



McGill

# Question

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**TO:** Senate  
**FROM:** Max Luke  
**SUBJECT:** Question Regarding Sustainability-focused teaching and research at McGill  
**MEETING DATE:** March 21, 2012

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**PREAMBLE:** Whereas in 2010 McGill Senate and Board of Governors adopted the McGill University Sustainability Policy, stating that “McGill University aspires to achieve the highest possible standards of sustainability on its campuses and in its day-to-day activities through its academic practices, in its facilities and operations, and by its outreach to the broader community”;

Whereas the McGill University Sustainability Policy states that McGill University will foster inquiry into sustainability through teaching, learning, research and the university experience;

Whereas this same policy states that McGill will pursue its Mission of “providing service to society in those ways for which we are well-suited by virtue of our academic strengths” in a way that achieves a balance between the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability;

Whereas understanding sustainability concepts is becoming increasingly important in a rapidly-changing human and global environment;

Whereas sustainability is an inherently interdisciplinary subject that can be pursued intellectually through teaching and research, but that requires academic structures that bridge multiple disciplines;

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**QUESTION:** How is the University facilitating and supporting the design and implementation of academic structures which are conducive to sustainability-focused interdisciplinary teaching and research?

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