



BG-2005-4

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

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

Held on Thursday, May 19, 2005, immediately following the Closed Session
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*, Mr. Howard Davidson, Me Rita de Santis, *Vice-Chair*, Mr. Brian Edwards, Ms. Suzanne Gouin, Mr. George Hanna, Mrs. Judith Kavanagh, Mr. Houman Kousha, Dr. William Knitter, Dr. Lawrence Kryzanowski, Ms. Patricia Lavoie, Ms. Christine Lengvari, Dr. Frederick Lowy, *President and Vice-Chancellor*, Mr. Desmond O'Neill, Mr. John Parisella, Ms. Natalie Pomerleau, Dr. Rhona Richman Kenneally, Ms. Patricia Saputo, Dr. Hani Shennib, Mr. Jacques St-Laurent, Dr. Patricia Thornton, Mrs. Mackie Vadachino 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: Ms. Kathy Assayag, Me Marcel Danis, Mr. Michael Di Grappa, Mr. Larry English, Dr. Martin Singer

Guests: Mr. Garry Milton (Executive Director, President's Cabinet)

Absent

Governors: Hon. Baljit Singh Chadha; Dr. Sally Cole, Mr. Brent Farrington, Mr. Peter Kruyt, *Vice-Chair*, Mr. Tony Meti, Mr. Eric Molson, *Chancellor*, Mr. Alex G. Potter, Mr. Richard Renaud, Mrs. Suzanne Sévigny

1. Call to Order

Mr. Benedetti called the meeting to order at 8:55 p.m.

1.1 Chair's remarks

Mr. Benedetti announced that during Closed Session, the Board of Governors approved the appointment of Dr. Claude Lajeunesse as President and Vice-Chancellor for a term beginning on August 1, 2005 and ending on June 30, 2010.

At Mr. Benedetti's invitation, Mrs. Vineberg spoke a few words regarding the recent passing of Chancellor Emeritus Alan B. Gold, underlining his many accomplishments as a lawyer and a judge as well as his generous contributions to the community. Mrs. Vineberg voiced the sentiment of many whom felt that his death was a great loss to the University and the City.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

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

R-2005-4-9 *THAT the Agenda be approved.*

1.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous meeting (April 28, 2005)

Mr. Blais noted that the last line in the fourth paragraph on page 4 should read "University-wide bodies" rather than just University bodies.

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

R-2005-4-10 *THAT the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous regular meeting of the Board of Governors, held on April 28, 2005, subject to the above-noted correction.*

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

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

3. Change of title of a senior administrative position

In response to a query, Ms. Assayag explained that the term "Affairs" is used mainly in government and business settings. Moreover, the term "Advancement and Alumni Relations" better defines the activities of her units.

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

R-2005-4-11 *THAT the title of Ms. Kathy Assayag be changed from Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni Affairs to that of Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni Relations.*

4. Concordia Student Union (CSU) fee levies (Documents BG-2005-4-D4 and D6)

Ms. Vadacchino de Massy suggested that Concordia obtain the list of student fees paid at other Quebec universities as a benchmark.

4.1 CSU Health and Dental Plan fee

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Wordsworth, Pomerleau), it was RESOLVED with one abstention:

R-2005-4-12 *WHEREAS, at a referendum held in March 2005, the undergraduate students voted in favor of paying a new fee and increasing two existing fees;*

WHEREAS the delay for contestation has now passed, and no contestation was filed in relation thereto;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors authorize the University to collect a fee of \$195 per annum for the updated CSU Health and Dental Plan from all undergraduate students, to be implemented with registration for the Fall term of 2005 (2005/2), in accordance with the University billing, refund and withdrawal policy.

4.2 Sustainable Concordia Project

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Wordsworth, Pomerleau), it was RESOLVED with one abstention:

R-2005-4-13 *WHEREAS, at a referendum held in March 2005, the undergraduate students voted in favor of paying a new fee and increasing two existing fees;*

WHEREAS the delay for contestation has now passed, and no contestation was filed in relation thereto;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors authorize the University to collect a fee of \$0.05 per credit for the Sustainable Concordia Project from all undergraduate students, to be implemented with registration for the Fall term of 2005 (2005/2), in accordance with the University billing, refund and withdrawal policy.

4.2 CSU fee levy

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Wordsworth, Pomerleau), it was RESOLVED with one abstention:

R-2005-4-14 *WHEREAS, at a referendum held in March 2005, the undergraduate students voted in favor of paying a new fee and increasing two existing fees;*

WHEREAS the delay for contestation has now passed, and no contestation was filed in relation thereto;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors authorize the University to collect a CSU fee levy of \$2.89 per credit from all undergraduate students, the approved \$0.04 increase being allocated to the Arts Matter Festival, to be implemented with registration for the Fall term of 2005 (2005/2), in accordance with the University billing, refund and withdrawal policy.

5. Fine Arts Student Alliance (FASA) fee levy (Documents BG-2005-4-D5 and D6)

Mr. Blais pointed out that the VAV Gallery is not only used by students in the Faculty of Fine Arts and opined that an equivalent amount of money could be collected with a

much smaller amount per credit had the fee been levied from all undergraduate students.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Wordsworth, Kousha), it was RESOLVED with one abstention:

R-2005-4-15 *WHEREAS, at a referendum held in March 2005, the undergraduate students in the Faculty of Fine Arts voted in favor of paying a fee to support the operations of the VAV Gallery;*

WHEREAS the delay for contestation has now passed, and no contestation was filed in relation thereto;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Governors authorize the University to collect a fee of \$0.60 per credit to support the operations of the VAV Gallery from all undergraduate students in the Faculty of Fine Arts, to be implemented with registration for the Fall term of 2005 (2005/2), in accordance with the University billing, refund and withdrawal policy.

6. Report of Standing Committees

6.1 Employee Benefits Committee (May 11, 2005)

Mrs. Kavanagh, Chair of the Employee Benefits Committee, gave details on the renewal of the optional life insurance, which also included a review of the risk protection components of the premium structure, in particular the Stop Loss Pooling and the Large Amount Pooling.

7. Report of the President

Dr. Lowy was pleased by the support manifested for this evening's dinner. Namely, he was very proud of the overwhelming financial support given to the fellowship that will bear his name.

8. Reports of the Vice-President

8.1 Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs

Dr. Singer reported that the academic plan had been approved by Senate at its meeting of May 6 and said that a copy of the plan will be sent shortly by Ms. Tessier to all Governors for their information.

Mr. Benedetti apprised the Board that he had recently received an email indicating that orders had been given to suspend forwarding of letters of refusal to students who did not meet the minimum language requirement. In light of the foregoing, Mr. Benedetti wondered if Concordia was lowering its standards.

Dr. Singer responded that this had been done in order to identify and remedy a problem. More precisely, the suspension was ordered in order to allow for outstanding students who did not meet the language requirement but are otherwise academically promising to receive a positive response, in that they would be admitted to their program, conditional upon their completion of the language proficiency requirement. Those students would be directed towards the non-credit privatized Continued Education arm of the University.

8.2 Vice-President, Services

Mr. Di Grappa updated the Board on the status of the request placed with the City of Montreal with respect to the addition of four floors in the yet to be constructed John Molson School of Business building. Despite approval by the local borough, resistance was encountered at the level of City of Montreal. Nonetheless, further to representations made by Mr. Wener and the technical arguments presented by the University, Mr. Di Grappa is hopeful that approval of the additional floors will be granted.

8.3 Vice-President, External Relations and Secretary-General

Me Danis updated the Board on the status of the negotiations with CUPEU, the professionals union. He also was very pleased to apprise Governors that Dr. Lowy will be receiving the Medal of Honor from the National Assembly on May 26.

8.4 Vice-President, Finance

Mr. English waived his report.

8.5 Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni Relations

Pursuant to her extensive report at the last Board meeting, Ms. Assayag updated Governors as follows:

- A follow up is being done further to the visits to the various alumni chapters and gifts are coming in;
- The "Hitting the High Notes" opera event was very successful, raising \$475,000 to support students in the Faculty of Fine Arts;
- She expressed gratitude to the co-chairs of the Lowy fellowship and indicated that the grand total of funds received for this endeavor will be announced by Mr. Renaud at this evening's tribute dinner in honor of Dr. Lowy;
- Mr. Wener will be the Valedictorian at the commemorative convocation ceremony for SGW graduates, which will be held on June 8 at Place des Arts. As of yesterday, 800 attendees had confirmed their presence;
- Ms. Assayag acknowledged the contribution of Mr. Alex Carpini who will be leaving the Board at the end of June upon completion of his fourth term as Governor. She thanked the latter for his involvement in the Loyola Alumni Association for over 25 years.

9. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

10. Any other business

As he did in Closed Session, Mr. Benedetti restated the importance of Governors completing the Board assessment questionnaire and forwarding same to Ms. Tessier by May 21.

11. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2005, at 8 a.m., in Room GM 407-1, on the SGW Campus.

12. Adjournment

The Open Session adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Danielle Tessier
Secretary of the Board of Governors