



(October 11, 2011 meeting, in preparation for Senate Meeting, October 19, 2011)

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SENATE

The minutes of the meeting of September 22, 2011 have been circulated. It is recommended that they now be considered for approval.

2. SELECTION OF AN ALTERNATE CHAIR

Professor Ellen Aitken, Dean of the Faculty of Religious Studies, has agreed to Chair the meeting while the Principal presents the Annual Report from the Principal.

3. SPEAKING RIGHTS

The Senate Steering Committee requests speaking rights for Ms. Jana Luker, Executive Director (Student Services) for item IIB4 and Professor Jim Nicell, Associate Vice-Principal (University Services) for item IIB8 (Report from the Senate Committee on Physical Development).

4. NOTICE OF MOTION TO AMEND THE STATUTES

Section 15.1 of the Statutes stipulates, “The Senate may, by a two-thirds vote of its members who are present and entitled to vote, recommend to the Board of Governors amendments to these Statutes, provided that due notice of the proposed amendments shall have been given in writing at a previous meeting of the Senate by its Secretary.” In accordance with section 15.1, the Steering Committee notifies Senate of an amendment to section 6.1.1 regarding Senate composition. This proposal is presented as a notice of motion, and the motion will be presented for approval at the next Senate meeting.

The proposed motion to amend the Statutes will be to add a new *ex officio* member of Senate, the University Registrar and Executive Director of Enrolment Services.

McGill is in a unique position by having the dual function of University Registrar and Executive Director of Enrolment Services. As such, the position plays an active role in academic quality control. The role of the University Registrar and Executive Director of Enrolment Services is integral to the planning and support of the academic mission of the institution. As such, the University Registrar is well-suited to participate as a member of Senate, the governance body with significant academic decision-making mandate.

The Office of the University Registrar and Executive Director of Enrolment Services at McGill routinely proposes, or provides advice regarding, policy changes on admissions, academic issues, and other matters related to enrolment management. The position holds senior responsibility for

matters directly related to the purview of Senate (especially those identified in articles 6.3.2 and 6.3.3 of the Statutes of McGill University). Additionally, Enrolment Services is responsible for the implementation admissions, class scheduling, and exam scheduling and invigilation in collaboration with other units, including the faculties.

The practice at many Canadian universities is aligned with the principle above. Specifically, three highly ranked and respected Canadian, research-intensive universities identify the Registrar as a member of Senate or the equivalent: The University of British Columbia, the University of Toronto (Trinity College), and the University of Alberta. Many other universities, including members of the U15, also reserve a seat on their top academic governing body for the Registrar, including Western Ontario, Waterloo, New Brunswick (Fredericton), Calgary, Saskatchewan, Concordia, and l'Université de Montréal. Therefore, McGill would not be out of step with universities sampled from across Canada.

In summary, providing a Senate seat to the University Registrar and Executive Director of Enrolment Services will effectively recognize and leverage the knowledge and participation of the position in support of the academic mission of McGill University and will align the University's approach with that of many other respected Canadian institutions.

Therefore, it is recommended that Article 6.1.1 of the McGill University Statutes be amended to allow for the University Registrar and Executive Director of Enrolment Services to be an *ex officio* member of Senate.

5. CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

Steering Committee recommends that Senate enter into Confidential Session for discussion of item IIB1, the Confidential Report of Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee (D11-10).

Present: Professor Heather Munroe-Blum (Chair), Mr. Gregg Blachford, Ms. Emily Yee Clare, Professor David Covo, Professor John Galaty, Ms. Lily Han, Professor David Harpp, Professor Richard Janda, Mr. Stephen Strople (Secretary).

Regrets: Professor Anthony C. Masi