



Minutes

Wednesday, April 22, 2015 14-15:08

Minutes of the meeting of Senate held on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. in the Robert Vogel Council Room (Room 232, Leacock Building)

PRESENT

Allison, Paul
 Ayukawa, Courtney
 Arezki, Amine
 Bell, Graham
 Benrimoh, David
 Bernard, Daniel
 Bresler, Yony
 Carter, Mindy
 Crelinsten, Gordon
 Coderre, Terence
 Cooke, Rosemary
 Cook, Colleen
 Corkery, Christopher
 Costopoulos, Andre
 Damha, Masad
 Di Grappa, Michael
 Di Paola, Antonia
 Dudek, Gregory
 Dumont, Marie-Josée
 Dyens, Ollivier
 Eidelman, David
 Elstein, Eleanore
 Ferguson Sean
 Fuhrer, Rebecca
 Galaty, John
 Gold, Richard

Goldstein, Rose
 Grant, Martin
 Green, Garth
 Greenspon, Jacob
 Grobin, Morgan
 Gyakum, John
 Harman, Christopher
 Harpp, David
 Hastings, Kenneth
 Heath, Nancy
 Hébert, Terence
 Henderson, Ian
 Hill, Reghan
 Hooton, Brett
 Ibrahim, Kareem
 Ismail, Ashraf
 Jutras, Daniel
 Kalil, Alex
 Kimmins, Sarah
 Kreiswirth, Martin
 Kucij, Maya
 Kuzaitis, Ruth
 Lametti, David
 Lane-Mercier, Gillian
 Lu, Catherine
 Manfredi, Christopher
 Martel, Michel

Masi, Anthony
 Massey, Kathleen
 McCullough, Mary Jo
 Nystrom, Derek
 Oxhorn, Philip
 Panda, Ram
 Ponech, Trevor
 Potter, Judith
 Rassier, Dilson
 Ray, Saibal
 Richard, Marc
 Riches, Caroline
 Robaire, Bernard
 Saroyan, Alenoush
 Scebba, Maximillion
 Snider, Laurie
 Snyder, Dan
 Stewart-Kanigan, Claire
 Stromvik, Martina
 Strople, Stephen
(Secretary)
 Waters, Natalie
 Winer, Laura
 White, Lydia
 Yalovsky, Morty
 Zhang, Ji

REGRETS: Stefano Algieri, Darine Bader, David Covo, Stuart Cobbett, Elaine Doucette, Jim Engle-Warnick, Suzanne Fortier, Kalle Gehring, Nabeel Godil, Peter Grütter, Natalie Hiles, Jacques Hurtubise, Amine Kamen, Lucyna Lach, Chandra Madramootoo, Olivier Marcil, Michael A. Meighen, Timothy Moore, Alfonso Mucci, Jennifer Murray, Alexandru Munteanu, Jim Nicell, Cynthia Price, Chloe Rourke, Elin Thordardottir, Marina Ulemek, Rui Hao (Leo) Wang, Marc Weinstein, Yuanhang Yang, Stephen Yue, Edith Zorychta

SECTION I

1. Approval of Senator Manfredi as Chair of the Senate Meeting (April 22, 2015)

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved Senator Manfredi as Chair of the Senate Meeting.

2. Welcoming Remarks

The Chair began by welcoming Senators to the eighth Senate meeting of the 2014-2015 governance year. The Chair informed Senators that Principal Fortier was unable to attend this Senate meeting as she was participating in an international Jury taking place in France in support of the French program, *Les initiatives d'excellence*, which forms part of France's *Investissements d'avenir* initiative intended to advance the creation of multidisciplinary centers of higher education and world-class research.

3. Memorial Tributes:

3.1 Professor Emeritus Daya Varma

Senator Eidelman read the following memorial tribute:

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of an outstanding colleague, Professor Emeritus Daya Ram Varma, on March 22, 2015. A champion of the Department of Pharmacology in the Faculty of Medicine, Dr. Varma was teacher to many of its members, who remember him fondly for his very positive and kind nature, and his great sense of humour.

Dr. Varma was born in the small village of Narion, India, where he began his life-long quest for education in a one-room primary school. After receiving his Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery and MD degrees with honours from King George Medical College in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India, he moved to Canada in 1959. Dr. Varma completed his PhD in Pharmacology at McGill University two years later and rose through the academic ranks over his 45-year career with us, becoming professor emeritus in 2009.

Dr. Varma's research focused on characterizing crosstalk between myocardial Adrenoceptor subtypes and identifying how they modify cardiac contractility, electrophysiology, remodeling and growth.

Also an activist dedicated to equality, justice and peace, he applied his scientific acumen to health issues in the developing world and was featured in a number of documentary films as a result. He founded, supported or influenced several progressive organizations and was known for his work to promote harmony between India and Pakistan.

He was author of two books on the history of medicine, as well as more than 225 scientific papers and a large number of political articles published in prestigious journals.

Dr. Varma, whose passing is a great loss to our community, will be greatly missed.

3.2 Professor Emeritus Tommy Mark

Senator Grant read the following memorial tribute, and Senate subsequently unanimously approved a motion of condolence:

Dear colleagues [of the Faculty, of Senate], it is with regret that I inform you of the passing of Macdonald Professor Emeritus of Physics Tommy Mark, on Friday March 13th, 2015, at the age of 78.

Tommy was an undergraduate and graduate student at McGill, and obtained his PhD in Physics here in 1965. After a postdoctoral stay at the University of Manitoba, he returned to McGill as a Faculty Lecturer in 1966, and was appointed Assistant Professor the following year. He rose through the ranks and was appointed full Professor in 1975. Tommy's research interests were diverse, but a central theme of his academic studies remained the many fascinating properties of the atomic nucleus and of nuclear matter. Early on in his career, his careful measurements of nuclear reactions fueled the development of the theoretical nuclear optical model. In 1971 – only a year after being promoted to associate professor – Professor Mark was named Director of the Foster Radiation Laboratory, succeeding such distinguished scientists as J. S. Foster and Bob Bell. He secured substantial new funding for the laboratory that brought new energy to the lab, which then made great strides in its new research on unstable nuclei. He also pursued other interests in physics outside the Foster Lab. For example, in collaboration with his students and colleagues, Tommy participated in experiments at l'Université de Montreal, at McMaster University, and at the Chalk River Nuclear Laboratories.

In 1982, soon after returning from a sabbatical leave, Professor Mark became Departmental Chair, a position he held for two consecutive terms, totaling eight years. Without question, Tommy was one of the most important and effective Chairs of Physics in the modern history of McGill, and led a major renaissance in the department. During his tenure as Chair, the undergraduate and graduate enrolment increased considerably, and the many strong appointments he made have reshaped the department and indeed, much of Canadian physics. This influence is still felt today. His stellar career as an academic administrator was not limited to Physics: in addition to several positions at McGill, he was an elected member of the MAUT Council, and he served on the University Senate and on many of its sub-committees. Outside McGill, he has also served in various capacities in a number of scientific and professional organizations, learned societies and government agencies. After his terms as Chair, Tommy rolled up his sleeves, concentrated on research and entered the new field of relativistic heavy-ion physics. He was an active member of two successive experimental collaborations at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, in the US, before retiring in 2004. Tommy's lifetime of accomplishments was recognized in 2002 when he was named W. C. Macdonald Professor of Physics.

Professor Tommy Mark was one of the “iron men” of McGill, who has selflessly devoted himself to our university. His scientific and academic leadership are renowned. Throughout his career, he remained a source of inspiration to his students, be it in the lab or in the classroom. We have lost a colleague who greatly enriched

the life of our institution. The [Faculty of Science at McGill, or Senate] extends its condolences to his wife Pearl, and to his son Terence.

The Senate unanimously endorsed a motion of condolence to the families of Professor Varma and Professor Mark.

4. Report of the Steering Committee (14:15-08)

Senate received the Report of the Steering Committee (14-15:08).

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

Upon approval of the report, speaking rights were granted to for Professor Ghyslaine McClure, Associate Provost (Budget and Resources) and Mr. Real Del Degan, Interim Director (Office of the Budget) for item IIB1, “McGill University Budget 2015-2016” and Ms. Ciara Piperni, Director, Office of Scholarship and Student Aid for item IIB5.

5. Principal’s Remarks

In her absence, the Chair shared remarks prepared by the Principal. The Chair began by discussing government relations, and in particular, the provincial and federal budgets, which had been recently released by both levels of governments. The Chair informed the Senate that in the coming weeks the Office of the Provost, along with the Office of the Vice-Principal, Research and International Relations, and the Office of the Vice-Principal, Administration and Finance, would analyze the details of both budgets and their impact on the status of McGill’s finance and research enterprise.

The Chair reminded Senators of the upcoming Spring Convocation and highlighted the McGill Honorary Doctorates for 2015, which were announced publically on April 21. Two Nobel prizes winners, John O’Keefe and Daniel Kahneman along with the Right Honourable Joe Clark, distinguished poets Lorna Crozier and Patrick Lane, astrophysicist Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell and L. Jacques Ménard, a lifelong advocate of the importance of education for all, will be among sixteen individuals to receive Honorary Degrees. The complete list of honorees is available on the McGill Reporter website. The Chair said that the Principal hopes to see many of the members of the Senate at the Convocation ceremonies.

The Chair concluded the Principal’s remarks with kudos. On April 22, two members of the McGill community, Professor Victoria Kasi and Professor Margaret Locke were elected as members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Professor Kaspi was also awarded the 2015 Killam Prize for the Natural Sciences. The Chair noted that McGill received four new Canada Research Chairs and renewals for two more. The Chair then congratulated researchers from the Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology who were awarded a Grammy Foundation Grant for their work investigating the link between music and autism. Finally, the Chair noted that the McGill Athletes of the Year were announced on April 9 at the 38th annual Athletics Gala.

SECTION II

Part "A" – Questions and Motions by Members

1. Question Regarding Student Services Funding Sustainability

Senators Stewart-Kanigan, Ayukawa, Rourke, and Senator Greenspon submitted the following question:

Whereas, Student Services are integral to students' ability to succeed and thrive academically and personally, and student demand for services such as those offered by Mental Health and the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) is growing, leading to an inability to sufficiently reduce wait times (Mental Health states that their wait time is 2-3 months, but student testimony reports wait times up to five months) and a reduction in OSD's services,

Whereas, several services under Student Services are legally mandated to be offered to students (such as certain accommodation services of the OSD and the disbursement of financial aid),

Whereas, funding from the central administration has decreased to approximately 3% of the total Student Services budget, with 80% funded by student fees; central funding has historically decreased over time while overhead continues to rise,

Whereas, it was reported at the Committee on Student Services that in 2015-16 the central administration will cease its funding of \$112,000 to Campus Life and Engagement for orientation, reducing its funding to only two staff positions within Scholarships and Student Aid,

Whereas, the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning) stated that in the event that the most recent budget cut by the Quebec government was above the \$5-6 million projected by McGill, government grants designated as for "services for students" that previously were distributed exclusively to Student Services may begin to be distributed to other student-serving units to protect the "core mission" of the University; the announced cut was \$11 million,

Whereas, in summarizing the 2013 Joint Board-Senate Meeting on Mental Health, the Provost "pointed out that improving the mental health of all members of the McGill community is key to promoting a healthy University environment,"

1. <http://www.mcgilldaily.com/2015/03/student-services-budget-faces-threat-of-depletion/>
2. https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/d13-26_joint_board-senate_report.pdf

Will government grants designated as for "services for students" be disbursed to units beyond Student Services in 2015-16 given the most recent cut?

Why are Student Services such as Mental Health and Office for Students with Disabilities not considered essential to supporting the core teaching mission of the University in the same way that services such as advising are?

Senator Dyens (the Deputy-Provost, Student Life and Learning) provided the following response:

Thank you Senators Stewart-Kanigan, Ayukawa, Rourke, and Greenspon for your question. Let me clarify some facts:

Wait time:

Wait times for Mental Health and Counselling vary considerably depending on which type of service is requested or assessed. Subsequent to intake or triage, the five-month waiting time is correct if one is seeking a psychologist. A psychiatrist wait time is closer to a few weeks (depending on the period at which service is requested. Wait time increases as we get closer to exams, of course). In Counselling, the wait time is usually three weeks, but counsellors do not always see students once per week - sometimes students are seen only every three weeks if their conditions are not classified as life threatening.

Let me be very clear here: There has been no cut to OSD's budget. The alleged reduction in OSD services is a reduction in services not deemed essential caused by a substantial increase in the need for essential services.

Budget:

We estimate that Student Services will close FY15 with a \$100k surplus.

Student Services is utilizing \$1.5M of the approximately \$6M surplus to fund FY16 operations. This use of the surplus is meant to cover *all* of the normal additional costs to operations as well as the government imposed cuts.

There were NO CUTS made to either OSD, mental health or counselling in FY 15 and none planned in FY 16

I have asked Student Services to spend down their surplus over the next 4-5 years.

My conversations with the Executive Director of Student Services always focus on how to best meet the needs of students.

This being said, my conversations with the Executive Director have also focused on not creating unsustainable expectations. We cannot create services or respond to quickly to demands if we cannot ensure the sustainability of these additional services.

And to specifically answer the two questions:

- 1) The government grant we receive is meant to fund services to students. Services to students include units such as the Dean of Students, Service Point, Advising, the Libraries, etc. What the Provost and I have told the President and Vice President of SSMU is the following: If we face unsustainable cuts over the next few years, we may be forced to reallocate a portion of the government grant to ensure the viability of services to students. We would be able to do so only because Student Services has an accumulated surplus of more than \$6M. This is not a long-term solution and is only meant as a potential emergency measure to ensure that all services will be maintained.
- 2) Mental health and counselling are considered critical services to students. This being said, the demands on our services, in OSD, in mental health and in counselling continue to increase. This, as you all know, is a North American phenomenon. As I told Senate earlier this year and last year, we cannot meet every demand, and we cannot take over the public health care system. What we can do, however, is to focus on providing the best, and healthiest possible environment and to provide as much support as we can.

What we can also do is to have a well-developed wellness strategy and action plan. I will ask the incoming senior directors of Student Services and Athletics and Recreation in coordination with every SLL unit to develop such a plan within this academic year.

In the ensuing discussion, student Senators raised concerns that a substantial portion of the aforementioned surplus allocated for use in FY2016 would go towards new and increased overhead expenditures rather than towards improving Student Services, particularly with regard to OSD wait times. Student Senators also asked why student fees are being used to fund offices and services that are mandated by the provincial government. Senator Dyens conceded that a portion of the surplus would be allocated to overhead charges but noted that the increase in those charges from 2.5% to 3.0% was not excessive and in fact lower than at many other universities. Senator Dyens also asked Senators to remember that overhead fees do not return to the central operating budget but rather go towards an array of services (such as procurement services, accounts payable, etc) which themselves support Student Services. Senator Dyens pointed out that McGill receives \$2.4M in grants from the government for mandated services but that the services provided by the university are more extensive than required. Student Senators also asked about two new overhead charges, a 1.8% charge on salary expenses as well as a 5% charge on non-salary expenses, alleging that these charges meant that Student Services could not hire new therapists as planned. Senator Dyens responded that he disagreed with that assessment and reiterated that the only additional overhead charges were the aforementioned increase from 2.5% to 3.0% and a one-time fee. Senator Dyens also said that while the entire surplus could be used to increase services and eliminate wait-times, such measures would be unsustainable. Senator Dyens reaffirmed the universities' commitment to the provision of OSD services and stated that the current situation necessitated by budget constraints is not ideal but that creative, long-term solutions are required rather than short-term measures. In response to requests from Senators, Senator Dyens stated that historical data on the amount and allocation of overhead charges drawn from student fees, as well as concrete data regarding average wait times for OSD services could be made available to Senate.

Student Senators expressed disappointment about a cut of \$112K to funding for orientation. Senator Dyens responded that Students Services has funds in support of Discover McGill and that there should be no decrease in the services provided.

Student Senators asked for clarification about the amount and allocation of grants for student services. Senator Dyens stated that, of the \$1.8M in grants for student services, 75% is allocated to Student Services and 25% to Athletics. Student Senators expressed concern that in light of continuing provincial austerity measures, funds from this grant would be allocated to offices other than Student Services and Athletics in the future and asked whether the Deputy Provost would commit to maintaining current levels of student services beyond FY2016. Senator Dyens said that he shares these concerns, that current allocations are emergency measures, and that further collaboration with students is necessary to ensure that a high level of student services are maintained. Senator Dyens noted that due to budget constraints no commitments beyond FY2016 could be made save for a commitment to do the utmost to maintain critical student services in the future.

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

1. McGill University Budget 2015-2016

(D14-49)

Senator Masi gave a presentation on the 2015-16 budget for information. The presentation provided a comprehensive overview of the key elements and assumptions shaping the McGill University Budget for FY2016. It provided an advanced look at the core components of the Budget Book which will be made public after approval by the Board of Governors. The presentation was endorsed by the Finance Committee on 21 April. The Budget Book along with this presentation will be presented to the Board of Governors on 28 April 2015 for approval.

Senator Masi began by briefing the Senate on the status of the budget for FY2015. The provincial government “recomptage” of previous year’s enrollment at the end of FY2015 resulted in an additional \$12.2M allocation to McGill. As a result, McGill may end FY2015 with a surplus of \$4M instead of the projected deficit of \$7M, depending on expenses accrued in April.

Senator Masi reaffirmed the university’s commitment to strategic priorities, namely to: advance McGill’s record of excellence in teaching, research and knowledge dissemination and exchange; sustain the focus on enhancing quality and innovation of our students’ life and learning experiences, inside and outside the classroom; and to continue to strengthen McGill’s role, reputation and success as a partner in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and globally. Senator Masi informed Senators that the university will continue to operate within the context of constrained resources owing to austerity measures put in place by the provincial government. Budget reductions announced by the provincial government for FY2016 are expected to reduce funding to McGill by approximately \$11M. Senator Masi said that because McGill has been operating under the assumption that government cuts would become permanent, it has been able prepare accordingly and to maintain a sound fiscal base relative to other universities in Quebec. Measures implemented in FY2015, including freezes on external hires, review of HR procedures for reclassification, postponement of non-essential equipment and furniture purchases, limits on travel and hospitality expenditures and no in-year allocations except for emergencies, will continue into FY2016. In addition, every unit at McGill has been asked to cut 2-3% from their expenditures. Senator Masi stressed to members that prolonged austerity measures will not lead to a successful future for the university or its community.

Senator Masi highlighted two top funding priorities for the FY2016 budget: Salary commitments, much of which are aimed at reaching the U15 average for professorial salaries, and deferred maintenance, which can no longer be postponed. In order to address urgent maintenance needs, the Board of Governors Finance Committee has requested approval to borrow or issue debt to be repaid over the course of a period not exceeding 40 years, in support of capital expenditures.

In summary, the proposed budget projects revenues of \$764.2M and expenditures of \$768.9M, resulting in an estimated deficit of \$4.7M. This could be higher should revenues be lower than expected.

Looking forward to FY2017, Senator Masi noted the possibility of increased tuition flexibility and potential reinvestment depending on the recommendations of the Tremblay-Roy working group due to be announced in Fall 2015. Senator Masi noted that McGill has representation on four of the five committees forming the working group.

Following Senator Masi's presentation, the Chair opened the floor to questions.

Senator Cooke asked how adequate support for students and academic staff would be maintained given a projected 3% increase in student enrollment and a 12% cut to administrative staff. Senator Masi said that he shared this concern and reiterated the need to think creatively for possible solutions. Senator Benrimoh inquired as to the source of increased revenues projected through 2020. Senator Masi explained that revenue projections were based on several assumptions including significant increases in graduate education and increases in non-traditional sources of revenue. Noting that reinvestment from the provincial government is not forthcoming, Senator Benrimoh asked what additional measures could be used to advocate for increased government spending. Senator Masi responded that the current challenges are affecting jurisdictions across North America, not just Quebec, and that these challenges should be addressed by building partnerships and through financial planning.

Senator Stewart-Kanigan asked two questions: 1) What financial contributions will the central administration be making to the Student Services budgets in FY2016 and what expenditures will these contributions be used to fund; and 2) What overheads are currently being charged to Student Services, how are these overheads calculated, and are new categories of overhead charges planned for FY2016? With regard to the first question, Senator Masi noted that the budget is a global document that doesn't impose specific cuts to individual units so he is unable to answer with specificity. Senator Masi responded to the second question by reiterating that overhead charges will increase from 2.5% to 3% and that this increase was derived by a comparative analysis of what other universities are charging for similar services. Senator Masi noted that all units are facing increases to overhead charges.

Senator Galati inquired about how the projected increases in revenue from pensions and interest were derived and asked where the money for contributions to the Royal Victoria Hospital project would come from. In answer to the first question, Senator Masi said that the increase in revenues from pensions are the result of good investments but noted that estimated liability costs need to be assessed. Responding the second question, Senator Masi said that should the decision be made to undertake feasibility studies regarding the RVH project, McGill would have to contribute \$4M which has been factored into the budget. Further developments in the RVH project with regard to renovations and redevelopment are treated as a separate project and are not provided for in the current budget.

Senator Robaire asked the Provost to expand on the expense of equity, and for a bottom-line figure for projected contributions from the provincial government based on historical data from the past five years. Senator Masi explained that the equity expenses are attributable to pay equity policies which will continue to be an issue in future unless there is a legislative change made at the provincial level. With regard to the second part of the question, Senator Masi said that it is difficult to provide an exact figure given the protracted decision making process of the provincial government, but that based on the previous five years McGill expects about \$360M in funding.

Senator Bresler asked how the university is planning to accommodate a 5% increase in Masters level enrollment in the next year given space and other constraints on campus. Senator Masi answered that consultations were made with Deans of faculties to arrive at the projected increase in enrollment and further that a significant portion of those increases would be in course-based programs which require less space than research-intensive, laboratory based programs.

Senator Ayukawa asked how the university is planning to meet increased student demand for mental health services in light of the external hiring freeze. Senator Masi noted that the university could not be a substitute for existing government services with regard to both physical and mental health. He also noted that individual units must make choices as to when a hire can be made and for what purposes and explained how money captured from the hiring freeze could be used.

Senator Lu asked about the feasibility of securing further government funding in support of the borrowing proposal for deferred maintenance. Senator Lu also asked about the progress made towards the 70%/70% classroom scheduling policy, what benefits would there be if it was achieved, and whether that policy was related to deferred maintenance. Senator Masi noted that McGill has not yet achieved the goal of the policy but that progress had been made. Senator Masi said this policy was not connected to deferred maintenance. With regard to new government contributions towards deferred maintenance expenditures, Senator Masi said that there are mechanisms to request additional government funding for special construction projects but that in the current climate they are not likely to succeed.

Senator Snyder asked if McGill could be doing more to lobby the provincial government. Senator Masi explained that several offices throughout the university are in constant contact with the provincial government trying to influence the direction of spending on higher education. Senator Masi stressed the importance of drawing on the experiences of other universities across Canada and North America. The Chair thanked Senator Masi for his presentation and informed Senate that the budget will be presented to the Board of Governors for approval on April 28 and made available publically once approved.

2. 464th Report of the Academic Policy Committee (D14-50)

Senator Masi introduced this report for Senate's approval.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the following proposed programs: the Professional Development Certificate in Project Management.

Senator Masi encouraged Senators to review items approved in the name of Senate by the Academic Policy Committee (APC) included in the Report.

Senator White presented revisions proposed by APC to McGill's Mission Statement and principles.

In the subsequent discussion Senators applauded the work of the APC on the proposed revisions. Senator Lu moved that the words "and values" be removed from the principles section on the grounds that the words were no longer needed as the revision does not contain any discreet values.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved that the words "and values" be withdrawn from the revised McGill's Mission Statement and Principles.

Senator Greenspon questioned the removal of the words "undergraduate and graduate" from the mission statement. Senator Arezki asked why the words "creation and dissemination of knowledge" had been added to the mission statement. Senator White responded that the previous wording of "the advancement of learning and knowledge" did not express the fact that universities also create and disseminate knowledge.

Senator Ayukawa expressed concern that the revised mission statement emphasized research over teaching. Senators were informed that research and teaching were equally addressed in the text.

Senator Ismail asked whether the idea that academics produce work to be judged by others should be reflected in the mission statement. Senator White explained that APC felt that it was more important to express what members of the McGill community are responsible for than it was to speak to external judgements. The Chair noted that the word “judged” does in fact appear in the revised mission statement.

Senator Galaty suggested that the word “inclusiveness” be changed to “inclusivity”. Senator White said she would reflect upon the point.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate recommended that the Board of Governors approve the proposed revised Mission Statement and Principles, as amended by Senate.

3. Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D14-51)

3.1 Committee Appointments

Senator Masi presented this report for approval. He explained that it contained recommendations to fill vacancies on several Senate standing committees and committees arising out of University regulations.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the recommendations contained in the Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D14-51) to fill vacancies on various Senate Standing Committees.

Senate further approved the recommendations to fill vacancies on the University Appeals Committee and the Alternate Chairs for University Tenure Committee arising from the University Regulations.

3.2 Recommendation for a Faculty Council in the Faculty of Medicine (D14-52)

Senator Eidelman began by noting the uniqueness of the Faculty of Medicine in that it does not have a faculty council. He noted that while structures existed that acted as consultative bodies for the Dean, there was a lack of formality in governance. Senator Eidelman stated that governance standards are a criteria considered by accrediting bodies for several of the faculty’s professional schools.

Senator Eidelman stated that the proposed Faculty Council is a standard representative body with the aim of acting in concert with the Dean to oversee faculty policies and procedures. He noted that since this would be the first such body in the Faculty of Medicine in nearly two decades, that the Faculty Council would, within two years of Senate’s initial approval of these Terms of Reference, undertake a review and possible revision of the Terms of Reference.

In the subsequent discussion it was asked how the faculty had maintained its accreditation status given the absence of a faculty council. Senator Eidelman explained that it was claimed that existing structures constituted a sitting governance body but expressed his desire that a formal faculty council take on that role. Senators asked about the relative roles of the Faculty Leadership Council, town halls and the proposed Faculty Council. Senator Eidelman explained that town halls would

continue for informational purposes though they would occur less frequently. Senators also asked for clarification as to how the five members of the Faculty Leadership Council would be selected to sit on the proposed Faculty Council. Senator Eidelman answered that the lack of specificity was intentional so that members of the Faculty Leadership Council could themselves decide how the five members would be selected; other groups will require elections. Finally, it was noted that while most faculty councils have the right of decision on matters that come before them, the proposed Faculty Council's advisory role would render it statutorily weaker than its analogues. Senator Eidelman responded that the advisory nature was chosen to address concerns about members of other health professions, or non-health professionals, making statutory decisions about health-professional schools under the jurisdiction of either a Canadian or international accrediting body. Nonetheless, major revisions of curricula would be presented to the Faculty Council. The Secretary-General added that faculty councils are meant to be advisory on certain matters, and executory on others. Senator Eidelman gave assurances to Senators by reiterating that the proposed Faculty Council is provisional and may revise itself after two years.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, on the recommendation of the Senate Nominating Committee, approved the proposed terms of reference for the establishment of a faculty council in the Faculty of Medicine at McGill University.

4. Progress Report on the Review of the Regulation on the Conduct of Research

Verbal Update

Senator Goldstein, Vice-Principal, Research and International Relations (VP-RIR) presented a progress report on the review of the *Regulation on the Conduct of Research*.

Senator Goldstein explained that the overall mandate of the working group was to review the *Regulation* and the procedures that support it and to submit any recommendations to her as VP-RIR. She explained that the composition of the working group was as mandated by section 16.1 of the current *Regulation*.

Senator Goldstein summarized the central recommendations of the working group, highlighting two items to be added to the standard approval process for research agreements: First, where requested by the University, submission of an explanatory statement by the researcher concerning the balance of expected benefits and harms of the research; and second, a question about potentially harmful applications operated by the sponsor into which the research could foreseeably be incorporated.

Having received the working groups' recommendations, Senator Goldstein is currently consulting a variety of stakeholders on their implementation and will also consult with the Research Advisory Council.

Senator Goldstein said that she expects to return to Senate with an update on the adoption of these new processes next fall at which time approval of a revised text of the *Regulation* would be sought. Senator Goldstein applauded the efforts of the working group.

In the subsequent discussion Senators expressed concerns about the amorphous meaning of the term "harmful". Senator Goldstein noted that the word "harmful" already appears in the current

regulation but conceded that the concept of harm is difficult to define. She said that ultimately it would fall to the moral judgement of the researcher. Senator Goldstein also pointed to the working group's recommendation that the researcher submit an explanatory statement concerning the balance of expected benefits and harms of the research.

Senator Stewart-Kanigan asked why the full report of the working group was not been presented to Senate and noted the lack of opportunity for the community at large to provide feedback at these interim stages. Senator Goldstein answered that this was a question of process and the decision was made to give various stakeholders the opportunity to consult on the report before making it public. Senator White noted that the mandate of the working group was to prepare a report to the VP-RIR and that there was no commitment or undertaking to present a report to Senate at this time.

Senator Goldstein was asked about the specific regulatory powers afforded to the Research Board with regard to proposed research. She responded that those regulatory powers have not yet been drawn up. Similarly, Senator Goldstein stated that specific policies have not yet been written with regard who will receive documents prepared by researchers but agreed that such details should be included in the report when it is presented to Senate. Senator Goldstein added that procedural recommendations will be presented to Senate for information once consultations are complete.

5. Report on Scholarship and Student Aid (D14-53)

Senator Dyens presented the Annual Report on Scholarship and Student Aid to Senate for information. Senator Dyens began by reporting that in 2013-14, the volume of undergraduate and graduate need-based student assistance and undergraduate awards was \$97.1M, representing an increase of 0.9% in one year and a 50.1% increase in the past decade. McGill provided over \$26M of that amount in financial aid and awards to students (not including graduate awards).

Senator Dyens thanked Cara Piperni, Director of Scholarships and Student Aid, and her team for their efforts in ensuring the financial wellbeing of all McGill students. He also expressed thanks to Marc Weinstein, Vice-Principal University Advancement and his team for their work gathering alumni support for student financial needs.

Senator Dyens noted that growth in McGill's need-based aid programs is made possible by the university's commitment that 30% of net revenue from increases to tuition be allocated to student financial support. In 2013-14, central allocation to student financial aid amounted to \$7.1M, a 25% increase from the previous year.

Senator Dyens concluded by saying that the current funding model allows McGill to provide financial aid to all students, including international student, which is extremely rare in North America.

6. Annual Report on the Policy on Safe Disclosure (2013-2014) (D14-54)

The Secretary-General presented this report to Senate for information noting that during the twelve-month period from November 1, 2013 to October 31, 2014, no reports were filed in accordance with the process established by the *Policy on Safe Disclosure*.

The Secretary-General also informed Senate that the *Policy on Safe Disclosure* is currently being reviewed. This initiative is being led by the Associate Provost (Policies, Procedures and Equity), and will be presented to Senate at a future meeting.

Student Senators asked for historical data on the use of the *Policy on Safe Disclosure* and whether training on the use of this policy was made available to faculty and staff. The Secretary-General reported that one report was filed in 2013-14 and further explained that use of the policy was variable as members of the community sometimes opted to use other services within the university, such as the Internal Audit Unit or Legal Services, to report allegations of improper activity. With regard to the dissemination of the policy, the Secretary-General said that he is not involved with training of faculty or staff at any level.

7. Report of the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees (D14-55) Meeting

The Secretary-General presented this report to Senate for information. He reported that on March 26, 2015, the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors and the Senate Steering Committee met to select a topic for the 2015-2016 Joint Board-Senate meeting, which will be held on November 3, 2015. Following a review of topics, members agreed that the topic for the 2015-2016 Joint Board-Senate meeting will be “Designing a Smart Campus for the 21st Century”.

The Secretary-General informed Senate that the Principal will put together a planning and organizing committee to develop background materials for the 2015-2016 Joint Board-Senate meeting.

8. Other Business

No other business items were raised. There being no other business to deal with, on a motion duly proposed and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

END

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