



BG-2004-1

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Held on Thursday, February 19, 2004, immediately following the Closed Session,
in Room GM 407-1, on the SGW Campus

Attendance

Present: Mr. Alain Benedetti, *Chair*, Dr. Steven Appelbaum, Dr. Rama Bhat, Me Gerald C. Burke, Mr. Charles G. Cavell, *Vice-Chair*, Dr. June Chaikelson, Dr. Sally Cole, Mr. Howard Davidson, Me Rita de Santis, *Vice-Chair*, Ms. Suzanne Gouin, Mr. George Hanna, Mr. Noah Joseph, Mrs. Judith Kavanagh, Mr. Peter Kruyt, *Vice-Chair*, Ms. Patricia Lavoie, Ms. Christine Lengvari, Dr. Frederick Lowy, *Rector and Vice-Chancellor*, Mr. Eric Molson, *Chancellor*, Mr. Desmond O'Neill, Mr. John Parisella, Ms. Natalie Pomerleau, Mr. Alex G. Potter, Mr. Richard Renaud, Mrs. Miriam Roland, Mrs. Suzanne Sévigny, Mr. Adam Slater, Mr. Jacques St-Laurent, Mrs. Mackie Vadicchino de Massy, Mr. Ivan Velan, Mrs. Lillian Vineberg, Mr. Jonathan Wener

Officers of the University: Prof. Marcel Danis, Mr. Michael Di Grappa, Mr. Larry English, Dr. Jack Lightstone

Absent: Mr. Normand Beauchamp, Mr. Alexander Carpini, Hon. Baljit Singh Chadha, P.C., Mr. Brian Edwards, Mr. Kamal Fox, Me Pierre Fréreau, *Observer*, Dr. Rhona Richman Kenneally, Dr. Hani Shennib

Guests: Me Suzanne Birks (Legal Counsel), Mr. Garry Milton (Executive Director, Rector's Cabinet)

1. Call to Order

The Open Session was called to order at 8:55 a.m.

1.1 Chair's remarks

Mr. Benedetti reported that during the Closed Session, upon recommendation of the Advisory Search Committee, the Board of Governors had approved the appointment of Dr. Martin Singer as Provost, for a five-year term beginning on June 1, 2004. He specified that the report of the Advisory Search Committee will be posted on the University Secretariat website or can be obtained from the Secretary of the Board of Governors.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Kavanagh, Vineberg), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2004-1-7 *THAT the Agenda be approved as submitted.*

1.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous meeting (December 11, 2003)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Wener, Vineberg), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2004-1-8 *THAT the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous regular meeting of the Board, held December 11, 2003, be approved as submitted.*

2. Business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda

2.1 2003-2004 fee schedule for undergraduate students (Document BG-2004-1-D4)

Mr. Benedetti pointed out that this document has been distributed solely for information purposes.

3. Presentation on the Concordia University Foundation

Mr. Renaud made a presentation with respect to the state of the Concordia University Foundation as of December 31, 2003. As of that date, the Foundation had received \$71.4 million in donated capital. The market value of net assets had risen from \$12.8 million in 1994/1995 to \$78.2 million, while the market value of net assets and pledges totaled \$96.8 million.

Mr. Renaud reviewed the historical returns since 1995, and as of December 31, 2003, the Foundation's return was 10.31%. He indicated that an amount of \$9.6 million had been transferred to the University to cover expenses in connection with various capital and research projects initiatives, endowed projects, reimbursement of fundraising expenses, and the debt service on the \$200 million debentures. He concluded by showing the statement of financial position at market value as well as the investment manager performances since the inception of the current investment policy.

4. Election of an administrative and support staff representative to the Employee Benefits Committee

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (O'Neill, Kavanagh), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2004-1-9 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Electoral College, Mr. Eddy Ginocchi be elected a member of the Employee Benefits Committee for the period beginning immediately and ending on December 31, 2004.*

5. Revised membership of the Standing Committees of the Board (Document BG-2004-1-D5)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Lowy, Hanna), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2004-1-10 *THAT the revised membership of the Standing Committees of the Board, be approved, as set out in Document BG-2004-1-D5.*

6. Election of the members of the Advisory Search Committee for the Vice-Rector, Advancement and Alumni Affairs

Dr. Lowy stated that the names of the representatives of other constituencies should be forthcoming.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Lowy, Appelbaum), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2004-1-11 *WHEREAS the Board of Governors approved the creation of the position of Vice-Rector, Advancement and Alumni Affairs at its meeting of November 18, 2003, as well as the establishment and composition of the Advisory Search Committee for this position at its meeting of December 11, 2003;*

BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the following persons be elected as members of the Advisory Search Committee for Vice-Rector, Advancement and Alumni Affairs, in accordance with the composition established by the Board of Governors on December 11, 2003:

- *Dr. Frederick Lowy, Rector and Vice-Chancellor, as Chair;*
- *Mr. Peter Kruyt and Mr. Richard Renaud, members of the Board of Governors, recommended by the Executive Committee of the Board;*
- *Mr. Alain Benedetti, alumni representative, recommended by the Executive Committee of the Board;*

THAT, Ms. Enza de Cubellis, Assistant to Rector, act as Secretary to the Search Committee;

THAT, once the Search Committee has begun its work, the Chair of the Committee report progress to the Board every month;

THAT the Chair of the Committee be authorized to accept the nominations of the remaining Committee members, said nominations to be ratified by the Board; and

THAT the Chair of the Board be authorized to appoint a replacement for any member who may resign, such appointment to be made in consultation with the constituency of the member who has resigned.

7. Establishment of the Evaluation Committee for the Vice-Rector, Services

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Lowy, Appelbaum), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2004-1-12 *WHEREAS Mr. Michael Di Grappa was appointed Vice-Rector, Services at the February 16, 2000 meeting of the Board of Governors, for a first term beginning on March 16, 2000 and ending on May 31, 2005;*

WHEREAS, in accordance with articles 7 and 8 of the Rules and Procedures for Senior Administrative Appointments (Policy BD-5), the Rector has written to Mr. Di Grappa and the latter has confirmed his wish to seek a second term, requiring the establishment of an evaluation committee in accordance with the Evaluation Procedures for Senior Administrators in the Penultimate Year of their first mandate (Policy BD-8);

BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT an Evaluation Committee for the Vice-Rector, Services be established with the following composition:

- 1 *Chair*
- 1 *Member of the Board representing the community-at-large or the alumni, recommended by the Executive Committee of the Board;*
- 4 *Full-time faculty members, one nominated by each Faculty, in accordance with the method specifically adopted by the Faculty for the purposes of this procedure;*
- 1 *Regular part-time faculty member, nominated by the part-time faculty association;*
- 1 *Representative of the senior administration, recommended by the Executive Committee of the Board;*
- 2 *Students (one graduate and one undergraduate), nominated by their respective student associations;*
- 1 *Member of the administrative and support staff, preferably from the relevant unit, nominated in accordance with the Electoral College Policy.*

THAT a person be designated by the Chair of Board of Governors to act as Secretary of the Committee;

THAT, once the Evaluation Committee has begun its work, the Chair of the Committee report progress to the Board every month; and

THAT the Chair of the Board be authorized to appoint a replacement for any member who may be resigned, such appointment to be made in consultation with the Chair of the committee and with the constituency of the committee member who has resigned.

8. Motion to prevent the use of hate symbols on campus (Document BG-2004-1-D6)

With respect to the proposed motion by Mr. Noah Joseph as set out in Document BG-2004-1-D6, the Chair prefaced the discussion by stating his belief that the University has the appropriate policies in place to deal with hate symbols and that the senior administration acts in accordance with those policies. More particularly, Mr. Benedetti referred to the *Administrative Protocol concerning Acceptable Public Expression* which sets out the principles to guide public expression on campus and describes the various institutional policies which exist to effectively implement these principles. Nonetheless, since Governors have the right to introduce motions, Mr. Benedetti invited Mr. Joseph to present his motion.

Mr. Joseph stated that the above-mentioned policies have proven to be ineffective in light of inappropriate responses to individual cases and spoke of an incident that occurred last year as well as of the dissemination of anti-Semitic propaganda on campus. The Rector reiterated that the University does have the policies in place to deal with and prevent all forms of hate literature and explained that the implementation of those policies is under the purview of the Dean of Students. While agreeing with the spirit of Mr. Joseph's motion, Mr. Slater indicated that there are other forms of hate propaganda which must also be dealt with and therefore suggested that in lieu of the motion, a policy on hate propaganda be added as a supplement to the Code of Rights and Responsibilities. A discussion ensued, during which several Governors expressed their sense that the appropriate policies are in place. Recognizing the sensitivity of this issue, Me de Santis undertook to meet with Mr. Joseph and Mr. Slater to determine how best to deal with their concerns.

9. Report of Standing Committees

9.1 Communications Committee

Committee Chair John Parisella conveyed the Committee's most recent preoccupations with respect to the outdoor identification project for the Sir George Williams Campus and the shuttle bus redesign, the policy implementation with respect to translated material and institutional identity for Concordia as a whole as well the two editorial board meetings with *The Gazette* and *La Presse*.

Referring to the February 13 press conference during which he was singled out by the Canadian Federation of Students with respect to an alleged involvement in the sponsorship scandal, Mr. Parisella thanked the University for reaffirming its confidence in him. While BCP is referred to in the Auditor's report, Mr. Parisella specified that it is not mentioned in the sponsorship chapter which is the source of controversy and gave a detailed explanation with respect to BCP's mandate with Tourism Canada which was awarded in 1994, five years before his appointment as BCP's President. Mr. Parisella concluded his explanation by indicating his willingness to answer any questions with respect to this matter.

9.2 Real Estate Planning Committee

The Chair of the Committee, Mr. Jonathan Wener, apprised the Board that the Groupe Cardinal Hardy had been chosen to develop a plan for Quartier Concordia, and more particularly, a specific urban identity for the Sir George Williams Campus and surrounding area. This plan will be presented for approval to the Board in due course.

Mr. Wener also updated members on the progress of the construction of the Engineering and Computer Science and Visual Arts building, the planning of the John Molson School of Business building, the renovation plans for the Drummond Science building and the various options for acquisition and/or construction of student residences which are being considered in the near future.

9.3 Employee Benefits Committee

Mrs. Judith Kavanagh, Chair of the Committee, reported that a sub-committee has been established and is currently reviewing all investment policies including ethical investments. She added that good experience under the health/vision and dental insurance plans has resulted in a premium holiday for members.

With respect to the pension plan, while most pension funds were under-funded in the previous year, Concordia's is fully funded and performing very well.

10. Report of the Rector

Dr. Lowy referred Governors to two documents which had been handed out at the meeting, the first being the Rector's Report for 2002-2003, prepared under the direction of Mr. Laurie Zack, and the second, put together by Mr. Garry Milton, entitled Contextual Information with Respect to the Commission parlementaire sur la qualité, l'accessibilité et le financement des universités.

Dr. Lowy mentioned that Concordia is scheduled to appear before the parliamentary commission on March 17. While CREPUQ has submitted a memoir for the Quebec

university network as a whole, each university will present its own brief. Concordia's submission will follow the overall CREPUQ representations with respect to the importance of post-secondary education for Quebec's future and the under-funding of Quebec universities by \$375 million per year compared to universities in the rest of Canada, while advocating its requirement of increased funding over the next five years with respect to the hiring of new full-time faculty members, corresponding staff and service support, annual indexation of existing salaries and the operation and maintenance of additional space.

The Rector added that Concordia's submission will discuss options to make up for the shortfall and suggest that the British model be studied in the Canadian context, by which tuition increases could be paid by the government and reimbursed by students once they are earning taxable income. However, Concordia's submission will not be made public until after it will have made its presentation before the Commission.

11. Reports of the Vice-Rectors

11.1 Provost

Dr. Lightstone was pleased to report that the eight applications filed last September for Canada Research Chairs grants had all been approved.

11.2 Vice-Rector, Services

Vice-Rector Di Grappa informed the Board that Mr. Andrew McAusland, Executive Director of Concordia's Instructional and Information Technology Services, had been named IT Executive of the Year by Computing Canada. He also told Governors to look out for the new shuttle buses, some of which will be operational as of March 1. Others will follow later in the month.

In response to a query from Mr. Slater as to whether the IP video surveillance complies with current privacy legislation, Mr. Di Grappa responded that this is under the purview of the Security Department, and that to his knowledge, the University is in compliance.

11.3 Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations and Secretary-General

Vice-Rector Danis waived his report.

11.4 Chief Financial Officer

Mr. English waived his report.

12. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

13. Any other business

There was no other business to report.

14. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 18, 2004, at 8:00 a.m., on the SGW Campus.

15. Adjournment

The Open Session adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Danielle Tessier
Secretary of the Board of Governors