



BG-2004-8

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

Held on Wednesday, November 24, 2004, immediately following the meeting  
of the Corporation, in Room GM 407-1, SGW Campus

Present

Governors: Mr. Alain Benedetti, *Chair*, Dr. Rama Bhat, Mr. Patrice Blais, Me Gerald C. Burke, Mr. Alexander Carpini, Mr. Charles G. Cavell, *Vice-Chair*, Dr. Sally Cole, Mr. Howard Davidson, Mr. Brian Edwards, Mr. George Hanna, Dr. William Knitter, Mr. Houman Kousha, Mr. Peter Kruyt, *Vice-Chair*, Dr. Lawrence Kryzanowski, Dr. Frederick Lowy, *Rector and Vice-Chancellor*, Ms. Patricia Lavoie, Ms. Christine Lengvari, Mr. Eric Molson, *Chancellor*, Mr. Desmond O'Neill, Mr. John Parisella, Ms. Natalie Pomerleau, Mr. Alex G. Potter, Dr. Rhona Richman Kenneally, Ms. Patricia Saputo, Mrs. Suzanne Sévigny, Mr. Jacques St-Laurent, Mrs. Mackie Vadamchino de Massy, Mr. Ivan Velan, Mrs. Lillian Vineberg, Mr. Jonathan Wener, Mr. Tyler Wordsworth

Non-voting Observers: Ms. Jean Freed, Mr. John Hall

Officers of the University: Prof. Marcel Danis, Mr. Michael Di Grappa, Mr. Larry English, Dr. Martin Singer, Dr. Truong Vo-Van

Guests: Me Pierre Frégeau (Assistant Secretary-General and General Counsel), Mr. Garry Milton (Executive Director, Rector's Cabinet)

Absent

Governors: Hon. Baljit Singh Chadha, Me Rita de Santis, *Vice-Chair*, Mr. Brent Farrington, Ms. Suzanne Gouin, Mrs. Judith Kavanagh, Mr. Tony Meti, Mr. Richard Renaud, Dr. Hani Shennib

1. Call to Order

The Open Session was called to order at 8:25 a.m.

1.1 Chair's remarks

Mr. Benedetti welcomed Dr. Patricia Thornton to the Board.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Sévigny, Davidson), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2004-8-6 *THAT the Agenda be approved.*

1.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous meeting (October 19, 2004)

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

R-2004-8-7 *THAT the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous regular meeting of the Board of Governors, held on October 19, 2004, be approved.*

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

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

3. Presentation regarding the Faculty of Arts and Science

The Chair of the Board invited Dean June Chaikelson to address the Board regarding the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Dean Chaikelson gave a comprehensive presentation, beginning with the historical context of the Faculty, which was created in 1974 with a separate Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Science at SGW and a combined Faculty of Arts and Science at Loyola. In 1977, the three faculties combined into a single Faculty of Arts and Science with four divisions, the fourth dedicated to the creation of small units. At that time, there were 459 faculty members, of which only 10% to 15% were actively engaged in research, and 9,891 undergraduate students and 815 graduate students. In 1985, the Faculty was restructured under a single Dean. In the 1990's, funding was reduced by 25% following drastic cuts, which resulted in a dramatic reduction of faculty members and staff.

Dean Chaikelson then gave an overview of the Faculty today. As of September 2004, 54.4% of the university's undergraduate students and 33% of the university's graduate students were enrolled in the Faculty of Arts and Science. With respect to faculty members, she indicated that the 390.5 faculty members (the .5 referring to a faculty member who is also a member of another Faculty) comprise 52% of the university's total. She added that in 2004 approximately 90% of professors have active research programs and specified that the amount of research has a direct impact on both graduate and undergraduate programs. She reviewed the amount of research funding received from the various granting agencies over the past 5 years.

Dean Chaikelson continued her presentation by given a snapshot of the Faculty, comprised of 21 departments, 5 colleges and 11 research centres and 5 affiliated research centres. The Faculty can be divided in various ways, such as "wet" and "dry" departments, departments in transition, size of programs and level of programs. She spoke of four programs which she qualified as "jewels in our crown", being the Liberal Arts College, English, Psychology and Exercise Science.

Dean Chaikelson opined that Concordia's reputation for accessibility is largely a result of the Faculty of Arts and Science. She stated the importance to build on the momentum of new faculty, new infrastructure, continued focus on research and excellence in teaching, to successfully communicate the revitalization to external audiences and to build on the excellent reputation of individual departments and transfer this to the overall image of the Faculty. She concluded her presentation by stating the need for better library resources to support increased focus on research and the pressing need for more financial support for students, especially graduate students.

4. Presentation on eConcordia

Mr. Andrew McAusland, President of eConcordia, apprised Governors that eConcordia was incorporated by the Concordia University Foundation in 2001 with a mandate to support and promote Concordia's academic goals and to assist the University in becoming a leading educational institution both nationally and internationally through an innovative approach to course offerings with ensures both quality and accessibility. Six courses are currently being offered by eConcordia.

Mr. McAusland indicated that the University directly benefits from eConcordia, in that FTE revenues are in excess of \$10,000,000 since its creation, with a projected cumulative net profit of over \$7,500,000 for 2004. He then reviewed the three-year revenue versus expenses as well as the three-year statement of earnings and specified that the profit from eConcordia flows back into the Concordia University Foundation, which can be used to fund various endeavors, such as faculty positions or chairs, student bursaries and scholarships, etc.

Referring to the Sloan Report that had been sent to Governors in advance of the meeting, Mr. McAusland spoke of the expected growth rate of on-line enrolments, student satisfaction with on-line courses and on-line learning as a long term strategy. He ended his presentation by apprising Governors of upcoming projects and action plan, namely to institute a China/India privatized program and to continue working towards the original objective of producing 50 on-line courses.

5. Election of members of the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of Arts and Science

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

R-2004-8-8 *THAT the following persons be elected as members of the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of Arts and Science:*

- *Dr. Ronald Rudin, Dr. Lorna Roth, Prof. Ellen Jacobs and Dr. Robert Kilgour, all full-time faculty members, nominated by election by the faculty at large in the Faculty of Arts of Science;*
- *Ms. Miriam Posner, a member of the administrative and support staff from the Faculty of Arts and Science, nominated in conformity with the Electoral College Policy.*

6. Approval and recommendations of the Audit Committee (Documents BG-2004-8-D1 to D3)

6.1 Approval of Concordia University's Financial Statements for the year ended on May 31, 2004

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

R-2004-8-9 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the Report and Financial Statements for the fiscal year ended May 31, 2004, reported on by Concordia's external auditors Samson, Bélair, Deloitte Touche, and as outlined in Board Document BG-2004-8-D1, be approved; and*

*THAT any two members of the Board of Governors be designated to sign the Financial Statements on behalf of the University.*

6.2 Approval of the Rapport financier annuel for the year ended on May 31, 2004

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

R-2004-8-10 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the "Rapport financier annuel" of Concordia University for the fiscal year ended May 31, 2003, as outlined in Board Document BG-2004-8-D2, be approved;*

*THAT the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr. Alain Benedetti,, and the President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Frederick Lowy, be designated to sign the "Rapport financier annuel" on behalf of the University; and*

*THAT the University be authorized to submit the said "Rapport" to the Ministry of Education of Québec.*

6.3 Approval of the État du Traitement (Statement of Salaries) of Concordia's senior administrators

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

R-2004-8-11 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the État du Traitement (Statement of Salaries) set out in Board Document BG-2004-8-D3, be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education of Québec.*

6.4 Approval of the projected audit fees for the fiscal year ending on May 31, 2004

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

R-2004-8-12 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, the audit fees for the fiscal year ending on May 31, 2004 be approved and that payment of said fees be authorized.*

6.5 Appointment of external auditors for the fiscal year beginning on June 1, 2004 and ending on May 31, 2005

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

R-2004-8-13 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Audit Committee, Samson, Bélair, Deloitte, Touche be reappointed as the University's external auditors for the fiscal year ending on May 31, 2005.*

7. Report of the Budget Committee (Documents BG-2004-8-D4 and D5)

7.1 Report on preliminary Operating Budget for 2004-2005

The Chair of the Budget Committee, Mr. George Hanna, reported that at their meeting of November 4, 2004, the Budget Committee reviewed the preliminary Operating Budget for 2004-2005, which forecasts a balanced budget.

7.2 Approval of the Capital Budget for 2004-2005

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

R-2004-8-14 *THAT, on the recommendation of the Budget Committee and Senate, the Capital Budget for 2004-2005, set out in Document BG-2004-8-D5, be approved.*

8. Name change of the Department Design Art to the Department of Design and Computation Arts (Document BG-2004-8-D6)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Richman Kenneally, Carpini), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2004-8-15 *THAT on the recommendation of the Fine Arts Faculty Council and Senate, the Board of Governors approve the name change of the Department of Design Art to the Department of Design and Computation Arts, as set out in Document BG-2004-8-D6.*

9. Student fee levies (Document BG-2004-8-D7)

9.1 Concordia Student Union (CSU) fee levies

Mr. Wordsworth indicated that during a recent referendum, four questions were submitted to undergraduate students, only one of which is being brought forth today, the three others being set aside to be presented to the Board at a later date.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Wordsworth, Pomerleau), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2004-8-16 *WHEREAS during a referendum held in November 2004, undergraduate students voted in favor of discontinuing paying the \$0.10 per credit fee to the Association solidarité pour le syndicat étudiant (ASSE);*

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors authorize the University to discontinue the collection the Association solidarité pour le syndicat étudiant (ASSE) fee of \$0.10 per credit.*

9.2 Sociology and Anthropology Student Union (SASU) fee levy

Mr. Blais notified the Board that the motion to approve a \$1.00 per credit fee levy for undergraduate students registered in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology was being withdrawn. He pointed out to the Board, for information, that departmental fees are levied at other universities.

He then read a statement indicating that, despite the fact that the fee levy had been duly approved by the members, various complaints had been filed in connection with the process, the majority of which, he opined, were politically motivated. While recognizing the absence of controls, he underlined that there had been no fraudulent actions and that

an arrangement had been made with the Dean of Students to monitor the voting process. Nonetheless, under the circumstances, it was judged best to withdraw the motion.

10. Progress report from the Advisory Search Committee for a President and Vice-Chancellor

Mr. Benedetti informed the Board that the Search Committee had met on several occasions and was close to presenting a short list of one or two candidates with a view of holding an open meeting sometime before the next Board meeting.

11. Progress report from the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of Fine Arts

Dr. Singer said that the Search Committee had met a few times. The Committee has hired the firm Provence Consulting Inc., headed by Libby Dybikowski. The Committee is aiming to bring forth a recommendation to the April Board meeting to allow for a smooth transition over the summer. The draft profile of ideal candidate will be submitted for Board approval in the beginning of the new year.

12. Progress report from the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of Arts and Science

Dr. Singer, who also chairs this Search Committee, reported that the Committee had met twice. He added that Provence Consulting Inc. had also been retained for this search and that the Committee was also aiming to have its recommendation submitted to the April Board meeting. The draft profile of ideal candidate for this position should also be presented to the Board in the beginning of the new year.

With respect with the holding of the open meeting, Dr. Singer stated the intention of holding one meeting per candidate.

13. Report of the President

Dr. Lowy conveyed news out of the liberal caucus to the effect that the Quebec government was considering unfreezing tuition fees if elected for a second mandate. This will likely be highly contested, and the President asked Board members to use their influence to lobby government in this regard.

14. Reports of the Vice-President

14.1 Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs

Dr. Singer updated Governors on the status of the academic planning process.

14.2 Vice-President, Services

Mr. Di Grappa waived his report.

14.3 Vice-President, Institutional Relations and Secretary-General

Prof. Danis introduced the Directors from his units who had contributed to the annual report which had been distributed at the October meeting.

14.4 Vice-President, Finance

Mr. English mentioned the expectation that, at the December 9 meeting of CREPUQ, a new funding formula will be announced.

15. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

16. Any other business

Mr. Wener was very sad to apprise the Board that he had just been advised that Mr. Leo Goldfarb, Governor Emeritus, had passed away last evening.

17. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 15, 2004, at 6 p.m., on the Loyola Campus.

18. Adjournment

The Open Session adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Danielle Tessier  
Secretary of the Board of Governors