

Minutes

Wednesday, May 11, 2022 21-22:10

Minutes of the meeting of Senate held on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. in the Robert Vogel Council Room (Room 232) of the Leacock Building (future site of the Rimer Building).

PRESENT

Arseneault, Louis
Bartlett, Joan
Bede, Jacqueline
Beech, Robin
Behzadi, Houman
Breau, Sébastien
Campbell, Angela
Chan, Yolande E.
Chen, Jennifer
Cook, Colleen
Crago, Martha
Cumming, Julie
Cummings, Beth
Czemmel, Nancy
Dirks, Melanie
Eakin, Gael
Eidelman, David
Elbourne, Elizabeth
Emami, Elham
Eperjesi, Debbie
Fortier, Suzanne
Frona, Michael

Geitmann, Anja
Girard-Lauriault, Pierre-
Luc
Grignon, Chantal
Hastings, Kenneth
Hébert, Terence
Hickman, Miranda
Hunter, Mary
Hurtubise, Jacques
Kirk, Andrew
Krishnamurthy, Srinivasan
Labeau, Fabrice
Leckey, Robert
Lennox, Bruce
Levey, Margaret
Levine, Alissa
Levy, Jacob
Mantere, Saku
McKenzie, Jeffrey
Moore, Catriona
Nalbantoglu, Josephine
Ndao, Momar

Nycum, Gillian
Perepichka, Dima
Qiao, George
Quitoriano, Nathaniel
Rassier, Dilson
Ravenscroft, Brenda
Richard, Marc
Rodriguez Saenz, Maria
Ronholm, Jennifer
Ruge-Murcia, Francisco
Shariff, Shaheen
Sroka-Fillion, Nathalie
Theodore, David
Tureli, Ipek
Vachon, Brigitte
Voudouris, Nellie
Weil, Carola
Weinstein, Marc
Werber, Joshua
Willie, Bettina
Winer, Laura
Zorychta, Edith

REGRETS: Darelle Agtang, Arshiyah Ahsan, Bob Babinski, Yves Beauchamp, Mathieu Blanchette, Paige Collins, Jean Deschenes, Susan Drouin, Nikulas Dworek, Eleanor Elstein, Jim Engle-Warnick, Samer Faraj, Samer Faraj, Maiya Rachel Geddes, Claire Guyatt, Roubina Karaminassian, Lara Khoury, Lucy Kiester, Kristi Kouchakji, Lucyna Lach, Bronwen Low, Christopher Manfredi, John McCall MacBain, Jim Nicell, Laura Nilson, Derek Nystrom, Carla-Elvira Olteanu, Ram Panda, Addy Parsons, Hossein Poorhemati, Caroline Riches, Martin Robillard, Petra Rohrbach, Samer Salameh, Harmehr Sekhon, Eran Shor, Laurie Snider, Karsten Steinhauer, Narendra Subramanian, Jean-Sébastien Vallée, Manon Vennat, Daniel Weinstock, Risann Wright, Kerry Yang.

1. Welcoming Remarks

The Chair welcomed Senators to the tenth and final regular Senate meeting of the 2021-22 governance year, held in-person in the Robert Vogel Council Room (Room 232) of the Leacock Building (future site of the Rimer Building). She reminded Senators and guests that the use of electronic devices was permitted for viewing meeting documents, but that the Standing Rules of Procedure prohibited the recording of sound or images, and the communication or posting of Senate deliberations. In addition, she mentioned that the meeting was being livestreamed and that the recording would be accessible until the approval of the meeting minutes at a subsequent meeting. Senator Eidelman presented remarks of thanks and appreciation to the Chair in recognition of her service to Senate and the University. The Chair thanked Senator Eidelman for the remarks, acknowledging that this was to be her final regular meeting as Chair of Senate, as her second term as Principal and Vice-Chancellor was ending on August 31, 2022.

2. Memorial Tributes: Professors Emeriti Myron Echenberg and Gordon Watters, and Professor Richard Murphy

Senator Hunter read the following memorial tribute for Professor Emeritus Myron Echenberg, which Senate subsequently unanimously endorsed:

Myron Echenberg, who died on January 27, 2022, in Mexico from complications of COVID-19, was a seminal historian of West Africa and the social history of medicine. Myron Echenberg was born in 1940 to Leon and Anne Echenberg in Sherbrooke, Quebec. Quebec's Eastern Townships retained lifelong importance to him, as did the French language. In 1959, he began his enduring association with McGill University as a student in History and Political Science. After an MA, also at McGill, he moved to Madison, Wisconsin, to become one of the first PhD students in that university's pioneering African history program, initially part of Comparative Tropical History. At the very first departmental get-together for foreign students, Myron met Eva Neisser, who would become his lifelong partner. He returned to McGill in 1969 as an assistant professor in the Department of History, initially teaching both African and Latin American history. He played a crucial role in building the presence of African history in Canada, and in combatting its frequent marginalization in Canadian universities. A central figure in the early days of the Canadian Association of African Studies founded in 1970-71, he became its President in 1986. In 1972, he became co-editor of the *Canadian Journal of African Studies* and would retain a life-long association with the journal. Throughout his career, he mentored many emerging researchers in African history. It is typical of his concern with mentorship that Myron and Eva endowed the Eva and Myron Echenberg Arts Internship award for a McGill student upon his retirement. Myron's first book was *Colonial Conscripts: The Tirailleurs Sénégalais in French West Africa, 1857-1960* (Heinemann, 1991). Foregrounding the lived experience of African soldiers, and making a seminal contribution to the social history of war, it won the Herskovits award of the Association of African Studies, as that year's best book in African studies. Myron also made major contributions to the social history of medicine. In *Black Death, White Medicine: Bubonic Plague and the Politics of Colonial Health, 1914-1945* (Heinemann, 2001), he explored the devastating interactions of colonialism and disease. In 2007, he published his important

comparative study of the social impacts of plague, *Plague Ports: The Global Urban Impact of Bubonic Plague between 1894 and 1901* and in 2011, *Africa in the Time of Cholera: A History of Pandemics from 1917 to the Present*. All of Myron's work on the social history of medicine had much to say about how racism and economic inequality shaped the direction and impact of pandemics: lessons surely pertinent to our current circumstances. Myron's last book *Humboldt's Mexico: In the Footsteps of the Illustrious German Scientific Traveller* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2017) combined historical research with a guided tour of the places the German naturalist Alexander von Humboldt visited in Mexico in the early 1800s, reflecting Myron's deep connection with Mexico. Myron also assisted with a history of the Echenberg family, over sixty of whom emigrated from Ostropol, in what is now Ukraine, to Sherbrooke, Quebec: *The Echenbergs of Sherbrooke and Ostropol: A Tale of Two Shetls*. Myron was a very important figure at McGill, where he worked until his retirement as Emeritus Professor in 2008. He chaired the Department of History (now History and Classical Studies) from 1987 to 1990. A brilliant and beloved teacher, he influenced generations of undergraduate and graduate students. Myron contained multitudes: a keen sportsman who completed cross-country ski marathons in ten different countries; an enthusiast of the history of Quebec's Jewish community; a lively raconteur. He will be remembered as a mentor, a generous colleague, and a beloved friend. He is survived by his wife Eva Neisser Echenberg, their children David and Margo, and the myriad of people whose lives he touched.

Senator Eidelman read the following memorial tribute for Professor Emeritus Gordon Watters, which Senate subsequently unanimously endorsed:

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing on April 5, 2022, of Dr. Gordon Watters, Professor Emeritus in the Departments of Neurology & Neurosurgery and Pediatrics at McGill University, regarded as one of Canada's first pediatric neurologists. Born and raised in Winnipeg, Dr. Watters graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Minnesota with an undergraduate degree in psychology. He decided to step away from his studies mid-way to pursue his passion for hockey, playing semi-pro with the San Francisco Shamrocks of the Pacific Coast League where he was scouted by the New York Rangers. Despite the possibility of playing in the National Hockey League, he ultimately chose to follow his passion for education, completing medical school at the University of Manitoba in 1956. After completing trainings in pediatrics and pediatric pathology in Winnipeg and Cincinnati, Dr. Watters moved to the University of Chicago in 1960 to train in child neurology under the mentorship of Dr. Douglas Buchanan – it was this pivotal moment that helped Dr. Watters identify his area of specialty. In 1965, Dr. Watters joined Boston Children's Hospital, where he worked with two other legendary clinicians, Drs. Charlie Barlow and Randolph Byers. While working in Boston, Dr. Watters and his peers studied the basic physiology and pathophysiology of cerebrospinal fluid, or CSF. He established basic normative data on CSF turnover, including kinetics, and that of CSF albumin and IgG. Further studies included the pharmacokinetics of CNS/CSF drug delivery in infants, as well as observations on acquired hydrocephalus and brain edema. These findings contributed to the advancement of the field of child neurology, and were used as data by other labs to better understand intrathecal inflammatory processes, such as multiple sclerosis. In 1969, Dr. Watters moved to Montreal and was appointed Director of Pediatric

Neurology at the Montreal Children’s Hospital – a role he excelled in for 25 years. He also became Professor in the Departments of Neurology & Neurosurgery and Pediatrics at McGill. When asked why he decided to move from Boston to Montreal, Dr. Watters, with his trademark sly smile, simply replied, “the Habs.” Dr. Watters was renowned for his skill in effortlessly obtaining a meticulous medical history and conducting a detailed physical exam of his patients. He was excellent in his diagnoses and his selection of tests and treatments. His compassion and care as a physician were transparent when he comforted his young patients and their families during difficult times. He was also involved in the Montreal Children’s Hospital’s Northern and Native Health program, and was the go-to person for calls from the Cree and Inuit communities in Northern Quebec and the Eastern Canadian Arctic. For many years, he would bring a trainee during his trips to Baffin Island, where many Inuit children gathered around to be seen by Dr. Watters. His dedication to patient care was exceptional. According to his students, he was known for his signature clicking pen, which he would use at weekly brain cutting sessions to demonstrate either normative or diseased brain anatomy. His encyclopedic knowledge can be attributed to the filing cabinet in his office, which was filled with countless journal articles and scientific literature that were meticulously catalogued. He taught and mentored many and was a devoted and modest teacher whose contagious enthusiasm inspired many of his trainees to pursue academic positions. His colleague, Dr. Michael Shevell, said of Dr. Watters, “If you spend enough time at McGill in Pediatrics or Neurosciences and keep your eyes and mind open, you will no doubt come across legends that have truly moved the needle in their respective fields. One such legend we were so fortunate to have among us [...] was Gordon Watters.” We extend our heartfelt condolences to Dr. Watters’ wife Patricia, his children Lise, Chris, and Erika, as well as to his extended family, friends, colleagues, and all those whose lives he touched. He will be greatly missed.

Senator Eidelman then read the following memorial tribute for Professor Richard Murphy, which Senate subsequently unanimously endorsed:

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Dr. Richard (Rich) Murphy, former Professor in the Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery at McGill University and former Director of the Montreal Neurological Institute. A native of Massachusetts, Dr. Murphy attended Holy Cross College receiving his AB in 1966. He obtained an MSc from Northeastern University in 1970, and his PhD from Rutgers University in 1974. He began his career as a neuroscientist and much-awarded teacher at Harvard Medical School in 1974. In 1986 he immigrated with his family to Edmonton, Alberta, where he joined the University of Alberta's Medical Faculty as Chair of the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology. Dr. Murphy became Director of the Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) in 1992. He was the first non-MD to hold the position. During his tenure as Director from 1992 to 2000, the MNI hired more than twenty faculty members, establishing a strong and vibrant molecular and cellular research group, that he built from the ground up. Understanding that there was a desire in Montreal and beyond to support the MNI, Dr. Murphy bolstered philanthropy, inspired the community, and spearheaded the campaign to build the Brain Tumour Research Centre. Dr. Murphy’s research focused on the investigation of proteins called neurotrophins, which are produced by cells in the brain and in the peripheral nervous system. Neurotrophins promote the growth and survival of nerve

cells, and they induce structural and chemical changes in brain synapses that play a role in memory. He and his colleagues studied how neurotrophins are produced within nerve cells and nerve cell targets, as well as the mechanisms that regulate their release and function. Dr. Murphy was known and highly regarded for his mentorship – he was a strong advocate for faculty, especially those early in their careers, and established the MNI’s internal grant review process, encouraging colleagues to mentor and guide each other. As a result of this process which continues to this day, the MNI’s faculty continue to have success in grant competitions well above the national average. His legacy at the MNI is lasting. During his time in Canada, Dr. Murphy also helped spearhead a successful movement to restore funding for basic research, garnering national attention for his efforts. In 2000, Dr. Murphy left the MNI to become President and CEO of the Salk Institute for Biological Studies in San Diego, where he led the renovation of nearly a third of Salk’s research space and the hiring of 16 new investigators. From 2007 to 2008, he was Interim President of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine. Dr. Murphy was a member of many associations, including the Society for Neuroscience, American Society for Cell Biology, American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives, Canadian Association of Anatomy Chairmen, the Canadian Society for Cell Biology, Canadian Federation of Biological Societies, and the Harvard Business School Health Industry Alumni Association. Over the course of his career, Dr. Murphy touched the lives of many. He was widely admired for his integrity and his generosity as a mentor to the many students and faculty members in his charge. He was also known for his clever humour. His passions in life were his family, his love for science, boating on Lake Sunapee, New Hampshire, and the game of golf. He was a member of the Royal Montreal Golf Club and organized an annual fundraising golf tournament at the club in support of the MNI. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Dr. Murphy’s wife Elaine Murphy, and their three children, Janet, Mark and Alison and their partners as well as to his four grandchildren and to his extended family, his friends, colleagues, and all those whose lives he touched. He will be greatly missed.

3. Report of the Steering Committee (21:22-09)

Senate received the Report of the Steering Committee (21-22:09).

Item 1. Approval of Minutes of Senate - April 19, 2022 meeting.

Item 2. Speaking Rights. Upon approval of the report, speaking rights were granted to Professor Christopher Buddle, Associate Provost, Teaching & Academic Programs, for item IIB1 (512th Report of the Academic Policy Committee), and item IIB5 (Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID Academic Planning and Policies); Suzanne Smith, Director, Animal Compliance, for item IIB1 (512th Report of the Academic Policy Committee); Glenn Zabowski, Associate Dean of Students, for item IIB1 (512th Report of the Academic Policy Committee); Professor Manuel Balan, Associate Dean, Faculty of Arts, for item IIB1 (512th Report of the Academic Policy Committee); Professor Rebecca Fuhrer, Member of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID Academic Planning and Policies for item IIB5 (Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID Academic Planning and Policies); Professor Daniel Bernard, Chair of the Committee on Staff Grievances and

Disciplinary Procedures for item IIB7.1 (Annual Report of the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures); Ms. Cara Piperni, Director, Office of Scholarships and Student Aid, for item IIB7.3 (Annual Report on Scholarships and Student Aid).

Item 3. Approval of Confidential Session - item IIB10, Report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee (D21-67).

Item 4. Approval of the Agenda.

Item 5. Review of Questions and Motions. The Steering Committee received one motion, which was not accepted for submission to Senate.

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

4. Business Arising from the April 19, 2022 Minutes

None.

5. Chair's Remarks

The Chair began her remarks by thanking those Senators whose terms were coming to an end in 2022. She noted that the Government of Quebec would lift the mandate on the wearing of face masks in most public places on May 17, 2022, and that the University would lift its mandate one week later, on May 24, 2022. It was reported that the Recovery and Operations Resumption Committee (ROR) had been demobilized, and that Spring 2022 Convocation/Celebration Ceremonies were to take place in-person both on the Downtown and MacDonald Campuses. The Chair informed Senators that The Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau visited the Sonenberg Lab on April 29, 2022, alongside Quebec Premier François Legault, and Moderna CEO Dr. Noubar Afeyan, to welcome Moderna's vaccine manufacturing facilities to the Greater Montreal Area. The Chair expressed her ongoing concern with Bill 32, particularly with respect to academic freedom. She reminded Senators that the University's bicentennial celebrations continued, with Space Week having been a great success, and Global Health Week beginning May 16, 2022. Senators were reminded of the selection of Lisa Shapiro as the new Dean of the Faculty of Arts, and Celeste Pedri-Spade as the University's first Associate Provost (Indigenous Initiatives). Concluding her remarks with selected Kudos, the Chair congratulated Elena Bennett (AES) on her election to the USA National Academy of Science, student Niamh Leonard on being awarded the Rosalie Silberman Abella Prize of the Royal Society of Canada, student Saman Arfie and Dr. Srivida Iyer on their selection as finalists for the Canadian Immigrant Awards, and students Olivia Ronca and Loriana Cocca on breaking synchronized skating world records and subsequently being awarded gold medals at the ISU World Synchronized Skating Championships.

Regarding Fiat Lux, the Chair provided a verbal update on the project's goals and progress. It was reported that the Book Storage Facility in Valleyfield, Quebec, which was under construction, would serve to liberate space in the McLennan Complex. It was shared that the Book Storage Facility's intended guarantee of providing all materials with 24 hours of request was yet to be determined if applicable to weekends holidays, and Summer sessions.

SECTION II

Part "A" –Questions and Motions by Members

None.

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

Open Session

1. 512th Report of the Academic Policy Committee (D21-58)

Professor Buddle presented this report for Senate’s consideration. He highlighted that the report contained a final revised version of the Policy on Assessment of Student Learning, as well as revisions to the Policy on the Study and Care of Animals. Senators reacted positively to the Policy on Assessment of Student Learning in principle, but raised concerns regarding implementation, scope, and its proposed review timeline. It was noted that the Policy included a long implementation window to allow for full awareness to be raised, and for potentially desired adjustments to be made, but no language was going to be changed in advance of the Senate vote. Senators were reminded that, while moving towards the date of full implementation, Faculties are encouraged to develop their own guidelines of assessment that are not in violation of the Policy by using the relevant principles outlined in the Policy as a framework. Several Senators indicated their feelings that a mandatory review timeline should be included in the Policy. Professor Buddle addressed concerns regarding deferred examinations and Add-Drop by informing Senators that a two-year period would fall in advance of the full implementation of the Policy, and that ample time existed in the event that discussions on those topics were necessary, though years of consultation informed the crafting of the Policy as it was presented.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved, and recommended to the Board of Governors for approval, the proposed Policy on Assessment of Student Learning.

Senators Qutoriano and Elbourne opposed, and Senator Levey abstained.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved, and recommended to the Board of Governors for approval, the proposed revisions to the Policy on the Study and Care of Animals.

2. Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D21-59)

Senator Rassier presented this report for Senate’s consideration. He noted that the report contained recommendations to fill vacancies on Senate Standing Committees, Committees arising from University Regulations, Advisory Committees, and Advisory Boards.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the recommendations for appointments to Senate Standing Committees contained in the Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D21-59).

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the recommendations for appointments to Committees arising from University Regulations contained in the Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D21-59).

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the recommendations for appointments to Advisory Committees contained in the Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D21-59).

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the recommendations for appointments to Advisory Boards contained in the Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D21-59).

3. Revisions to the Terms of Reference of the Council of the Faculty of Arts (D21-60)

Senator Hunter presented this item for Senate’s consideration. She informed Senators that the proposed revisions were the product of a two-year review and consultation process, and that they will serve to encourage transparent, inclusive, and collegial governance in the Faculty of Arts. The Secretary-General provided clarification to Senators’ inquiries asking if, based on the University Statutes, a Faculty Council was meant to be advisory to the Dean, or vice-versa. She explained that there was some variation in the mandates of Faculty Councils. Senator Richard added that the Terms of Reference were subject to Senate’s approval.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference of the Council of the Faculty of Arts as contained in D21-60, effective August 1, 2022.

4. Proposed Calendar of Academic Dates for 2024–2025, 2025–2026, and 2026–2027 (D21-61)

Senator Labeau and Senator Nycum presented this item for Senate’s consideration. It was noted that Summer session dates were not included in the overall calendar of dates.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the proposed 2024-2025, 2025-2026, and 2026-2027 Calendars of Academic Dates as contained in D21-61.

5. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID Academic Planning and Policies (D21-62)

Senator Campbell and Professor Buddle presented this report for Senate’s consideration. They explained that the report included recommendations for ongoing pandemic consideration and accommodations in the formulation and undertaking of academic planning and policies. Senators

expressed some confusion regarding what exactly approving the recommendations would entail, to which Senator Campbell clarified that the approval was most akin to a symbolic endorsement.

On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the recommendations contained in the Report of Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on COVID Academic Planning and Policies (D21-62).

6. Update on the Fiat Lux Project

The Chair spoke about the Fiat Lux Project in the context of her remarks.

7.1 Annual Report of the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures (D21-63)

Professor Bernard presented this report for Senate's information. He reminded Senators of the Committee's mandate, process, and composition, and shared that in 2020-2021, the Committee received 6 submissions, one of which was later withdrawn by the griever. He referred Senators to the report for more information about each of the grievances. He indicated that the Committee's recommendations were presented to the Principal for consideration and that The Principal's determinations on the recommendations were communicated to the parties.

7.2 Annual Report on the Policy on Safe Disclosure (D21-64)

The Secretary-General presented this report for Senate's information. She shared that during the reporting period from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, one confidential disclosure was filed with the Secretary-General, in accordance with the Policy.

7.3 Annual Report on Scholarships and Student Aid (D21-65)

Senator Labeau presented this report for Senate's information. He explained that in 2020-2021, the volume of need-based student assistance and undergraduate awards was \$125M, representing an increase of 4.8% in one year and an increase of 58.2% in the past decade. He provided a breakdown of funds by type of assistance, as well as a reconciliation of funding sources for the University's student assistance programs, which had increased by 5.9% over the previous year. Senator Labeau noted that, due the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the assistance outlined in this report was somewhat atypical, as many students benefitted from decreased expenses through various means, as well as bolstered Government assistance programs. He shared his prediction that significant increases to assistance amounts could be expected in next year's report, and that the University would be in a position to match need.

8. Report from the Board of Governors to Senate (D21-66)

Senator Zorychta presented this report for Senate's information. She noted that the report contained an overview of matters considered by the Board at the meeting of April 21, 2022, and by the Executive Committee via e-vote on May 9, 2022. It was reported that the Board and

Executive Committee approved several new appointments and reappointments, and that the Board approved the submission of the Dossier d'affaires for the New Vic Project to the Quebec government. Several CFI grants were approved, as well as several items relating to construction projects.

9. Other Business

There being no other business to deal with, Senate moved into Confidential Session to receive the Report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee.

Confidential Session

10. Report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee (D21-67)

Senate moved into confidential session to review the Report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee. The Report contained one recommendation for the conferral of an Honorary Degree. The minutes relating to this report are approved by the Senate Steering Committee and are not published or circulated. They will be attached to the permanent minutes of Senate as Appendix A.

Following the presentation of the report, with there being no other business to deal with, on a motion duly proposed and seconded, the meeting ended at 4:34 p.m. The meeting was followed by a Senate social event.

END

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