

Minutes

Wednesday, April 17, 2019 18-19:08

Minutes of the meeting of Senate held on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. in the Robert Vogel Council Room (Room 232, Leacock Building)

PRESENT

Arseneault, Louis	Hastings, Kenneth	Richard, Marc
Bajeux-Besnainou, Isabelle	Hébert, Terence	Robaire, Bernard
Bayen, Stephane	Hickman, Miranda	Salmasi, Kamal
Beauchamp, Yves	Ismail, Ashraf	Saroyan, Alenoush
Bede, Jacqueline	Kamen, Amine	Scholtz, Christa
Bedjanian, Tatiana	Komarova, Svetlana	Shapiro, Jacob
Belzile, Bruno	Labeau, Fabrice	Sinacore, Ada
Bernard, Daniel	Labonté, Réginal	Sladek, Robert
Buddle, Christopher	Lametti, André	Snider, Laurie
Buraga, Bryan	Larson, Erik	Sparks, Tabatha
Campbell, Angela	Larsson, Hans	Stephens, David
Cumming, Julie	Laywine, Alison	Tippler, Maria
Damha, Masad	Leckey, Robert	van den Berg, Axel
Dorval Courchesne,	Maciasz, Eva	Voudouris, Nellie
Noémie-Manuelle	Madokoro, Laura	Weil, Carola
Dunn, Nicholas	Maioni, Antonia	Weinstein, Marc
Eidelman, David	Manfredi, Christopher	Wilson, Madeline
Elstein, Eleanor	Mansdoerfer, Richard	Winer, Laura
Fortier, Suzanne	McCulloch, Mary Jo	Yalovsky, Morty
Fussmann, Gregor	McKenzie, Jeffrey	Zakrzewski, Helena
Gold, Richard	Nalbantoglu, Josephine	Zorychta, Edith
Gonnerman, Laura	Nicell, Jim	
Grütter, Peter	Nycum, Gillian	
Gyakum, John	Quitoriano, Nathaniel	
Harpp, David	Ravenscroft, Brenda	

REGRETS:

Ommu-Kulsoom Abdul-Rahman, Danny Amon, Animesh Animesh, Colleen Cook, Martha Crago, Colin Donahoe, Susan Drouin, Gael Eakin, Elham Emami, Jim Engle-Warnick, Sofia Gadbois, Anja Geitmann, Tina Hobday, Zi Jun Huang, Alex Kalil, Bruce Lennox, Odile Liboiron-Ladouceur, Rod Louisa, Sarim Malik, Michael Meighen, Gregory Mikkelson, Morin Monique, Momar Ndao, Jarrod Nichol, Ronald Niezen, Ram Panda, Annalise Patzer, Dilson Rassier, Nigel Roulet, Eran Shor, Alvin Shrier, Lisa Starr, Stefano Stifani, David Theodore, Michel Tremblay, Jean-Sébastien Vallée, Natalie Waters, Sameer Zuberi

SECTION I

1. Welcoming Remarks

The Chair welcomed Senators to the eighth Senate meeting of the 2018-2019 governance year. She reminded Senators, guests and spectators that the use of electronic devices is permitted for viewing meeting documents, but that the Standing Rules of Procedure prohibit the recording of sound or images, and the communication or posting of Senate deliberations. She also mentioned that the Senate meeting was being livestreamed and that the recording would be accessible until the approval of the meeting minutes at the subsequent meeting.

2. Memorial Tributes

There were none.

3. Report of the Steering Committee [Consent item] (18-19:08)

Senate received the Report of the Steering Committee (18-19:08).

Item 1. Approval of Minutes of Senate – March 27, 2019.

Item 2. Speaking Rights. Upon approval of the report, speaking rights were granted to Mr. Bradley Tucker, Executive Director, Analysis, Planning and Budget, for item IIB3 (Presentation on the McGill University Budget 2019-2020); Dr. Cameron Charlebois, Executive Director, Campus Planning and Development, for item IIB4 (Presentation of University Master Plan); and Ms. Cara Piperni, Director, Office of Scholarships and Student Aid, for item IIB8 (Annual Report on Scholarships and Student Aid).

Item 3. Approval of the Agenda.

Item 4. Review of Questions. One question was submitted to the Committee for review. The Steering Committee provided feedback and the question, as amended, was included on the Senate agenda.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the Report of the Steering Committee, as presented.

4. Business Arising from the March 27, 2019 Minutes

The Secretary-General informed Senators that follow-up was in progress with respect to a few specific questions Senators had regarding the McGill Staffing Report. She noted that these questions would be addressed in the context of future Staffing Reports.

5. Chair's Remarks

The Chair began her remarks by speaking to her decision to change the Redmen team name, which was met with applause. She mentioned that in the coming months, a consultative process for selecting a new team name would be established and encouraged Senators to participate.

Regarding community relations, the Chair reported that the Annual Catalyst Award Gala was held on April 1st. She shared that the McGill Sustainability Systems Initiative, the Desautels Sustainability Network, MealCare, Mr. Angelo Battista (Assistant Manager, Athletics & Recreation), Mr. Julien Tremblay Gravel (third-year law student) and Professor George McCourt (McGill School of Environment) were recognized for helping sustainability flourish at McGill.

Regarding Spring 2019 Convocation, the Chair stated that the ceremonies would take place from May 28 to June 4 under the tent on the lower field and on June 5 at the Macdonald campus and invited Senators to read the announcement published in the McGill Reporter regarding the honorary degree recipients.

Regarding external relations, the Chair reported that Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) researchers unveiled the first direct visual evidence of a supermassive black hole and its shadow, noting that McGill physicist Daryl Haggard (Professor in the Department of Physics and the McGill Space Institute in Montreal) contributed to two of the publications released, as a member of the EHT's Multi-wavelength Science Working Group. The Chair then reported that McGill was among a group of Quebec institutions honoured by the Canadian Forces Liaison Council for their support of employees who serve in the Canadian Army Reserves. She informed Senators that McGill would host the 2019 Baggataway Cup, which is awarded annually by the Canadian University Field Lacrosse Association. She then spoke of her participation at a public discussion at the University of British Columbia where the Peterson-Wesbrook Scholars Program was announced. She mentioned that she delivered a presentation to CORIM (Montreal Council on Foreign Relations) in late March titled "The Role of Universities in a World Undergoing Profound Change" and attended events across Canada with John and Marcy McCall-MacBain to promote awareness of the McCall MacBain Scholarships at McGill program.

The Chair concluded her remarks by giving highlights of the kudos circulated prior to the meeting. She congratulated McGill alumnus Dr. Yoshua Bengio, Scientific Director of Mila, on being one of three recipients of the 2018 A.M. Turing Award. She shared that the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR) announced the expansion of the Canada-CIFAR AI Chairs program, noting that two of the new AI Chairs will go to McGill Professors Geoff Gordon and William L. Hamilton (School of Computer Science). Finally, she congratulated Senator Richard on receiving the 2019 Academic Librarians' and Archivists' Distinguished Service Award from the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) and Senator van den Berg on being appointed Honorary Doctor 2019 by the Board of the Academic Area for Human Science at Stockholm University.

Senators Madokoro and Buraga thanked the Chair for her decision to change the varsity team name. Senator Madokoro also thanked the Chair for being transparent and detailing the process in the communication issued to the McGill community. Senator Laywine suggested having a

contest to find a new name. The Chair thanked her for the suggestion and noted that Senator Labeau, Interim Deputy Provost (Student Life & Learning), was tasked with leading the process on the new name.

SECTION II

Part "A" – Questions and Motions by Members

1. Question Regarding Support for Students and Alumni in Light of Bill 21

Senators Huang, Shapiro and Zuberi submitted the following question:

On Thursday, March 28, 2019, Quebec’s Immigration Minister, Simon Jolin-Barrette of Premier François Legault’s Coalition Avenir Québec, tabled Bill 21, “An Act respecting the laicity of the State,” on the floor of National Assembly. Bill 21 seeks to prohibit public workers in “positions of authority,” including teachers, judges, police officers and public prosecutors, from wearing religious symbols, and, in an added measure that particularly targets Muslim women, requires citizens to uncover their faces when receiving government services.

When past governments have put forward similar bills, McGill had publicly expressed its opposition—both in [2013](#) and in [2017](#). McGill has also released a [statement on Bill 21](#).

The fact that this Bill is currently being considered—regardless of whether it passes—puts members of our community under additional stress and pressure. [McGill students](#) and alumni, particularly those in or who have graduated from the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Law, are immediately impacted by the proposed Bill. Additionally, international students, especially from populations targeted by the bill, are at a greater risk of isolation and marginalization. While this laicity bill exists within a distinct Quebec context, it is difficult to consider it apart from the greater tendency towards overt white nationalism that has fueled greater division and hate crimes against Muslims, Jews, and Black people in [Canada](#), as well as in the [United States](#) and across [Europe](#);

What will McGill do to support students targeted by Bill 21?

What will McGill do to help Muslim, Sikh and Jewish students, specifically in the education and law programs, navigate their way through current increased uncertainty and distress derived from a Bill that, if implemented, will impede on their ability to enter and flourish in their chosen professions?

Senator Manfredi provided the following written response prior to the Senate meeting:

The Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic) released a message to the wider McGill community concerning Bill 21 on Monday, 8 April 2019. In that message, he asserted that, as currently drafted, Bill 21 will not lead to any changes in our University’s policies or practices, and committed to monitoring the progress of the Bill through the National

Assembly. At the same time, the Provost confirmed that while McGill accepts the principles of secularism and religious neutrality underlying the Bill, it does not support the legislative developments that could restrict educational opportunities for our students or the professional opportunities of our graduates.

The position articulated by the Provost on 8 April remains the position of the University with respect to Bill 21. The Bill is not yet law. It may be rejected by the National Assembly, or may be accepted into legislation in some modified form. Its ultimate impact on the University community remains to be seen.

We appreciate that the restrictions proposed by Bill 21 may be cause for concern and remain steadfast in our commitment to ensuring equity and inclusiveness on our campuses and within the University community.

Senator Robaire asked if McGill's position remained the same in light of Montreal City Council adopting a declaration opposing Bill 21. Senator Manfredi responded in the affirmative, stressing that the resolutions adopted by Senate continue to apply.

Part “B” – Motions and Reports from Organs of University Government

1. Open Discussion – The Future of the Master’s Degree (D18-55)

The open discussion began by Senators discussing the goals for non-thesis programs to meet the educational needs of prospective students in light of the trend of increasing enrolment in non-thesis Master’s degrees and the flexibility the University has in offering such degrees.

Senators voiced a need for multi-disciplinary programs and partnerships with other institutions and industry. Senator Nicell noted that many students want to differentiate themselves in the marketplace and stated this would enable them to develop a different skillset. He indicated that the McCall MacBain International Fellowships would attract a high caliber of students who would be interested in such non-traditional programs. Senator Saroyan stated that such programs would provide students with the necessary background to tackle some of the complex problems the world is facing. Senator Weil stated that a more flexible model would allow the University to adapt to changing demographics. She mentioned that there is a high demand for the BLUE (Beautiful Limitless Unconstrained Exploration) Fellowships and encouraged the creation of similar opportunities for students. Senator Maioni shared that the Faculty of Arts has introduced new innovative Masters programs (such as the one year Master of Public Policy) and suggested looking into combined programs, similar to the ones offered by peer institutions in Europe.

Senators agreed that current programs should be reviewed to ensure that programs and the courses within them are relevant and responding to current and emerging needs of prospective students. Senator Saroyan suggested looking at program outcomes and paying attention to the soft skills promoted by international organizations. She explained that creativity, critical-thinking and problem solving are inherent in all courses but are not always fostered.

Senator Komarova stated that non-thesis programs should be closely linked to the job market. Senator Nalbantoglu stated this could be done by embedding internships. Senator Bajoux shared that the Desautels Faculty of Management has been including more experiential learning opportunities, either through internships or by companies bringing projects to the classroom for students to work on. Senator Hébert favoured the idea of co-op programs to prepare graduate students for jobs in industry (similar to what is being done with Mitacs) and encouraged consultation with the student body to learn more about their needs. Senator Lametti encouraged the University to stay ahead of the curve when creating programs and cautioned against creating niche programs in response to industry needs. He stressed the importance of considering student welfare and the mission of the University and expressed that students must be protected and paid adequately for their work.

Senators then discussed opportunities for innovation in learning outcomes of programs and the manner in which they are delivered. Senator Winer stated that there is a lot of room for innovation in the delivery of courses, for example, by offering online or hybrid courses. Senator Nicell encouraged distance learning and collaboration with other institutions. He shared his vision of having a cohort of students completing their degree by combining courses delivered by different institutions in Canada and throughout the world. Senator Zakrzewski stressed that the diversity of the student population should be a factor in this discussion. As examples, she mentioned that many graduate students have already entered the job market or started a family and therefore programs offered online or outside the traditional nine-to-five schedule would allow to cater to these students. Senator Quitoriano suggested running a pilot project or have seed funding for new innovative ideas to see if the programs are sustainable and scalable. Senator Bajoux recommended integrating short-term study trips, exchanges and partnerships with other universities to enhance the international aspect of Masters programs. Senator Nalbantoglu mentioned that the first dual Master's program was launched by the Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health in collaboration with Université de Bordeaux.

Finally, Senators discussed what the University should do to facilitate the creation and delivery of innovative Master's programs. Senator Robaire mentioned that there has been reluctance in the past from the central administration to include distance learning in programs and asked that a commitment be made to promote it. Senator Manfredi noted that objectives supporting the development and delivery of online degree programs and professional Masters programs are included in the Strategic Academic Plan. Senator Labeau cautioned that new programs would have to comply with government regulations. Senator Bajoux indicated that Quebec universities face unfair competition as there is a requirement of a minimum of 45 credit hours for all Masters programs while those in other provinces and countries have either no minimum or a 30 credit – hour minimum. Senators expressed dissatisfaction with the length of time required for new programs to be approved. Senator Saroyan noted that proposals for new programs are likely to be refused by Analysis, Planning and Budget (depending on the projected intake of students) due to the high costs associated with blended courses. Senator Nalbantoglu suggested modifying existing programs instead of proposing new ones as this would be quicker, noting that programs requiring government approval require at least two years to be approved. Senator Manfredi reminded Senators that faculties and Senate have control of the approval process and stressed the importance of programs sustaining themselves financially. Senator Saroyan suggested

implementing a process for departments to share and communicate activities to avoid repeating the same mistakes. Senator Winer indicated that Teaching and Learning Services has the expertise to provide support in this area. Senator Cumming highlighted that the question of student funding would need to be examined as certain funding agencies only provide fellowships for research Masters. Senator Quitariano mentioned that some programs could be self-funded and therefore not require funding or government approval. Senator Weil stated that it would be important to conduct market research and collect internal data to determine what programs are needed and can be delivered. Senator Quitariano recommended this be done through a university-level hub that would also provide support to faculties to develop programs. Senator Robaire stated that past attempts for Masters programs with links to industry have failed due to lack of support. He explained that a coordinator is needed to build these links as this is outside the skillset of professors. Senator van den Berg stated that it would be useful to get input from graduates of Masters programs. Senator Nalbantoglu noted that since last year, alumni of Masters programs have been included in McGill's outcomes survey.

Senator Manfredi summarized some of his key takeaways, noting that other options that could be explored are blended undergraduate-graduate programs, stackable certificates and the development of a Master of Arts and Science Degree. He also stated that it would be important to reflect on who would be teaching these programs, noting that more Professors of Practice may be needed. The Chair thanked everyone for the discussion and asked Senators to complete the sentence "I wish we had a Master's program that ..." before the end of the meeting.

2. Annual Report from Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (2017-18) (D18-56)

Senator Nalbantoglu presented this report for Senate's information. The report provided an overview of strategic priorities and the role of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS) as they relate to graduate admissions and enrolment, graduate student support, supervision, graduate programs and outreach. Senator Nalbantoglu highlighted four initiatives aimed at enhancing the graduate student experience at McGill: myProgress, myPath, Graduate Mobility Awards and the Doctoral Internship Program.

Senator Robaire asked if a breakdown by Faculty was available for the data on the skills acquired by PhD graduates while at McGill (figure 9 of the Report). Senator Nalbantoglu responded in the negative as the number of responses are too small. However, she noted that McGill is participating in bigger outcome surveys with the Coalition for Next Generation Life Science and the TRaCE Project.

Senator Saroyan stated that many students are choosing to attend other institutions offering guaranteed funding for three to four years and asked if there would be any changes at McGill to stay competitive. She also asked about the formula for the Graduate Excellence Fellowships (GEFs). Senator Nalbantoglu responded that there were no plans to change funding. Regarding the GEFs, she explained that the most effective method is to distribute funds by headcount. Senator Saroyan raised the difficulties faced when trying to fund international students in the humanities and social sciences. She stated that under the current scheme, there is not enough funding to recruit the students, which results in no funding the next year.

Senator Larson asked about the recent changes to the eligibility for the Graduate Mobility Awards. Senator Nalbantoglu responded that the funding is given to McGill by the Quebec government. She stated that McGill was informed by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education that it was not respecting the eligibility criteria and was given one year to align with the regulations.

3. Presentation on the McGill University Budget 2019-2020 (D18-57)

Senator Manfredi delivered the final of three presentations concerning the FY2020 University budget, for Senate's information. He stated that McGill is on track to ending the current fiscal year with a balanced budget instead of the \$15.4M deficit originally forecasted, mostly due to the changes in the government's funding policy and higher enrolment in deregulated programs. He presented some highlights of allocations made to further strategic priorities, such as funding for initiatives in Indigenous Studies and Education, the Rossy Student Wellness Hub, the Campus Médical Outaouais, student aid, and graduate student funding and doctoral student recruitment. He informed Senators that he would be proposing a budget with an \$8.7M deficit to the Board of Governors.

Senator Hastings asked when the financed accumulated deficit is expected to be eliminated. Senator Manfredi responded that it would remain for a while and stated that the goal was to keep it below 15% of revenues. Senator Wilson asked for further details with respect to the continuous efforts to seek external funding for students, listed under student aid as a strategic priority. Senator Manfredi responded that it is largely through philanthropic funding (such as the gift from the McCall MacBain Foundation). He also mentioned that the deregulation of international student tuition provides flexibility to establish a financial assistance program that meets the needs of McGill students. The Chair added that McGill had advocated for increased investments in scholarships and fellowships, which was included in the latest federal budget. In response to Senator Harpp's question on how the funds for student aid were determined, Mr. Tucker confirmed that it was based on a percentage of the operating budget.

4. Presentation of McGill University Master Plan (D18-58)

Senators Manfredi and Beauchamp presented this item for Senate's information. Senator Beauchamp explained that the Master Plan is a comprehensive planning document that would guide the evolution of the University's campuses. He highlighted that it was a living document that was designed to accommodate changes over the following years. Senator Manfredi explained that the Master Plan is designed to enhance McGill's ability to deliver on its academic mission and was guided by the Principal's Priorities, the Strategic Academic Plan 2017-2022 and the Strategic Research Plan 2019-2024. He mentioned that other important elements taken into account include sustainability and the indigenization of the campus. Senators Manfredi and Beauchamp then invited the Executive Director of Campus Planning and Development, Dr. Cameron Charlebois, to present highlights of the Master Plan. Dr. Charlebois explained that the downtown campus was divided into neighborhoods (Campus North, Lower Campus, Upper Campus West and Upper Campus East) with an active green network improving mobility and connecting them. He noted some major projects in each neighborhood, such as the Fiat Lux, Wilson Hall and 687 Pine (the Royal Victoria Hospital site). He mentioned that certain buildings

that are not functional for academic purposes would need to be released from University usage. Regarding the Macdonald campus, he indicated that the concept of neighborhoods was also used (Mac Lower and Upper Campus) and noted some new developments including a new Research and Innovation Pavilion. He mentioned that many stakeholder engagement activities took place to develop the Master Plan and invited Senators to consult the main takeaways from these activities included in the meeting documents.

Senator van den Berg asked whether the row houses on the east side of Peel would be sold. Dr. Charlebois confirmed that the buildings were off the release list as they were needed. Senator Zorychta cautioned against selling buildings as they may be needed in the future.

Senator Hastings asked about the extent to which projects are driven by the availability of funds and whether their impact on individuals is taken into account. Senator Beauchamp responded that with respect to deferred maintenance, a team was put in place to oversee \$150M worth of projects per year, noting that bigger projects require separate project offices and staff. He stated that the issue is cash flow. Dr. Charlebois added that Campus Planning and Development and Facilities Management and Ancillary Services are ensuring disruptions are minimized and people are relocated as necessary.

Senator Weil asked if the improvements planned for the Lower Campus include 680 Sherbrooke. Dr. Charlebois responded in the affirmative, both for the indoor and outdoor space as the corner of Sherbrooke and University is a hot point of crowding. Senator Buraga asked if there were any plans to increase green spaces and canopy as well as extend the network of underground tunnels on Thomlinson Lane. Dr. Charlebois stressed that green spaces would not decrease and noted that increasing the canopy will be part of the design of projects. He indicated that there was nothing specific in the plan to extend the tunnels but noted that such an initiative could be considered if it were complementary to a project.

Senator Madokoro commented that concerns have been expressed over the lack of consultation with faculty and staff regarding the changes to the library book storage plan. She asked for details on where the books would be stored. Senator Manfredi indicated that the initial options on campus presented too many risks. He explained that as such, a storage facility in the West Island is being considered, stressing that appropriate delivery mechanisms would be ensured. He mentioned that off-campus storage is embraced by the majority of other universities. Senator Madokoro asked how members of the McGill community could voice their concerns about accessing the books. Senator Manfredi recommended contacting the Senator Cook, Trenholme Dean of Libraries (who was away on University business), and noted that Mr. Jeffry Archer, Associate Dean, User Services, is in the process of meeting with individuals on this project.

Senator Wilson asked for further details regarding the principles of sustainability, accessibility and inclusivity. Dr. Charlebois stated that new projects will have LEED gold certification and be universally accessible. More particularly, Senator Wilson asked if there were any initiatives to improve accessibility to the upper campus for students with physical mobility issues. Dr. Charlebois responded in the negative. He explained that improving mobility around the campus is being examined but cases of students requiring special assistance could be supplied by Student Services, which is not part of the Master Plan.

5. 492nd Report of the Academic Policy Committee

(D18-59)

Senator Manfredi presented this report for Senate's consideration. The report contained four new teaching programs recommended by the Academic Policy Committee: a Professional Development Certificate in Full Stack Web Design and Development; a Certificate in Translation; English to Spanish; a Diploma in Commercial Cannabis; and a M.M. in Retailing; Non-Thesis.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the proposed Professional Development Certificate in Full Stack Web Design and Development (12 CEUs).

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the proposed Certificate in Translation; English to Spanish (30cr.)

Regarding the proposed Diploma in Commercial Cannabis, Senator Sladek asked for more details regarding the faculty members that would be teaching the courses in the program and the impact on the program's budget. Senator Manfredi responded that the program does not require any additional tenure-track faculty and is expected to generate sufficient revenue to cover its costs. Senator Robaire asked about the extent to which this program has been integrated with other initiatives in the area of cannabis at McGill. Senator Manfredi stated that the programs could proceed in parallel and be integrated as needed. Senator Sladek asked how the industrial chairs being recruited for the program related to its delivery and about the financing issues encountered. Senator Manfredi responded that they were not related and stressed that there was support in the budget for these positions. Senator Saroyan asked whether consultations took place with the Desautels Faculty of Management, the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Law. Senator Manfredi explained that the program was carefully considered by the Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs (SCTP). Senator Labeau, Chair of the SCTP, added that the SCTP received all the required consultation reports. He mentioned that the program was technical in nature and meant for individuals with a Plant Science background to enable them to work in the industry of production and sale of cannabis.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the proposed Diploma in Commercial Cannabis (30cr.)

Regarding the M.M. in Retailing, Senator McCulloch noted that the program is described as a private program and recommended it be described as a self-funded program instead. Senator Manfredi confirmed it is a self-funded program.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the proposed M.M. in Retailing; Non-Thesis (45cr.)

6. Report of the Senate Nominating Committee

(D18-60)

Senator Manfredi presented this report for Senate's consideration. The report contained recommendations for appointments to committees arising from University regulations as well as appointments for Senate representatives to the Advisory Committee for the Possible

Reappointment of the Dean of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and the Advisory Committee for the Possible Reappointment of the Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Senator Manfredi noted that Dean Nalbantoglu did not participate in the discussions concerning the recommendations of Senate representatives for the advisory committee for her reappointment.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the recommendations contained in the Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D18-60).

7. Report of the Committee on the Rights of Senate (D18-61)

Senator Gold presented this report on behalf of the Committee on the Rights of Senate. He explained that the Committee met twice in person and several times electronically to review the complaint of a breach of Senate's confidentiality. Based on the Committee's work, Senate was asked to endorse the implementation of five recommendations, largely operational in nature.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate endorsed the implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of Senate, as presented in Appendix A of document D18-61.

8. Annual Report on Scholarships and Student Aid (2017-18) (D18-62)

Senator Labeau presented this report for Senate's information in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs (CESA). The report provided a summary of awards and financial aid provided to McGill students. Senator Labeau highlighted that the funds are mainly from the University's Operating Fund and philanthropy and noted that the amount of non-repayable aid provided has increased.

Senator Buraga asked if there were any plans to support students affected by the changes to the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP). Ms. Piperni stated that McGill is working with government representatives to discuss this matter. She indicated that McGill is part of a national financial aid association that is reviewing the impact of the changes on students. She informed Senators that the Scholarships and Student Aid Office is also examining this matter and has partitioned a significant amount of non-repayable bursaries to help affected students, especially students who are mid-degree. Senator Labeau underlined that funds are always repurposed to meet changing demands.

In response to Senator Quitariano's question on the percentage of available funds spent on scholarships, Ms. Piperni estimated that, with respect to scholarships administered by the Scholarships and Student Aid Office, 95% of all disposable income is used for scholarships. She mentioned that a lot of work is done to make memoranda of understanding with donors more flexible and open. Senator Labeau added that all the new awards created need to be approved by CESA and one of the main criteria considered is the ability to distribute the funds.

9. Report of the Joint Senate Steering and Board Executive Committees Meeting (D18-63)

The Chair presented this report for Senate's information. She reported that on March 28, 2019, the Senate Steering Committee and the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors met to select a topic for the 2019 Joint Board-Senate meeting, which will be held on November 14, 2019. It was noted that, following a review of topics, members agreed to focus the general topic of the joint meeting on the question: "How Can McGill be a Model of an Open and Connected University?"

10. Senate Calendar of Dates (D18-64)

The Secretary-General reminded returning Senators to reserve the dates for the 2019-20 Senate and Senate Committee meetings in their calendars.

11. Other Business

There being no other business to deal with, on a motion duly proposed and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

END

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