early 1980's. But apart from being a professor at McGill, Abbott wore another important hat, as the Reverend Dr. Conway, a priest ordained in the Anglican Church of Canada in 1991. In this capacity he also served the university, being licensed as an Associate Chaplain of McGill in 1991.*

*Abbott was a much-loved and inspiring teacher, whether in Anglo-Saxon literature, medieval grammatical theory or metaphysical poetry. He had the knack of drawing out the best from his students and always encouraged them to reach for their highest level. Although a medievalist by training, he was as much a renaissance man in his range of interests, from music, law and theology, to the use of new technology in the humanities. He was a fine man on the fiddle, and an avid practitioner of the art of campanology. As a teacher and as a pastor, he was keenly devoted to the developing of the mind and to the wellbeing of the spirit. His door was always open to his students and colleagues alike, for whom he had an immeasurable wellspring of patience, wisdom and good humour. He was a man of true humanitas, humilitas, and integritas. He will be greatly missed.*

On unanimous motion of the Senate, a citation of the eulogy will be sent to the family of Professor Conway.

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE – OCTOBER 10, 2007

### 2. Resolution on the Death of Hans Walter Frischkopf

The following resolution on the death of Hans Walter Frischkopf was read by Professor Christopher Manfredi, Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

*Our esteemed colleague Hans Walter Frischkopf passed away on his 61<sup>st</sup> birthday on September 9<sup>th</sup> 2007 at Royal Victoria Hospital. He will be missed dearly by his colleagues, the graduate students, and the undergraduate students of the Department of German Studies where he was a full-time Faculty Lecturer since 1987.*

*Hans Walter was a Canadian born in Ballwil, Switzerland. In 1968, he graduated from the Université de Louvain with a B.A. in philosophy and received a M.A. in linguistics, German literature, and philosophy from the University of Bonn in 1974. Hans Walter entered the Ph.D. program at the Department of German at McGill in 1973 and was hired first as a sessional language instructor, a lecturer at the Centre for Continuing Education, and finally as a faculty lecturer. He also taught at the University of New Brunswick, Marianopolis College, and the Goethe Institute in Montreal. Although he had fulfilled all other program requirements, Hans Walter did not complete his dissertation. In some ways, it can be said that Hans Walter sacrificed his own career to devote his time to teaching and to serve the Department better. As a faculty lecturer, he taught for many years 21 credits in addition to taking on advising duties, initiating curriculum changes, sitting on committees, and serving in various functions in professional organizations. He had great regrets about not obtaining his Ph.D., and was very supportive of graduate students many of whom remember fondly his kind words of encouragement. He was adamant about his advise that they should first and foremost finish their dissertations.*

*With great diligence and care, Hans Walter served as coordinator of our language program and supervisor of our first-year language instructors. Hans Walter taught German at all levels; he was a specialist in Business German, and he taught courses in literature and culture.*

*Hans Walter was one of the principal architects of the Department's interdisciplinary Contemporary German Studies Program. In the past few years, he was a member of the Committee on Student Affairs and the Humanistic Studies Program Committee. He served as departmental library coordinator and liaison between the department and the Quebec Ministry of Education.*

*While Hans Walter's expertise was in linguistics, teaching methodology, and 18<sup>th</sup> century German literature, he was a learned man with a broad range of interests. He loved words and music, especially the cello, and he was himself a quite accomplished piano player. For many years, he organized a literary circle, the Literaturkreis, and he has served the Department and the Faculty in more ways than can be mentioned here. He was a devoted and proud member of the McGill community. He will be remembered especially for his kindness and modesty, for the interest he took in others, and for the concern and care with which he approached life.*

*We mourn the loss of a valued member of our Department.*

*I move, Mr. Dean, that the Faculty send a copy of this resolution, along with the expression of its deepest sympathy, to Mr. Frischkopf's family: his sister Rita Frischkopf and his brothers Franz, Arthur, and Alex Frischkopf.*

On unanimous motion of the Senate, a citation of the eulogy will be sent to the family of Mr. Frischkopf.

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE – OCTOBER 10, 2007

### 3. Report of the Steering Committee

The report of the Steering Committee (07-08:02) was received.

*Item 1. Approval of Minutes of Senate*, on motion duly proposed and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of September 19, 2007, were approved.

*Item 2. Speaking Rights*, on motion duly proposed and seconded, speaking rights were granted as follows:

Professor William Foster: to speak to the proposed Regulations Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct (D07-03).

Ms. Lynne Gervais: to answer the question concerning the Registered Pension Plan.

It was noted that speaking rights were no longer required for Rima Rozen, Associate Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations) as Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations) was in attendance at the meeting.

*Item 3. Committee of the Whole*, on motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate agreed to enter into Committee of the Whole for 30 minutes, with the Principal remaining in the chair, for discussion of the Proposed Regulations Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct (D07-03).

*Item 4. Degrees (Approvals)*, It was noted that the authority for approving degrees might come to Senate in the Spring; however, Senate Steering will look at procedural issues related to such a change before it is confirmed.

*Item 5, Joint Board Senate meeting*, Senators were reminded of the annual joint meeting, scheduled for October 30, at 6 p.m. at the Faculty Club. The theme is sustainability and the bulk of the meeting will be devoted to discussion rather than presentations.

### 4. Adoption of the Agenda

On motion duly proposed and seconded, the agenda was approved.

### 5. Chair's Remarks

The Principal reminded Senators that they are encouraged to attend or join the platform party for the two convocation ceremonies that will take place at Place des Arts on November 9. She noted that Dr. Dafydd (Dave) Rhys Williams and Dr. Charles Scriver will be receiving honorary degrees at this time, and the title of Chancellor Emeritus will be conferred on Mr. Jean de Grandpré. The recipients of the Principal's Awards for Administrative and Support Staff and the Principal's Prizes for Excellence in Teaching will also be honoured at these ceremonies.

The Principal reported on important events, including the Global Conference on the Prevention of Genocide, a three-day event scheduled to start the following day. Hosted by the McGill University Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism, chaired by Professor Payam Akhavan of the Faculty of Law and supported by the Echenberg Family Foundation, the event will bring together survivors and witnesses of genocide, legislators, diplomats and activists, from around the world.

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE – OCTOBER 10, 2007

McGill's Desautels Faculty of Management and the École des Hautes études commerciales (HÉC) have launched a joint executive MBA program, drawing in part on the research of McGill's Henry Mintzberg. The academic directors are Professor Alain Pinsonneault of McGill and Professor Louis Hébert of HÉC.

The Principal moved to discussion of Quebec news, noting that she is meeting this week with the editorial boards of *The Gazette* and *Le Devoir* (she will also be meeting with editorial boards of papers in other cities, both outside Quebec and outside Canada, with a particular focus on cities in which the University is launching its comprehensive campaign). She said these meetings provide a good opportunity to highlight not only McGill's strengths but also the challenges it faces.

The Principal noted that responsibility for media relations at McGill is moving to Michael Goldbloom, whose title is changing from Vice-Principal (Inter-Institutional Relations) to Vice-Principal (Public Affairs).

With regard to the provincial government, the Principal mentioned a meeting between the Minister of Education, Michelle Courchesne and the heads of Quebec's universities, where it was apparent that new regulations for the development of university infrastructure programs are forthcoming. The Principal noted that the universities are asking to be consulted on the government's plans and will be reinforcing both the autonomy of the universities and the belief that the whole system should not be punished for the problems experienced by a particular institution (UQAM, which is in severe financial difficulty as a result of major building projects).

A government announcement of a new infrastructure program will likely have something in it for universities. McGill is working hard to determine McGill's infrastructure priorities, especially as concerns deferred maintenance – the Principal emphasized that it will be very difficult to address these without support from the province and Ottawa.

The Principal mentioned two reports on governance of Quebec universities: the recently published report of the Toulouse commission, of which she is an author; and the report of the CREPUQ (association of Quebec universities) committees of secretaries general, which is in progress.

The Principal reported that there are a number of initiatives underway at CREPUQ, which she is heading for the next two years. The organization is looking at how it can more effectively engage with the public and how it can work with the government towards a goal of public funding on par with what exists in the rest of Canada. CREPUQ has recently appointed a new director general, Daniel Zizian.

At the federal level, the current priorities and strategies of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada are posted on the organization's website. The Principal mentioned that she had recently had the opportunity to participate in a consultation with Prime Minister Stephen Harper. She said that the government must translate its stated support of science, technology and innovation into concrete programs.

The Principal offered congratulations to the following individuals and groups within the McGill community:

- The students who produce the *McGill Journal of Medicine*, which received the Avenir Santé award at the ninth annual Forces Avenir awards ceremony;

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE – OCTOBER 10, 2007

- Professor Hojotallah Vali (Earth & Planetary Sciences, Anatomy & Cell Biology, Dentistry) and the other organizers of the third annual Lorne Trotter Public Science Symposium, as well as Mr. Trotter himself, for the imagination and generosity he demonstrated in creating the series. This year's event featured four experts discussing the topic Origin of Life: What was the Spark of Life?
- The chairs, Drs. Heather Durham and Jean-Pierre Julien, organizers and participants of the third annual ALS Symposium of the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Foundation, hosted the previous week by the Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI). During the same week, the MNI launched a fundraising campaign with a target of \$40 million, which is part of McGill's comprehensive campaign.
- Dr. Ernesto Schiffrin, chief of medicine at the Jewish General Hospital, who was named winner of the 2007 Irvine Page-Alva Bradley Lifetime Achievement Award of the Council for High Blood Pressure Research.

The Principal concluded her remarks by urging all Senators to participate in the launch of Campaign McGill on Thursday, October 18. The day's events promise to be memorable thanks to the hard work of Assistant Vice-Principal Marc Weinstein and his team.

In response to a question from Mr. Itzkowitz regarding the Joint Board Senate meeting, the Principal said that this event represents an important opportunity for members of the Board and Senate to come together and therefore we are not opening the meeting to non-members.

## SECTION II: PART "A" – QUESTIONS AND MOTIONS BY MEMBERS

### 1. Question Regarding the Registered Pension Plan

On the invitation of the Chair, Professor Ian Butler asked the following questions:

*Recently, the Canadian Government changed the age when members of a registered pension plan must begin to receive benefits from the plan. It used to be at the end of the year in which members turn 69 years of age and this has now been changed to 71 years of age.*

**QUESTION:**

*1. What is the University's position on this change in the Canadian Government's policy with respect to its own registered pension plan?*

*2. At present, the University is matching members' contributions to the registered pension plan up until the end of the year in which members turn 69 years of age. Will this matching continue until the end of the year in which members now turn 71 years of age?*

The Principal invited Ms. Lynne Gervais, Associate Vice-Principal (Human Resources), to respond.

*Response to Question One: It is the University's position that changes to the Canadian Government's policy must be respected and accordingly the University will amend the MUPP to increase the conversion age from 69 to 71 and therefore employees must settle their pension by the age of 71.*

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE – OCTOBER 10, 2007

*Response to Question Two: This is a more difficult issue inasmuch as it is not dictated by legislation but is rather a function of the pension plan's actuarial realities and the University's financial means. We have not yet established a view as to the appropriate age at which the University should discontinue matching employee contributions.*

Professor Butler noted that prior to 1996, both the employee and McGill made contributions between the ages of 65 and 71. This changed as a result of government legislation in 1996. He asked that the University revert to past practice now that the government has reversed its policy.

### 2. Question Regarding Research Time Stipends

On the invitation of the Chair, Professor Anthony Paré asked the following questions:

*The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) allows applicants to request Research Time Stipends (RTS) when applying for research funding. The stipends represent half the cost of releasing the applicant from some teaching, and the applicant's institution is expected to pay the other half.*

*Anecdotal evidence suggests that there is currently no standard, University-wide policy or practice related to these funds. In some units, researchers are discouraged from applying for RTS unless they can furnish the matching funds themselves, whereas in other units researchers are permitted to apply for RTS, but then have their applications reviewed by department chairs, who may or may not approve the inclusion of the RTS request in the researcher's application.*

*Without a clear, University-wide policy and transparent, impartial practices for the review of RTS requests, the current situation invites inequity. In light of that, I have the following questions:*

#### QUESTION:

- 1. Does McGill have a policy on the inclusion of RTS requests in SSHRC applications?*
- 2. Is there a standard practice for the review of such requests? That is, are all requests, campus-wide, treated in the same way?*
- 3. If there are no clear and publicly accessible criteria for the inclusion and review of RTS requests, would the Administration be willing to draft a set of standards and bring them to Senate for discussion?*

The Principal invited the Provost to respond. Professor Masi thanked Professor Paré for the question and responded as follows:

*The SSHRC policy on "research time stipends and salary replacement" was designed in Ottawa with very little consultation with university administrators across the country, with no recognition that as established it represents an unfunded mandate to universities to share equally with the granting agency in the direct costs of research, and with a totally unrealistic assessment of the real value of teaching time as a function of total compensation, of collegial governance and administration within academic units, and of the differential meaning of the teaching-research interface at universities like McGill and the other G-13 institutions.*

*With that as a background, I must answer in the following way:*

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE – OCTOBER 10, 2007

1. *No. McGill does not have a policy on the inclusion of RTS requests in SSHRC applications.*
2. *No, not really. There are no university-wide standard practices reviewing such requests. There is some consistency within Faculties for their treatment of Research Time Stipend requests, but it ranges from “we do not do that here,” to “we consider requests on a case-by-case basis,” to “we support whatever you submit.”*
3. *Yes, in part. I will work with the VP (Research and International Relations) and with the Deans of the Faculties to get a clear picture of the situation at McGill, to see if it is possible and desirable to have a standard practice on the issue of SSHRC RTS, and if so, to bring the relevant points to this body for further discussion (not for approval), since it involves budgetary resources.*

Professor Butler noted that when the SSHRC introduced this scheme (he was Associate Vice-Principal (Research) at the time), the then Vice-Principal (Research) approached the Deans to set up an ad hoc matching system. Other practices were also put in place, but these may not have been continued.

Professor Harpp said he found the situation troubling both because it tends to remove senior researchers from contact with undergraduates and because there is a situation of unequal remuneration across Faculties.

The Provost added that last year, about 130 professors submitted applications that contained RTS requests and had they all been funded, the liability would have been \$325,000. Of the 130, only 28 McGill professors received grants with time stipends, committing McGill to \$70,000 in order to match SSHRC's \$70,000. The budgetary implications might not seem great, but they have important implications.

In response to various comments, the Provost stated he will begin a consultation on this subject almost immediately and will bring some items to Senate for discussion during the Winter term. The Principal noted that the research-intensive universities had objected when the SSHRC introduced this program on its own, without consultation.

## SECTION II: PART “B” – MOTIONS AND REPORTS FROM ORGANS OF UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENT

### 1. 393<sup>rd</sup> Report of the Academic Policy Committee (D07-05)

The Provost presented the 393<sup>rd</sup> Report of the Academic Policy Committee.

*Item I.A New Teaching Programs.* In correction of the 392<sup>nd</sup> Report of APC, a credit weight of 3 (not 4) for the Course COMP 304 in the B.Sc. Major in Computer Science: Computer Games was approved.

The total credit weight for the program is changed to 62-68 (not 62-69) and the section where the course in question is listed is changed to 6-7 (not 6-8) credits.

*Item I.B. Change in Department Name/Reporting/Mergers,* Senate approved and recommended to the Board of Governors that

*The Faculty of Law become, along with the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, the Faculty of Arts, and the Faculty of Science, a governing Faculty of the McGill School of Environment.*



## MINUTES OF THE SENATE – OCTOBER 10, 2007

Dean Kasirer expressed his enthusiasm about the Faculty of Law officially joining the School of the Environment (MSE), noting that environmental issues are priorities both for the Faculty and in the White Paper. He pointed to additional support for this initiative within the broader legal and donor communities. Finally, he thanked the other Faculties and the MSE itself for a warm welcome.

There were no items for discussion or approved in the name of Senate.

### **2. Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D07-08)**

Ms. Peterson presented the Report of the Nominating Committee (D07-08).

#### **I. For Approval by Senate**

*Item 1. Statutory Selection Committee*, was approved.

*Item 2. Academic Policy Committee*, Professor Douglas Farrow, Faculty of Religious Studies, was appointed as a faculty representative on the Academic Policy Committee, for a term commencing immediately and ending August 31, 2010. Professor William Hendershot, Department of Natural Resource Sciences, was also appointed to the Academic Policy Committee as a faculty representative for a term commencing immediately and ending August 31, 2009.

*Item 3. Committee on the Rights of Senate*, the following were appointed to the Committee on the Rights of Senate with end dates as shown below:

Professor Adelle Blackett (Faculty of Law) – 2010  
Professor David Harpp (Department of Chemistry) – 2009  
Ms. Frances Ezzy-Jorgensen (Administrative and Support Staff) – 2010  
Ms. Erica Martin (Student) – 2008

*Item 4. Committee on Student Grievances*, Mr. Alexander McGirr, PGSS, was appointed to the Committee on Student Grievances as a graduate student representative for a term starting immediately and ending August 31, 2008.

*Item 5. Appeal Committee on Student Discipline and Grievances*, Professor Grazyna Wilczek, Department of Chemistry, was appointed Chair of the Appeal Committee on Student Discipline and Grievances, starting immediately and ending August 31, 2008. Professor Heather Goad, Department of Linguistics, was also appointed to the Appeal Committee on Student Discipline and Grievances as a faculty representative for a term commencing immediately and ending August 31, 2010.

*Item 6. Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures*, the following were appointed to the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures:

Professor Robyn Tamblyn (Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health) – 2010  
Professor Niky Kamran (Department of Mathematics and Statistics) – 2010  
Professor Christopher Green (Department of Economics) – 2010  
Professor Saeed Mirza (Department of Civil Engineering) – 2010

## **MINUTES OF THE SENATE – OCTOBER 10, 2007**

Professor Henrietta Galiana, Department of Biomedical Engineering, was appointed Chair of the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures, starting immediately and ending August 31, 2009. Professor

Professor John F. Hayes, Department of Animal Sciences, was appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures, starting immediately and ending August 31, 2008.

*Item 7. Committee on Student Discipline*, Professor Richard Leask, Department of Chemical Engineering,, was appointed Chair of the Committee on Student Discipline, starting immediately and ending August 31, 2009.

*Item 8. Intellectual Property Appeals Committee*, Professor Alvin Shrier, Department of Physiology, was appointed Chair of the Intellectual Property Appeals Committee, starting immediately and ending August 31, 2008.

Professor Bernard Robaire, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, was appointed to the Intellectual Property Appeals Committee for a term commencing immediately and ending August 31, 2010.

*Item 9. University Committee on Scholarships and Student Aid*, Professor Emine Sarigollu, Faculty of Management, was appointed to the University Committee on Scholarships and Student Aid as a faculty representative for a term commencing immediately and ending August 31, 2008.

### **II. For Information**

*Item 1. Report on Alternate Chairs of the University Tenure Committee*, was noted.

### **3. Regulations Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct (D07-03)**

Vice-Principal Thérien presented the proposed regulations, noting that they are necessary both because the granting agencies have asked for them and because we owe it to ourselves to replace the ad hoc procedures we have used to date. He pointed to the work of the committee which has drafted the document being presented for discussion and highlighted three key words: uniformity, timeliness and protection. As agreed, Senate moved into the Committee of the Whole with the Principal remaining in the Chair and Associate Provost William Foster available to address questions and comments. The minutes are appended at the end of this document.

### **4. Annual Report of the Committee on Student Affairs (D07-07)**

Dean Everett noted two priorities for the CSA for the coming of year are approval of an academic advising mission statement and the issue of academic integrity. There will also be discussion of a retention policy for documents held by the Office of the Dean of Students.

In response to a question from Professor Paré, Dean Everett said that the matter of instructional techniques to reduce plagiarism is at the embryonic stage but will move forward as part of the advising mandate.

Dean Everett said that questions about the opt-out option for the plagiarism detection service turnitin.com might be better directed to the Deputy Provost.

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE – OCTOBER 10, 2007**

The Senate meeting ended at 3:57 p.m.

## APPENDIX A

---

### Committee of the Whole

#### ***Regulations Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct***

Chair: Principal Heather Munroe-Blum

The discussion included both questions and comments, with Associate Provost Foster responding.

Professor Butler said he presumed that the proposed regulations draw on documents of the Canadian Tri-Council (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC) and asked if they also respond to requirements of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), from which McGill researchers obtain substantial funding.

Professor Foster said that while NIH tends to be more demanding in its requirements, the McGill regulations took both Canadian and NIH documents into account and also looked at best practices in other institutions. However, the proposed McGill procedures do depart from the common practice of having the Dean or other senior person appoint all three members of the tribunal investigating allegations of research misconduct.

Professor Gowrisankaran said the proposed regulations obviously represented a considerable investment of time but he nevertheless had several concerns. He suggested that there should be an opportunity for the respondent (accompanied by an advisor, if desired) to meet with the Provost to determine if anything has been missed. He said his main concern relates to how the Committee on Research Misconduct is to be appointed. He asked why the Dean of the Faculty should be a Committee member and also suggested a conflict regarding the Provost's participation in appointing Committee members, given that the Provost will be in charge of handing down a decision regarding research misconduct. He suggested that appointments be made as is done for the Staff Grievance Committee, to ensure fairness in the process.

In response to a question about item 9.8 and the phrase "to permit later assessment of the case", Professor Foster explained that funding agencies reserve the right to revisit cases; he agreed that the wording could be clearer.

Professor Gowrisankaran said the wording of item 7.5.2 suggests that the parties cannot ask questions of all witnesses, whereas there should be no such restriction. He also noted that there is an omission in Item 7.5.4: it should mention that the respondent has the opportunity to be accompanied by an advisor.

Professor Henderson said that a distinction should be made between possible meanings of the word, "complainant," noting the difference between a discloser who is a third party and a claimant who might be seeking personal remedy.

Professor Chase said that the exclusions outlined in item 1.9, which defines "Research Misconduct," and in particular the section which describes behaviour that should not be included in the definition of research misconduct. He noted the text concerning differences in interpretation of judgement that are reasonable was awkward.

Foster replied that item 1.9 was a standard text found in policy disclaimers. He stated that the Committee will review the wording again.

## APPENDIX A

---

In response to a suggestion by Mr. Hobbins, Professor Foster said he felt it would be acceptable to explicitly provide for the right of an advisor to speak on behalf of the respondent, as long as it was clear that the same evidence could not be given twice.

Hobbins further stated that item 5.5.1 mentions exceptional cases where the Research Integrity Officer (RIO) may exercise power of search and seizure, and noted that the consent of the Provost or Dean of Graduate Students should be required before the RIO is allowed to act in this capacity.

Professor Gehr said that item 5.2, regarding anonymous unsupported allegations, is redundant because its points are covered under 5.1. He reiterated Mr. Hobbins' concern about item 5.5.1, suggesting that such exceptional circumstances be handled by police warrant.

In response to Dean Lund, Professor Foster said that he believes the regulations will satisfy NIH requirements. Dean Levin concurred. Professor Butler recommended that NIH be contacted for a response before the regulations are implemented.

Mr. Itzkowitz spoke to item 10.7.1, which sets up the terms for reviewing the regulations in three years. He suggested that, with regard to input from Faculties, a representative be sought from any Faculty that has had to implement the regulations – and not only the Faculty of Medicine.

Professor Foster said that the Faculty of Medicine is key because of the amount of funding it receives and its international exposure. Furthermore, he said the hope is that no Faculty will have to call on the regulations in the three years following their approval.

Regarding the composition of the Committee on Research Misconduct, Professor Tallant suggested that the Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations) replace the Provost as nominator, due to the fact that the Provost is already involved as the deciding officer. She also requested that the Secretary-General nominate two members from a panel of nine, members, giving a bigger selection to choose from. Finally, within the text concerning membership, that members be recommended by Senate Nominating Committee in consultation with MAUT and approved by Senate, as opposed to approved by Senate Nominating Committee, as that Committee does not generally have final authority to approve nominations.

Mr. Hobbins suggested the addition of a representatives from non-academic staff be added to the group that will be charged with reviewing the regulations.

In response to a question about the timeline for finalizing the regulations, Professor Foster noted that it will take longer if pre-approval by NIH is deemed necessary.

Senate rose from Committee of the Whole.