Academic Governance: SENATE'S ROLE

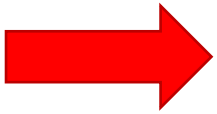
Ms. Edyta Rogowska
Secretary-General

Overview

- Legislative and Governance Framework and History
- Shared Governance, Academic Governance & Senate's Mandate
- Senate / Board Jurisdictions
- Senate Composition
- Role of Senators
- Committees
- Reference Documents

Legislative Framework

McGill University:

Royal Charter  University Act
(Approved by
Provincial Legislature)

History

Royal Charter
(1821/1852)

Statutes
(1843)

Board of Governors
(1821/1852)

(Statutes, Article 1)

Senate (1935)

(Statutes, Article 6)

Shared Governance

- Exercise of responsibility for decision making by key bodies or groups of the University:
- **University Governance bodies**
  - Board of Governors (oversees all activities of the University, exercises fiduciary duties set by legislation)
  - Senate (responsibility for academic matters)
- **Administrative leadership**
  - Day-to-day management of University operations exercised by the administration, under the general leadership of the Principal and Vice-Chancellor

Mandate of Senate

- Described in article **6 of the Statutes**
- Senate has general and specific powers and duties:
  - It exercises general control and supervision over the academic activities of the University, with a special reference to the development of the curriculum and courses of study in the University's faculties and schools
- The Statutes also describe the general **duties and responsibilities of the Board,** and those related to the functioning of other **university bodies** (Faculties, Schools, Departments) and **university officers** (Chancellor, Chair of the Board, Principal, Deans)

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BOARD OF GOVERNORS	SENATE
• Oversees financial matters (investments) Makes decisions related to property (capital projects, etc.) • Oversees the university's audit and risk management activities • Oversees university's rapport with various employee groups and associations (HR Committee) • Appoints the Principal and other members of the Senior Administration • Sets rules and regulations governing its own meetings and procedures • Holds responsibility for approving and amending the Statutes of the University	• Oversees and approves program development and/or closure; • Oversees academic planning and the educational and research environment • Approves honorary and in-course degrees; • Exercises general disciplinary authority over student body (rights and responsibilities) • Sets rules and regulations governing its own meetings and procedures • Reviews and recommends to the Board academic policies and regulations impacting the University as a whole • Makes representations to the Board via the Principal

SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

University-wide academic policies and regulations

Establishment of academic entities (departments, schools, institutes, faculties)

Shared committees (JBSCE)

Holding Joint Board Senate meetings annually (topic of meeting chosen jointly)

In addition, both bodies appoint its representatives to various university committees (i.e. advisory committee for the selection of a Dean, VP or Principal)

Senate – Board Representation and Reporting

- **Senate**
  - Has representatives on the Board
    - 2 elected Senate representatives
    - Principal (member of Senate and the Board)
    - Student representatives
  - Regularly reports via the Principal (Chair of Senate) to the Board on its activities
  - Reports contain approval items and informational items

- **Board**
  - Has representatives on Senate
    - 3 Board approved representatives of the Board
    - Principal (member of Senate and the Board)
    - Student representatives
  - Regularly reports via a Board represenative who serves on Senate on its activities
  - Reports are usually presented for information

Senate Composition

(Statutes, art. 6.1.1)
(*Last reviewed in 2014)*

111 members

- 53 Elected Faculty and Library Representatives
- 3 Elected from the Faculty-at-Large
- 25 Ex Officio Members (Chancellor, Chair of the Board of Governors, Principal, Provost, Deputy Provost, VPs, Deans, University Registrar, Director of Teaching & Learning)
- 21 Students (SSMU; PGSS; MCSS; MACES; Postdoc)
- 6 Elected Administrative and Support Staff
- 3 Representatives of the Board of Governors

Senate Meetings

- Held monthly (start at 2:30 pm)
- Conduct of meeting is based on the Senate Standing Rules of Procedure
  - https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/standingrules (reviewed in November 2020)
- Planned agenda items are included in a Calendar of Business
  - Calendar contains dates of meetings and a listing of Senate agenda items planned for each meeting
  - Calendar is reviewed monthly by the Steering Committee and available online
- Questions and Motions
  - Suitability of questions and motions is determined by the Senate Steering Committee, based on guidelines established for that purpose

Senate Meetings

- **Voting**
  - Quorum: 40% of Senate members (set by Statutes)
  - Usually a simple majority, with some exceptions (e.g. honorary degrees, amendments to Statutes)
  - Voting conducted by polling feature on Zoom

- **Use of consent agenda**
  - Used to approve routine items of business under one motion
    - Items of Report of the Steering Committee (minutes, assignment of speaking rights etc.)
  - Done to expediate Senate business and to allow more time to agenda items which may generate more discussion

- **Livestreaming and Spectators**
  - https://www.mcgill.ca/senate/webcast
  - Spectators can view the live stream of Sente via webcast

Senate Agenda

(example from previous meeting)

McGILL UNIVERSITY SENATE

Senate

NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA

The next meeting of Senate will be held on *Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.* in the **Robert Vogel Council Room (Room 232), Leacock Building**, 855 Sherbrooke St. W., Montreal.

Secretariat
RSVP - REGRETS ONLY
398-6827 Ms. Georgia Ntentis
georgia.ntentis@mcgill.ca

Ms. Edyta Rogowska
Secretary-General

AGENDA

SECTION I

2:30-2:35 p.m.	1.	Welcoming Remarks	
2:35-2:45 p.m.	2.	Memorial Tributes: Professors Laurie Hendren, Godfried Toussaint and Richard Donovan	
2:45-2:50 p.m.	3.	Report of the Steering Committee [Consent item]	(19-20:01)
2:50-2:55 p.m.	4.	Business Arising from the May 15, 2019 Minutes	
2:55-3:10 p.m.	5.	Chair's Remarks	

SECTION II

3:10-3:40 p.m. **Part "A" – Questions and Motions by Members**

1. Question Regarding Support for Students and Alumni in light of Bill 21
2. Motion Regarding Cancellation of Classes on September 27, 2019 (D19-08) *Approval*

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

Open Session

3:40-3:50 p.m.	1.	Report of the Senate Nominating Committee: Part II *Professor Christopher Manfredi, Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic)*	(D19-01) *Approval*
3:50-3:55 p.m.	2.	Appointment of Assessors under the Policy on Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law *Professor Angela Campbell, Associate Provost (Equity and Academic Policies)*	(D19-02) *Approval*

Senators

Role of Senators:

- Make academic decisions affecting the University as a whole, based on the best interests of the University
- Communicate Senate's decisions back to the broader community and your electing group
- Respect confidentiality rules

How to participate during a meeting:

- Secretary assists the Chair in maintaining a speaker's list
- Speakers are recognized by the Chair
- Raise your (virtual) hand to be recognized
- Use your microphone (and remember to turn it off)

Senate Committees

http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/committeesofsenate

1. Senate Standing Committees

2. Committees Arising from University Regulations

3. Ad Hoc Committees

Senate Standing Committees

- Academic Policy Committee
- Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs
- **Senate Steering Committee**
- **Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee**
- Committee on Libraries
- Committee on the Rights of Senate
- Senate Committee on Physical Development
- Senate Nominating Committee
- Committee on Student Services

* Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity

Senate Steering Committee

- Charged with proposing the Senate agenda and carrying out functions such as:
  - Reviewing the Senate calendar of business;
  - Recommending the approval of the minutes of the last meeting and approving confidential minutes;
  - Assigning speaking rights;
  - Assigning items for confidential session;
  - Appointing acting Chairs;
  - Selecting open discussion topic(s) for the governance year;
  - Reviewing written questions and motions (based on guidelines)
  - Approving degrees and diplomas on Senate's behalf;
  - Dealing with some of the contingencies that arise between Senate meetings.
- A written report is submitted to Senate at every meeting.

Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee

- Advises on convocation matters and recommends to Senate outstanding individuals for the conferral of:
  - McGill honorary degrees (DD, LLD, DLitt, DMus and DSc *honoris causa*)
  - McGill University Medal for Exceptional Academic Achievement
  - Lifetime Achievement Award for Leadership in Learning
- The Committee's deliberations and recommendations to Senate are **strictly confidential**.
- Recommendations are presented in confidential session and all Senators share responsibility for maintaining the confidentiality and integrity of the process.
- A breach of confidentiality constitutes a breach of the rights of Senate

Committees Arising from University Regulations

- University Tenure Committees
- University Tenure Committee for Recruitment
- Statutory Selection Committees (promotion to full professor)
- Committee on Student Discipline
- Committee on Student Grievances
- Appeal Committee for Student Discipline and Grievances
- Advisory Council on the Charter of Students' Rights
- Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures
- University Appeals Committee
- Panel for the Investigation of Research Misconduct

Ad hoc Committees (working groups)

- Senate may establish ad hoc committees or working groups from time to time on a particular subject matter of an academic nature or with academic implications;
- These committees are dissolved after the completion of their mandate.
- *Recent example – working group to review the terms of reference of the JBSCE.*

Reference Documents

- Statutes of McGill University
- McGill University Mission Statement
- Statement of Academic Freedom
- Senate Standing Rules of Procedure
- Meeting Dates (Senate and Committees)
- Senate Calendar of Business

https://www.mcgill.ca/senate
http://www.mcgill.ca/secretariat

Governance Support

- Edyta Rogowska – Secretary-General
  - edyta.rogowska@mcgill.ca
- Georgia Ntentis – Governance Officer (Senate)
  - georgia.ntentis@mcgill.ca
- Nicole Dobbie– Associate Director
  - nicole.dobbie@mcgill.ca

Academic Strategic Plan
Academic Policy Committee (APC) and the University Budget Process

Prof. Christopher Manfredi
Provost & Vice-Principal (Academic)

13 September 2021

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Provost & Vice-Principal (Academic): Roles and responsibilities

- **Academic Administration** - oversees and is responsible for the strategies, planning, development, implementation and assessment of all academic priorities, policies and programs

- **University Budget** – with the collaboration of the Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance), responsible for the development of the overall university budget and the allocation of funds and other resources in alignment with the University's academic priorities

McGill University Strategic Academic Plan 2017-2022

- Builds on the Principal's commitment to be **Open**, **Connected** and **Purposeful**

- **5 Key Objectives**
  - Be Open to the World
  - Expand Diversity
  - Lead Innovation
  - Connect Across Disciplines and Sectors
  - Connect with our Communities

https://www.mcgill.ca/provost/academic-plan/

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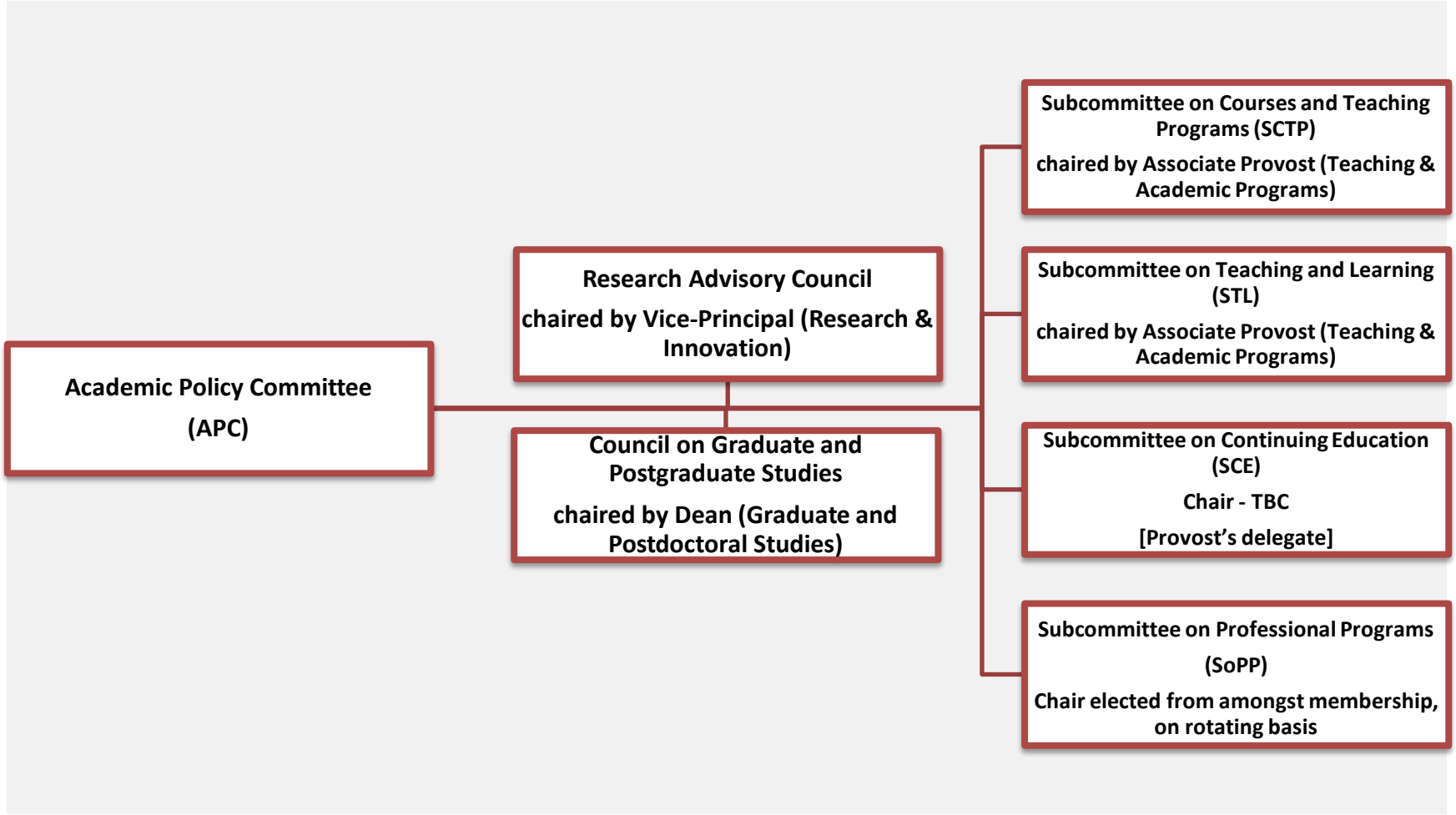
Academic Policy Committee (APC): Areas of Responsibility

- standing committee of Senate
- charged with making recommendations to Senate on all matters regarding academic policy
- develops proposals for the establishment and continuous review of:
  - academic programs, policies, and structures
  - teaching, learning, and research
- ensures that University standards are maintained
- evaluates the quality of teaching and learning

Organizational Structure of the Academic Policy Committee



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APC: Terms of Reference

- meets nine times during the academic year
- submits regular reports to Senate
- terms of reference:
  - https://www.mcgill.ca/apc/

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Academic Policy Committee: Assessment of Proposals and Policies

- new programs and major revisions to existing programs
- creation, amalgamation, changes in name and reporting of academic units
- approval of and/or revisions to by-laws for research centres
- conduct of research, student exchange agreements, and partnerships
- teaching and learning
- continuing education
- online education
- nomenclature

Budget Matters Presented to Senate for Information and Feedback: 2021-2022

- **FY2022-2023 Budget Planning Report I (January 2022)**
  - presented for information and feedback
  - outlines key considerations for the FY2023 budget

- **FY2022-2023 Budget Planning Report II (March 2022)**
  - presented for information and feedback
  - provides details on the major revenue and expense assumptions for the development of the FY2023 budget

- **FY2022-2023 Budget Planning Report III (April 2022)**
  - provides a forecast of FY2021-2022 results for information and feedback
  - presentation of the McGill University FY2022-2023 Budget for information

Sustainability at McGill

- Strategic Academic Plan (2017-2022)
- Vision 2020: McGill's Sustainability Strategy
  - Advisory Council on Sustainability [Chaired by François Miller]
    - a sounding board of internal and external members to assess the viability of the University's sustainability commitments and actions
    - A commitment to embedding sustainability at McGill (both academically and in our operations)
  - 2020-2025 Climate and Sustainability Strategic Plan

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Comments?

Questions?

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SENATE ORIENTATION 2021

Professor

Angela Campbell

Associate Provost (Equity & Academic Policies)

Items for Senate 2021-2022

September:

- Annual Report: Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity (I)
- Revised Terms of Reference for the JBSCE within the Report of the Working Group to Revise the Terms of Reference of the JSBCE (A)

  ** (Part of Senate Nominating Report)

October:

- Annual Implementation Report: Strategic EDI Plan (I)
- Annual Implementation Report: Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism (I)

  (PVPA, AP-EAP, PALA-ABR)

November-December (projected):

- *Regulations on Academic Staff Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures* (new) (I & A)

January:

- Annual Report: *Policy on Harassment & Discrimination Prohibited by Law* (I)
- Annual Report: *Policy against Sexual Violence* (I)

Overview of Research and Innovation 2021 – 2022

Senate Orientation
September 13, 2021

Martha Crago, Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation)

CHRISTINA WOLFSON
Research Integrity Officer

MARTHA CRAGO
Vice-Principal
Research + Innovation

PHILIPPE GROS
Deputy Vice-Principal
Research + Innovation

DEBRA TITONE
Associate Vice-Principal
Research

BENOIT BOULET
Associate Vice-Principal
Innovation + Partnerships

KRISTINA ÖHRVALL
Assistant Vice-Principal
Research Development

JEAN SAINT-VIL
Senior Advisor
Government+
International Relations

ANIMAL COMPLIANCE
Suzanne Smith
Director

INNOVATION + PARTNERSHIPS
Mark Weber
Director

OFFICE OF SPONSORED RESEARCH
Olga Naiberguer
Director

RESEARCH WITH HUMAN PARTICIPANTS
Lynda McNeil
Associate Director

VICE-PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE
Brett Hooton
Director, Communications + Operations

Strategic Research Plan 2019 - 2024

- **Endorsed by Senate January 16, 2019**
- **Four Objectives**

  I. Strengthen innovation and partnership agenda
  II. Steward research trajectories toward collaborative, large-scale initiatives and international partnerships
  III. Promote and draw on diversity in all aspects of research
  IV. Lead in open science and data management

- **Seven Research Excellence Themes**

  I. Develop knowledge of the foundations, applications and impacts of technology in the Digital Age
  II. Understand the potential of the human brain and nervous system
  III. Design and create sustainable materials, technologies, landscapes and communities
  IV. Advance biomedical and health sciences for healthy populations
  V. Strengthen public policy and organizations, and create a deeper understanding of society and social transformation
  VI. Explore Earth's biological and physical systems and the universe
  VII. Examine fundamental questions about humanity, identity and expression

Upcoming Revisions to University Documents and Policies

I. Revisions to *Policy on Research Centres*

- Provides criteria and specifies University-wide principles for McGill-recognized research centres and research institutes as well as sets out procedures for their inception, reporting and review, and closure. Also, developing guidelines and operating framework for core facilities.

II. Updates to *Policy on Copyright*

- Sets forth rules applying to ownership of, and rights to, intellectual property covered by copyright (excluding Software) in order to better align with comparable institutions in Canada

III. Updates to *Policy on Inventions and Software*

- Sets forth the rules applying to the ownership of, and rights to, intellectual property in the form of Inventions and Software

Annual Reports

I. Report on Research and Innovation

- Annual update on McGill's research enterprise
- Contains data on performance in federal and provincial funding programs, innovation-related metrics, and noteworthy accomplishments
- Presented to Senate in Winter 2022

II. Report on Regulations Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct

- Annual overview of research misconduct allegations received and investigated
- Summarizes actions resulting from investigations
- Presented to Senate by Research Integrity Officer in Fall 2021

- **Thank you!**

- **Questions or comments?**