

PART A: November 3, 2020 meeting, in preparation for Senate meeting of November 18, 2020**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SENATE**

The minutes of the Senate meeting of October 21, 2020 were circulated to the Steering Committee, and the Steering Committee provided feedback. It is recommended that they now be considered by Senate for approval.

2. APPROVAL OF CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF SENATE

The Steering Committee reports that it has reviewed the confidential minutes of the meeting of October 21, 2020 and has approved them on behalf of Senate. These minutes are not published or circulated but are available for perusal by Senators in the Secretariat.

3. SPEAKING RIGHTS

The Steering Committee requests speaking rights for Mr. Glenn Zabowski, Associate Dean of Students, for item IIB6.1 (Annual Report on the Code of Student Conduct and Discipline Procedures).

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Steering Committee has reviewed the Agenda for the present meeting and recommends it for approval.

5. REVIEW OF QUESTIONS AND MOTIONS

The Senate Steering Committee received three questions, which were approved for submission to Senate (as drafted) and included on the November 18, 2020 Senate agenda.

Present: Suzanne Fortier (*Chair*); Angela Campbell, Jim Engle-Warnick, Brooklyn Frizzle, Andrew Kirk, Kristi Kouchakji, Christopher Manfredi, Jim Nicell, Laura Nilson, Marc Richard, Edyta Rogowska (*Secretary*).

Regrets: None.

PART B: November 18, 2020 special meeting

1. REVIEW OF MOTION TO EXTEND 2020-21 WINTER HOLIDAY BREAK

The Senate Steering Committee received a motion from Senators Frizzle, Kouchakji, Tessier, Low, and Nystrom to extend the 2020-2021 Winter Holiday break by one week. A special meeting of the Steering Committee was convened to review the motion as it was argued that the motion was time-sensitive.

After a thorough discussion, the Steering Committee did not approve the motion for submission to Senate. In reaching the decision, several points were raised, notably:

- The Steering Committee expressed concern over presenting such a motion to Senate without the proper consultations and due diligence being conducted. It was noted that Senators should be aware of the tradeoffs required to accommodate an extended break in order to make an informed decision.
- Members of the University's administration are currently exploring the possibility of recommending adjustments to the current calendar of dates. Work is being undertaken to review the impact of such a modification, which would affect the University's operations and activities. It is anticipated that a proposal for Senate's consideration will be presented by the Registrar at the next Senate meeting.
- The next Senate meeting is in two weeks (December 2, 2020). As work is already underway to consider this matter, deferring consideration to this meeting does not pose major time concerns and would allow the University to complete its consultations.

Present: Suzanne Fortier (*Chair*); Angela Campbell, Jim Engle-Warnick, Brooklyn Frizzle, Kristi Kouchakji, Christopher Manfredi, Jim Nicell, Laura Nilson, Marc Richard, Edyta Rogowska (*Secretary*).

Regrets: Andrew Kirk.