



## Minutes

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 15-16:03

Minutes of the meeting of Senate held on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. in the Robert Vogel Council Room (Room 232, Leacock Building)

### PRESENT

Bader, Darine	Gehr, Ronald	Martel, Michel
Barg, Lisa	Gehring, Kalle	McCulloch, Mary Jo
Bartlett, Joan	Geitmann, Anja	Meadwell, Hudson
Bede, Jacqueline	Gold, Richard	Mills, Devin
Benrimoh, David	Goldstein, Rose	Moore, Timothy
Bernard, Daniel	Gore, Genevieve	Mucci, Alfonso
Brunot, Benjamin	Green, Garth	Nalbantoglu, Josephine
Campbell, Angela	Gruenheid, Samantha	Nicell, Jim
Carter, Mindy	Grütter, Peter	Nystrom, Derek
Chainani, Parvesh	Gyakum, John	Oxhorn, Philip
Chatel-Launay, Nicolas	Harpp, David	Panda, Ram
Chen, Allen	Hastings, Kenneth	Potter, Judith
Choi, Julie	Hébert, Terence	Ray, Saibal
Chu, Kathleen	Hill, Reghan	Richard, Marc
Cook, Colleen	Holmes, Amanda	Riches, Caroline
Cooke, Rosemary	Hooton, Brett	Ritchie, Fiona
Covo, David	Ibrahim, Kareem	Roulet, Nigel
Crelinsten, Gordon	Ismail, Ashraf	Sanon, Deven
Damha, Masad	Jutras, Daniel	Saroyan, Alenoush
Di Grappa, Michael	Kaartinen, Mari	Smailes, Marina
Di Paola, Antonia	Kalil, Alex	Sobat, Erin
Dudek, Gregory	Kamen, Amine	Strople, Stephen
Dumont, Marie-Josée	Kpeglo-Hennessy,	(Secretary)
Dyens, Ollivier	Alexander	Thon, Joshua
Elstein, Eleanore	Kuzaitis, Ruth	Toccalino, Danielle
Fortier, Suzanne	Lane-Mercier, Gillian	Waters, Natalie
Fuhrer, Rebecca	Lowther, David	Winegardner, Amanda
Galaty, John	Levey, Margaret	Winer, Laura
Gaulea, Nely	Manfredi, Christopher	Yalovsky, Morty
	Marcil, Olivier	Zorychta, Edith

**REGRETS:** Paul Allison, Isabelle Bajoux-Besnainou, Daniel Cere, Stuart Cobbett, Terence Coderre, Andre Costopoulos, Elaine Doucette, David Eidelman, Jim Engle-Warnick, Sean Ferguson, Lucyna Lach, Marcelo Lannes, Bruce Lennox, Kathleen Massey, Michael A. Meighen, Guy Mineau, Felicia Moye, Tomer Noyhouzer, Trevor Ponech, Cynthia Price, Dilson Rassier, Bernard Robaire, Chloe Rourke, Laurie Snider, Karsten Steinhauer, David Stephens, Marc Weinstein, Josefina Zalba.

## **SECTION I**

### **1. Welcoming Remarks**

The Chair welcomed Senators to the third Senate meeting of the 2015-2016 governance year. She thanked everyone who participated in the joint Board-Senate meeting on November 3, 2015, as well as the working group and the Secretariat for planning and organizing the event. The Chair also took this opportunity to congratulate Senator Zorychta on her re-election to serve a further three-year term as one of the two Senate representatives to the Board of Governors.

She reminded Senators, guests and spectators that the use of electronic devices is permitted for viewing meeting documents, but that the *Senate Rules of Procedure* prohibit the recording of sound or images, and the communication or posting of Senate deliberations.

### **2. Memorial Tribute for Professor Kwet Fane (André) Ng-Kwai-Hang**

Senator Geitmann read the following memorial tribute for Professor Ng-Kwai-Hang, which Senate subsequently unanimously approved:

Kwet Fane (André) Ng-Kwai-Hang (known to most of us as André N-G) passed away peacefully on July 25, 2015, following a valiant battle with brain cancer. He was 72. A long-time Professor in the Department of Animal Science, he started out in humble beginnings on the small island of Rodrigues in the Republic of Mauritius where he was born on February 3, 1943. In the words of his daughter, he was one of thirteen children in a simple home where there was no indoor plumbing, limited electricity, and many mouths to feed.

André graduated from the Mauritius College of Agriculture in 1965, and was awarded a scholarship to study at McGill where he received his Bachelors in 1968 and his MSc in 1970. He then returned to Mauritius for a time where he met and married Annie, with whom he was just one month shy of celebrating 45 years of marriage this past August. They both returned to Canada, and André received his PhD from McGill in 1977.

He joined the staff soon thereafter, and was originally appointed half-time in the Department of Animal Science and half-time in what is now Valacta, where renovations to the East Wing of the former Poultry Building (now C.I.N.E.) provided facilities for him to establish a Research Laboratory in Milk Composition. He was renowned for his expertise in milk biochemistry and, in 1990, was recognized as one of the top researchers in the Montreal region. He was made Full Professor in 1991, and received the Canadian Society of Animal Science Award for Excellence in Genetics and Physiology in 1996.

André was heavily involved in teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, and served as Chair of the department from 1995 to 1999. His retirement from the University in 2009, allowed him – for an all too short time, to concentrate on his passion for travel, gardening, photography, and family get-togethers where he spoiled his guests with his signature dishes of “vindaye”, “shaomai” as well as his famous long-noodle dish for every birthday celebration!

He is survived by his wife Annie – herself a former staff member of the Macdonald Campus Library – his two daughters Audrey and Nathalie, and their families including four granddaughters: Chloe, Madelyne, Keira, and Evangeline.

**3. Report of the Steering Committee** (15:16-03)

Senate received the Report of the Steering Committee (15-16:03).

*Item 1. Approval of Minutes of Senate – October 21, 2015.*

*Item 2. Confidential Session – item IIB8, Report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee.*

*Item 3. Approval of the Agenda.*

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

**4. Business Arising from the October 21, 2015 Senate Minutes**

Senator Sobat asked for an update regarding the link to the annual reports submitted to the provincial government. The Secretary-General announced that the documents are available on the Secretariat website<sup>1</sup>.

**5. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair began her remarks by addressing the recent terrorist attacks in Paris, France. She expressed her condolences to the French citizens and to everyone who lost loved ones as a result of this tragedy. She thanked the Deputy Provost, Student Life and Learning, the Dean of Students and their teams for reaching out to the members of the McGill community.

The Chair noted that Prime Minister Trudeau appointed thirty members to his cabinet, three of whom are McGill alumni: John McCallum (PhD'77), Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship; Jim Carr (BA'79), Minister of Natural Resources; Catherine McKenna (LLB'99), Minister of Environment and Climate Change. The Chair then gave highlights from the background document circulated prior to the meeting on ministerial appointments and changes in departmental names and responsibilities. Of particular importance to McGill are the appointments of Minister Bains as the new Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (replacing the Minister of Industry) and Minister Duncan as the Minister of Science. The Chair also noted that the position of Chief Science Officer will be created, and that new Canada Research Chairs in sustainable technologies will be established.

The Chair then informed Senators that for the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Maclean's magazine has ranked McGill as the top university in Canada in the medical doctoral category.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.mcgill.ca/secretariat/access-information>

Regarding community engagement, the Chair noted that more than 3,500 alumni and friends attended Homecoming and close to 6,000 prospective students and their families visited the McGill campus for Open House. She reminded Senators that combining the two events is a three-year pilot project and noted that it was a successful endeavor for this year. The Chair also mentioned that for the seventh year, the Royal Canadian Legion's official Montreal Remembrance Day ceremony was held on the lower field of McGill. She was honored to join "Tex" Dawson (McGill, BArch'50), who served in Europe during WWII with the Royal Canadian Artillery, in laying the McGill wreath during the ceremony.

Regarding external relations, the Chair informed Senators about her meetings at Universities Canada and U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities, which took place shortly following the federal elections. She had an opportunity to hear from senior officials about the transition and the Prime Minister briefly spoke about the importance of universities and the value of his own university experience. The Chair also participated in a Roundtable dialogue with the president of the German Research Foundation, hosted by Universities Canada and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Canada.

The Chair ended her remarks with Kudos. She noted that she attended the McGill Symphony Orchestra at its debut in Toronto's famed Koerner Hall. The concert was organized to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the renaming of the Schulich School of Music and paid special tribute to the School's benefactor and McGill alumnus, Seymour Schulich. She thanked Dean Ferguson and his team for organizing the event in conjunction with the University Advancement team. She then gave highlights from the kudos that were circulated prior to the meeting and encouraged Senators to read the complete list posted online. She praised the group of McGill students for offering tutoring sessions via Skype to Syrian refugees in Turkey studying for the TOEFL exam. This is part of McGill's Living-Learning Community, a program in which first-year students living at a McGill residence collaborate on a long-term project under the guidance of a faculty mentor, in this case, McGill lecturer Anita Nowak. She then congratulated Professor Henry Mintzberg on receiving the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award of the Thinkers50, the premier ranking of global management thinkers. Finally, she congratulated the Redmen baseball team for winning the national championship title, and the Redmen lacrosse team for capturing the Baggataway Cup.

The Chair then opened the floor to questions and comments. Senator Benrimoh asked whether any concrete steps will be taken by the government regarding basic science and increasing federal support to universities. The Chair responded that patience is required because it will take time to develop policies and translate them into concrete steps.

Senator Hastings asked for clarification regarding the responsibilities of Minister Baines and Minister Duncan and who to address for which issues. The Chair responded that the mandate letters added some clarification. She noted that the Minister of Science, at least initially, will have a broad mandate with regard to science. However, it is not clear where the budgets for the granting agencies will rest. Senator Marcil confirmed that there is no news regarding the budget yet, and added that matters relating to science will fall under the responsibility of the Minister of Science. The Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada is concerned mostly with innovation, relationships with businesses, and resembles the previous Minister of Industry mandate.

## **SECTION II**

### **Part "A" – Questions and Motions by Members**

#### **1. Question Regarding the Impact of International Tuition Deregulation on McGill's International Student Community**

Senators Sobat and Rourke submitted the following question:

Whereas, at Senate's Open Discussion on McGill's International Strategy, the International Student Community was identified as a key strategic pillar of the University;<sup>2</sup>

Whereas, the Principal cited the diversity of this community as a point of pride, stating that "a richer learning environment is created when you can bring together different perspectives, which comes from having people of different cultures, ethnic backgrounds and so on";<sup>3</sup>

Whereas, in response to the Question Regarding McGill's Stance on the Deregulation of International Tuition Fees at the Senate meeting of January 21, 2015, the previous Provost indicated that in government discussions "McGill has argued that international tuition should be deregulated for all programs," and that international tuition rates would be determined based on "careful assessment of market conditions and implications for the McGill experience as Canada's most national and international university";<sup>4</sup>

Whereas, every academic program at McGill that has been deregulated has seen a significant and immediate increase in international tuition rates;<sup>5</sup>

Whereas, statistics suggest that significant and immediate increases to tuition rates decrease access and socio-economic diversity in post-secondary education, even when accompanied by increases in financial aid programs;<sup>6</sup>

Whereas, the University has committed to allocating 30% of net new tuition revenues to financial aid programs;

---

<sup>2</sup> "Consultation Document for the Development of McGill's International Strategy,"

[www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4\\_d15-06\\_open\\_discussion\\_on\\_mcgills\\_international\\_strategy\\_web.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/4_d15-06_open_discussion_on_mcgills_international_strategy_web.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> "Senate discusses plans for internationalization," [www.mcgilltribune.com/news/senate-discusses-plans-for-internationalization-9019231/](http://www.mcgilltribune.com/news/senate-discusses-plans-for-internationalization-9019231/)

<sup>4</sup> "Question Regarding McGill's Stance on the Deregulation of International Tuition Fees,"

[https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/2\\_question\\_regarding\\_international\\_tuition\\_with\\_response.pdf](https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/2_question_regarding_international_tuition_with_response.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> "Deregulation of programs results in tuition increases for international students,"

<http://mcgilltribune.com/news/deregulation-of-programs-results-in-tuition-increases-for-international-students/>

<sup>6</sup> "Tuition fee regulation: Who pays?" <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/81-004-x/2006001/9183-eng.htm>

Whereas, in 2013-2014 McGill financial aid covered 54% of tuition for international students in *regulated* programs (excluding ancillary), and 23% of the total cost of attendance (up from 19% in 2007-2008);<sup>7</sup>

Whereas, in 2013-2014 McGill financial aid covered only 25% of tuition for international students in *deregulated* programs (excluding ancillary), and 15% of the total cost of attendance (down from 20% in 2007-2008);<sup>8</sup>

Whereas, the McGill MasterCard Foundation Program funds a total of 91 international students from Sub-Saharan Africa over a 10-year lifespan;<sup>9</sup>

- 1) Is the University's stance on international tuition deregulation compatible with the desire for a diverse international student community?
- 2) Is the University willing to make sacrifices in terms of educational accessibility and/or revenue generation in the context of its International Strategy?
- 3) What measures can the University establish to achieve balance between educational accessibility and international tuition rates and how will members of the community be involved in achieving this balance?

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

The Quebec government has permitted deregulation of tuition fees for international students in some programs (Law, Science, Engineering, and Management). McGill has raised the tuition in these programs to the levels of peer institutions in Canada. The provincial government provides no grant support to the University for students registered in these programs, but neither does it collect the difference between the international tuition and the base Quebec-resident tuition, as it does for regulated programs. The funds collected from international, regulated tuition are redistributed across the Quebec network of Universities, with the result that McGill is a net contributor to this system. With deregulation, the tuition paid by international students stays with the University.

To answer each of your questions directly:

1. The short answer to this question is, yes. McGill University is committed to being one of the most internationally diverse institutions in the world, as we currently are, because this enhances the McGill experience for the entire McGill community. Decreases in government support make this a constant challenge, but we are committed to growing our financial aid program and to constantly look for more and better ways to address our students' financial needs. Each student's financial needs are carefully assessed to determine an appropriate level of

---

<sup>7</sup> Statistics from McGill Financial Aid Program, 2014-15

<sup>8</sup> Statistics from McGill Financial Aid Program, 2014-15

<sup>9</sup> "About the Program," <https://www.mcgill.ca/mastercardfdn-scholars/about-program>

financial assistance. To allow students and their parents to budget, as well as to increase accessibility, McGill freezes tuition for international students in deregulated programs once they are accepted.

2. Consultations on the University's international strategy have only just begun; consequently, it is premature to speculate on what choices might be made in the context of that strategy. Nevertheless, the University community can be assured that the strategy will not entail any sacrifices with respect to the quality of its academic programs or the core principles of its mission, including equity and inclusiveness.
3. McGill endeavours to remain as accessible as possible, and to do so the University has increased its financial aid program substantially, from \$10M to \$26M between 2004 and 2014. The McGill financial aid program is meant to support as many students as possible and to be as generous as possible. McGill makes financial assistance available to all students regardless of geographic origin or fee residency, and this constitutes a very strong financial commitment to support international students and advance our international mission. Expanding the availability of student financial aid, especially for international students, is among the highest priorities of the University's philanthropic fundraising efforts.

Senator Sobat commented that the University's stance on deregulation of international tuition appears contradicted by the statistics on socio-economic diversity and accessibility in terms of the current model of increasing financial aid. Senator Manfredi responded that this will be kept in mind during the discussions. He noted that McGill is twelfth on the Maclean's ranking with respect to operating budget per student and McGill can take advantage of the opportunities provided by deregulated tuition for international students to improve its ranking. The Chair added that deregulation would significantly increase the University's resources, even without an increase in tuition, since the fees would stay at McGill instead of being redistributed to other universities throughout the province of Quebec. Those resources can be put toward programs, such as a bursary programs and financial assistance for international students. She also explained that this would be beneficial since all non-Quebec residents contribute to the Quebec bursary program but are not eligible to benefit from it. Senator Sobat asked whether the University would consider internal targets or alternatives to a market rate model to determine the rates. The Chair responded that there has been very little movement from the Quebec government in proposing a revised funding formula. However, when it does, there will be discussions between the Provost and the Deans, and subsequent discussions at the faculty level.

Senator Benrimoh noted that the studies cited in the question demonstrate that, in Canada, when tuition, fees and financial aid increase, there is a slight increase in the number of students from the very low end of the socio-economic spectrum, a decrease from the middle class, and a disproportionate increase from the upper classes. When looking at international students, students from higher socio-economic classes will be privileged. He asked how McGill will deal with this situation. He also mentioned that different cultural practices should be taken into account when determining funding models. As an example, he explained that in some African nations, the whole village contributes to sending one student to study at McGill. Senator Manfredi responded that in terms of increasing access to lower socio-economic students,

specialized financing programs are being created, such as the MasterCard Foundation program and other specialized bursaries through philanthropic sources. He noted that the studies cited in the question are a decade old and they will need to be analyzed more closely to determine if they are still relevant.

Senator Saroyan asked whether the MIDAs program can be revived. Senator Manfredi responded that that program proved to be financially unsustainable in the long run. He noted that the graduate funding mechanism needs to be reviewed.

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

### **Open Session**

#### **1. Annual Report on the Financial State of the University (D15-15)**

Senator Di Grappa presented this report for Senate's information. He indicated issues and challenges faced from a budgeting perspective and provided an overview on expectations for future developments.

Senator Richard noted that a lot of money can be saved by eliminating certain reporting requirements of the provincial government. He shared that he recently saw a video wherein the *Fédération québécoise des professeures et professeurs d'université* (FQPPU) showed the number of reports required today. When the FQPPU asked whether the reports are actually read, the response was that the government does not have the staff or the expertise to read the reports. Senator Richard expressed disappointed over the fact that no steps are being taken to address this issue, despite the government having expressed interest in looking into it.

In response to Senator Galaty's questions regarding supplementary retirement plans, Senator Di Grappa responded that a supplementary retirement plan is not part of the McGill University retirement pension plan and has no impact on it. He explained that it is funded from the University's operating budget in the year the individual retires. Senator Galaty also asked whether the rate of contribution is the same as that for the pension plan. Senator Di Grappa responded that he will look into this.

Senator Gore referred to page 43 of the Annual Financial Report to the Board of Governors (the "Report") and asked for clarification regarding the word "retained". She noted that the Macdonald Stewart library building is used as an example of a project that requires \$27 million for repairs. The Report specifies that "the full restoration project must be initiated by 2017 if the building is to be retained". Senator Di Grappa responded that the project requires a major investment. In certain cases, instead of investing in the building, other measures are taken such as the relocation of departments, units or faculties. In the case of the Macdonald Stewart library building, representations were made to the government in hopes of receiving the necessary funds to undertake the renovations.

Senator Nystrom noted that page 12 of the Report states that the net change in tenure-track academics from 2003 to 2015 is 307. However, using the numbers provided on the graph for the



same time period, the net change is 186. Senator Di Grappa stated that he will look into this discrepancy. Senator Nystrom also expressed concern over the fact that enrolment is increasing while faculty is staying static.

[\*Secretary's Note: Following the Senate meeting, Senator Di Grappa explained that the graph begins with net hires at May 31, 2004. The reference to 307 relates to the net change between the opening number on June 1, 2012 (which falls in fiscal year 2013) and April 30, 2015.]

Senator Benrimoh noted the University has a deferred maintenance ("DM") inventory estimated at \$1.3 billion. He stated that McGill had a very successful fundraising campaign a few years ago and asked whether any of the funds went towards DM and whether McGill can have a fundraiser for DM. Senator Di Grappa does not believe any of the funds were used for DM. He noted that a special campaign could be created for the RVH site, but specified that generally donors preferred to give money for student support and scholarships.

## **2. Budget Planning 2016-2017 Report I**

(D15-16)

Senator Manfredi presented this report for Senate's information. He stated that it is still early in the budget process and the University only received the *Règles budgétaires* from the provincial government earlier this month. However, no major mid-year corrections are required to spending or budget plans since the money expected from the government is close to the estimates made in the spring. In terms of planning for fiscal year 2017, he noted that there is not much information available yet but cuts to the education sector are expected and will affect McGill. However, a recent report indicates that the province is in a surplus situation so there may be better news for the following years.

Senator Moore asked about the recent article in the Gazette relating to the compensation awarded to the previous principal. Senator Manfredi noted that questions related to the compensation agreement should be addressed to the Chair of the Board.

Senator Gehr asked about the formula regarding distribution of funds to faculties. Senator Manfredi responded that there is no formula. He explained that the process used involves the establishment of an agreement which take into account long-term planning. He noted that the principle expenditure in all faculties is around academic staff and it is driven by a complement number that was established at the time of the academic renewal program. It is adjusted from time to time depending on circumstances.

Senator Hastings asked about the surplus mentioned earlier during the presentation. Senator Manfredi responded that he read about it in a newspaper article. It is for the current fiscal year and largely due to the fact that expenditures have remained stable or declined, with the exception of the health care sector.

In response to Senator Sobat's question on the changes to the hiring policy for administrative and support staff, Senator Manfredi explained that positions in support of revenue generating activities are actually paid for from soft funds, as opposed to the operating budget. Faculties received information in September on the new procedure and detailed financial information on how notional cuts were becoming real cuts. When asked about the cuts, Senator Manfredi

specified that the notional cut was 6% permanent with 3% temporary turn back while the real cut was 4% permanent and 2% temporary turn back. Senator Sobat also asked how the changes would affect self-funded units. Senator Manfredi responded that the approach only applies to units funded through the operating budget, and stated that there is more flexibility for self-funded units.

**3. Proposed Revisions to the Policy on Safe Disclosure (D15-17)**

Senator Campbell presented this report for Senate's consideration. She explained that the purpose of the Policy on Safe Disclosure (the "Policy") is to allow for the disclosure of Improper Activity (as defined in the Policy) that is suspected to be occurring on campus, in a manner that protects the identity of the Discloser (as defined in the Policy) through impartial channels. The proposed revisions seek to boost the visibility and accessibility of the Policy and render the language of the Policy more explicit.

Regarding the prior consultations that took place, Senator Campbell clarified that there was MAUT membership in the working group that was struck for the review process, however, the consultations did not follow the MAUT consultation process.

Senator Richard moved a motion to amend the Policy's Statement of Principles by adding that a Respondent (as defined in the Policy) is afforded the same protection as a Discloser since a Respondent may be innocent. Senator Campbell indicated that the protection of innocent Respondents is already ensured by s. 7 of the Policy. The motion was put to a vote and failed.

Senator Campbell then moved a motion to approve the revisions, as presented in Appendix A of D15-17.

*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 Safe Disclosure, as detailed in Appendix A of D15-17.*

**4. Annual Report of the Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs (2014-2015) (D15-18)**

Senator Dyens presented this report for Senate's information. He explained that the report outlines the Committee's activities of the past year, and its plans and priorities for the upcoming year.

Senator Sobat wondered if there have been any discussions on the mandate of CESA, particularly on the division of responsibilities between CESA and APC. Senator Dyens responded that the question was raised with the Provost but has not been examined yet.

Senator Riches asked for clarification regarding the relationship between CESA and ESAAC. Senator Dyens responded that ESAAC is an advisory committee with associate deans from all faculties. It brings issues forward to APC and CESA, as opposed to CESA which reports directly to Senate.

**5. Annual Report of the Committee on Student Discipline (2014-2015) (D15-19)**

Speaking rights were requested for Mr. Glenn Zabowski, Associate Dean of Students, to present this report for Senate's information.

*On a motion duly proposed and seconded, speaking rights were granted to Mr. Glenn Zabowski, Associate Dean of Students, for item IIB5 (Annual Report of the Committee on Student Discipline (2014-2015)).*

The report provided an overview of the Committee's activities undertaken in 2014-2015 and its plans and priorities for 2015-2016. Mr. Zabowski highlighted that there was a decline in the total number of discipline cases, including cheating. He noted that plagiarism still represents the majority of academic decisions.

Senator Chainani asked whether disciplinary officers change periodically and whether it is recommended that they change regularly. Mr. Zabowski responded that they are appointed by the Deans for variable terms. He expressed his agreement with changing disciplinary officers on a regular basis, noting that there are also benefits in having experienced disciplinary officers.

Senator Kpeglo-Hennessy asked what proactive measures are in place to deal with offences, especially in the Faculty of Science where cases are disproportionately high. Mr. Zabowski responded that the committee is working with the Disciplinary Officer for the Faculty of Science, who in turn is working with academic staff. He noted that the number of cases is explained by the fact that there are a lot of large classes in science and individual assignments such as lab reports. The Committee and the Disciplinary Officer are working with professors to better structure assignments to avoid disciplinary cases. Senator Kpeglo-Hennessy asked if there is a link between the number of teaching assistants and the number of disciplinary cases. Mr. Zabowski responded that he has not noticed a link and noted that the allegations come from different sources (professors, TAs, other students, etc.).

**6. Report of the Joint Board-Senate Meeting: Designing a Smart Campus for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (D15-20)**

The Chair presented this report for Senate's information. She noted that a lot of great ideas and suggestions were shared and the next step is to look at the possibility of implementing them.

**7. Other Business**

The Chair took this opportunity to remind Senators of the symposium hosted by Teaching and Learning Services ("TLS") entitled "Teaching What's Important: Educating Students for Today and Tomorrow". The event, which is taking place on December 11, 2015, is a follow-up to the 2011 Joint Board-Senate Meeting on Undergraduate Research and Teaching. The Chair noted that this is a great initiative by TLS and encouraged all Senators to participate.

The Chair also shared a short video made by McGill graduate students, Matt Dajer and Thomas Brag, along with their friends Ammar Kandil and Derin Emre. The message of the video is that

love is greater than hate. Senator Chatel-Launay added that our Lebanese colleagues and staff should not be forgotten, which was a sentiment echoed by all Senators.

### **Confidential Session**

#### **8. Report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee (D15-21)**

Senate moved into confidential session to review the Report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee (this minute is approved by the Senate Steering Committee and is not published or circulated, but is attached to the permanent minutes of Senate as Appendix A).

There being no other business to deal with, on a motion duly proposed and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

**END**

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