

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

Held on Wednesday, June 8, 2005, immediately following the meeting  
of the Closed Session, in Room GM 407-1, SGW Campus

Present

Governors: Mr. Alain Benedetti, *Chair*, Mr. David Bernans, Dr. Rama Bhat, Mr. Patrice Blais, Me Gerald C. Burke, Mr. Alexander Carpini, Mr. Charles G. Cavell, *Vice-Chair*, Dr. June Chaikelson, Dr. Sally Cole, Mr. Howard Davidson, Me Rita de Santis, *Vice-Chair*, Mr. Brian Edwards, Mr. Brent Farrington, Ms. Suzanne Gouin, Mrs. Judith Kavanagh, Dr. William Knitter, Mr. Peter Kruyt, *Vice-Chair*, Dr. Lawrence Kryzanowski, Ms. Patricia Lavoie, Ms. Christine Lengvari, Dr. Frederick Lowy, *President and Vice-Chancellor*, Mr. Tony Meti, Mr. Desmond O'Neill, Ms. Natalie Pomerleau, Dr. Rhona Richman Kenneally, Ms. Patricia Saputo, 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: Me Pierre Frégeau, Assistant Secretary-General and General Counsel, Mr. Garry Milton (Executive Director, President's Cabinet)

Absent

Governors: Hon. Baljit Singh Chadha; Mr. George Hanna, Mr. Eric Molson, *Chancellor*, Mr. John Parisella, Mr. Alex G. Potter, Mr. Richard Renaud, Mrs. Suzanne Sévigny, Dr. Hani Shennib, Mr. Jacques St-Laurent, Mrs. Mackie Vadicchino de Massy, Mr. Ivan Velan, Mrs. Lillian Vineberg

1. Call to Order

The Open Session was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

1.1 Chair's remarks

Mr. Benedetti conveyed the names of those Governors and Officers of the Board who had been appointed and re-appointed in Closed Session.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

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

R-2005-5-15 *THAT the Agenda be approved.*

1.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous meeting (May 19, 2005)

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

R-2005-5-16 *THAT the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous regular meeting of the Board of Governors, held on May 19, 2005, be approved.*

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

Mr. Kruyt took the occasion to announce that Dr. Lowy had been awarded the Quebec National Assembly's highest honor, the Medal of Honor. He added that Dr. Lowy is the first university President to be welcomed by the Premier in his residence.

3. Sundry fees report for 2004-2005 (BG-2005-5-D5)

As required by resolution R2001-3, Dr. Lowy reported on the approval of sundry fee increases by the President's Cabinet during the 2004-2005 academic year, all of which are detailed in document BG-2005-5-D5.

4. Amendment to the University By-Laws (BG-2005-5-D5)

A motion was moved by Dr. Lowy and seconded by Dr. Knitter that, upon the recommendation of Senate, the Board of Governors approve the amendments to the By-Laws of Concordia University, as set out in Document BG-2005-5-D5.

Dr. Lowy explained that the only substantive modifications to the By-Laws were found in article 41 with respect to the composition of Senate, the other changes being of a housekeeping nature. The review was initiated a few years ago further to a request by the part-time faculty members and the graduate student representatives for increased representation on Senate. Dr. Lowy reminded the Board that the revised composition is the result of a compromise and is in line with the general views expressed by Senate with respect to the overall size of Senate, maintaining the same proportionality of representation of faculty members and the additional representation of part-time faculty members and graduate student representatives.

At the April Board meeting, it was decided to refer this matter back to Senate, pursuant to representations from the undergraduate students that the proposed composition was detrimental to undergraduate representation. However, given that only one of the ten undergraduate students was present at the May 6 Senate meeting, the discussion was postponed to the May 30 Senate meeting in order to allow undergraduate students to state their case. At the May 30 meeting, the same issue of representation was raised by

the undergraduate students, further to which a vote was taken, which resulted in Senate's majority decision to restate its original recommendation to the Board.

Pursuant to the aforementioned statement by Dr. Lowy, Mr. Farrington raised the same issue that had been raised at the April Board meeting with respect to the undergraduate student representation being decreased in the revised composition. He felt that, based on enrolments, twelve undergraduate students and three graduate students would be a more balanced representation. Mr. Bernans mentioned that the additional graduate student representation was in recognition of the important contributions made by graduate students in the matter of education and research.

A discussion ensued, during which some Governors recognized that this was a sensitive issue while being supportive of the undergraduate students' position. A few Governors opined that the full-time faculty complement on Senate had taken the biggest hit in the revised composition. Others mentioned that this matter had been amply discussed by Senators who had arrived at a compromise situation. Dr. Lowy pointed out that Senate fully understood, but disagreed, with the issue raised by Mr. Farrington. As a solution to the impasse, a suggestion was made that the student complement be comprised of twelve voting undergraduate seats with four graduate seats, three of which would be voting on a rotating basis. This would maintain the total proportion of student votes on Senate while addressing the issue raised by the undergraduates. Another solution was suggested that would consist in adding one undergraduate student representative to the total number of Senators.

Pursuant to the vote, and in light of the requirement of a 2/3 majority of Governors present, the motion to approve the revised by-laws was defeated with 13 in favor, 7 opposed and 7 recorded abstentions.

Other issues unrelated to Senate composition were raised. In reference to article 38, Prof. Hall posited that a quorum of four members for committee meetings was too low and indicated that it should be a majority of members as for Board meetings. Mr. Benedetti indicated that this matter would be taken under advisement during the next By-Law review.

5. Presentation regarding the reorganization and restructuring of the Advancement and Alumni Relations units

Mr. Benedetti indicated that this presentation is deferred to the Fall in order to allow for the incoming President to provide his input in the process.

6. Reports on Concordia's compliance with certain legal obligations

6.1 Report on compliance with fiscal requirements

Vice-President, Finance Larry English reported he was satisfied with the procedures followed for computing and remitting taxes withheld from employees and employers' contributions from March 1, 2005 to May 31, 2005 as well as for GST and QST claims from February 1, 2005 to April 30, 2005 and that the University had fully complied with its statutory fiscal obligations. A copy of his written report had been deposited with the Secretary of the Board of Governors.

6.2 Report on compliance with environmental legislation and health and safety regulations

Vice-President, Services Michael Di Grappa reported that the *Quarterly environmental health and safety report on due diligence*, dated June 2005, had been deposited with the Secretary of the Board of Governors. Since the last report, he noted the absence of any serious injury or citation as well as the positive results stemming from the CSST claims management. He conveyed the highlights of the report, namely:

- the decrease in work related injuries, numbers of days lost due to work injuries and the number and cost of CSST claims;
- the correction of most of the outstanding safety deficiencies from the design and construction phase in the Science Complex; and
- the planned environmental audit focusing on regulatory compliance and best practices which will be undertaken this summer and will form the basis for a comprehensive environmental program to be implemented over the next two to three years.

7. Report of the President

Dr. Lowy reported that pursuant to the very successful Loyola commemorative event held in May, over 1000 attendees are expected at this evening's Concordia commemorative event for SGW graduates. This is a terrific way to bring back graduates of antecedent institutions. Dr. Lowy thanked Mr. Wener, who will be tonight's Valedictorian, for coming up with the original idea.

Dr. Lowy apprised the Board of the joint JMSB/HEC endeavor with respect to the creation of the Institute for Governance of Private and Public Organizations. He concluded his report by expressing his gratitude to the members of the Board of Governors as well as the current and past Board Chairs, Mr. Benedetti, Mrs. Vineberg and Mr. Groome, for their tremendous support.

8. Reports of the Vice-Presidents

8.1 Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs- Dr. Martin Singer

Dr. Singer announced that Prof. Liselyn Adams, Associate Dean in the Faculty of Fine Arts, has been appointed Vice-Provost, International Relations. He also informed the Board that planning for the implementation of phase 3 of the academic plan is ongoing and should be completed during the summer.

8.2 Vice-President, Services - Mr. Michael Di Grappa

Mr. Di Grappa stated that the move into the new Engineering and Computer Science and Visual Arts Building is proceeding well. A fuller report will be given at a later date.

8.3 Vice-President, External Relations, and Secretary-General - Me Marcel Danis

Me Danis apprised Governors that a tentative agreement had been reached with ACUMAE.

8.4 Vice-President, Finance - Mr. Larry English

Mr. English said that the University is in good financial health, noting that he has yet to receive the budget for the 2004/2005 academic year. He gave details regarding the international exchange program, which resulted in the University returning \$2.9 million to the government, while specifying that all Quebec universities are in the same situation. Mr. English conveyed the budget orientations for the 2005/2006 academic year, indicating that new weighting grids will be in place.

8.5 Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni Relations - Ms. Kathy Assayag

Ms. Assayag stated that parallel to all other activities, a new strategic plan has been devised, the details of which were presented to the President's Cabinet on May 30 and the Advancement Committee on June 3. Although prepared to present the plan today, Ms. Assayag said that the presentation was postponed to allow the incoming President to review and provide valuable feed-back on the plan. She mentioned that the plan will clarify fundraising activities, identify deficiencies, define a new structure and set quantifiable goals, objectives and a timeline for the next capital campaign.

9. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

10. Any other business

Mr. Benedetti thanked those Governors whose terms were ending on June 30, namely Mr. Carpini, Mr. Blais, Ms. Pomerleau and Ms. Wordsworth, for their participation and contribution for the past year(s).

Dr. Bhat expressed appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Lowy for his style of leadership, his approachability and accessibility over the past 10 as well as his substantial contribution to Concordia's upward slope. Mr. Kruyt added that Dr. Lowy had led Concordia in the right direction and will leave a lasting mark. Governors applauded the aforementioned sentiments by giving Dr. Lowy a standing ovation.

11. Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the Board of Governors will be held in September 2005, on the SGW Campus. The date of that meeting, together with the dates of all the other 2005/2006 Board meetings, will be communicated to Governors shortly under separate cover.

12. Adjournment

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

Danielle Tessier  
Secretary of the Board of Governors