

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

Held on Thursday, February 8, 2018, at 4 p.m.  
in Room GM 410 (Board of Governors Meeting Room)  
located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Guy-Metro Building,  
1550 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West  
on the SGW Campus

**PRESENT**

**Governors:** Norman Hébert jr., *Chair*, Jeff Bicher, Antoinette Bozac, William Bukowski, Jarrett Carty, Gina P. Cody, Daniel Cross, Jean Pierre Desrosiers, Chaim Kuhnreich, Tony Loffreda (*via telephone*), Frédérica Martin, *Vice-Chair*, Michael Novak, Georges Paulez, Maria Peluso, Philippe Pourreaux, Suzanne Sauvage, Alan Shepard, *President and Vice-Chancellor*, Leyla Sutherland

**Alternate Governor:** Robert Young

**Also attending:** Philippe Beauregard, Nadia Bhuiyan, Sylvie Bourassa, Graham Carr, William Cheaib, Denis Cossette, Roger Côté, Bram Freedman, Christophe Guy, Frederica Jacobs, Lisa Ostiguy, Melodie Sullivan

**ABSENT**

**Governors:** Françoise Bertrand, *Vice-Chair*, Helen Antoniou, Gabriel Bran Lopez, Hélène Fortin, Claudine Mangen, Ted Stathopoulos

**Non-voting Observer:** Jonathan Wener, *Chancellor*

1. **Call to Order**

Mr. Hébert called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

1.1 **Adoption of the Agenda**

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2018-1-1 *That the Agenda be approved, including the items on the Consent Agenda.*

CONSENT2. Adoption of December 5, 2017 Minutes

R-2018-1-2 *That the Minutes of the meeting of the Open Session of December 5, 2017 be approved.*

3. Request for the use of the Concordia name (Document BG-2018-1-D1)

R-2018-1-3 *That, subject to the conditions set out in the Policy on the Use of Concordia University's Name, Logo and Related Insignia, and the Governance of its Visual Character and Digital Presence (SG-4), the Board of Governors approve the following requests to use the Concordia name:*

- MEDLIFE Concordia

REGULAR4. Business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda

There was no business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda.

5. President's report (Document BG-2018-1-D2)

As complimentary information to his written report, Prof. Shepard's oral report included the following:

- Over 2000 persons attended the President's Meet & Greet held on both campuses in January.
- He encouraged everyone to attend the Open House which will be held on Saturday, February 10.
- Enrolments are strong, on target and on budget.
- Following a discussion with the Audit Committee, a cyber security review has been launched. This review was not triggered by a specific event but rather to ensure that the University has the best systems and procedures in place to protect its electronic environment.

Pursuant to a question from Prof. Cross, at the President's request, Dr. Guy responded to concerns expressed by graduate students and faculty members regarding funding cuts to graduate student recruitment in the Faculty of Fine Arts. He explained that in 2016/2017, the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) allocated \$7.7 million for graduate student recruitment. In 2017/2018, SGS increased the amount to \$12.8 million, due to a one-time opportunity. This was communicated to all Faculties. For 2018/2019, the allocation is \$9.9 million, which is \$2.5 million less than for 2017/2018 but still \$2.2 million more than for 2016/2017. He added that the University is working to partially or fully address this gap, affirming that the need for competitive funding remains a priority.

Dr. Carr made the point that the envelope controlled by SGS for recruitment represents a small portion of the total investment, the bulk of funding being provided by the Faculties

themselves as well as researchers through grants. He assured the Board that sustaining new faculty hires and graduate funding remains a priority when looking at budget cuts. Prof. Shepard added that graduate funding is also a priority in the comprehensive campaign.

6. Presentation on the 4<sup>th</sup> Space

Dr. Nadia Bhuiyan, Vice-Provost, Partnerships and Experiential Learning, gave a power point presentation on the 4<sup>th</sup> Space. This project was initiated last year in collaboration with the Office of the Provost and the Office of Research. It constitutes an opportunity to transform the former bookstore space located on the first floor of the McConnell Building, which is a high traffic and high visibility area, into a window to the world, to showcase research in action, output and opportunities and to engage the community and the City.

This is a novel concept, since it is more than a gallery, more than a living lab, and more than a museum. It is a flexible, agile and adaptable space which can accommodate the needs of faculty, student, staff, researchers, etc. to showcase and disseminate their projects, through knowledge mobilization, research platform and experiential learning. It can also be used to host conferences and other events focused on collaboration and exchange.

Dr. Bhuiyan's presentation included slides showing the various potential uses of the space, such as growing plants, suspending humans, performing arts, research competitions, testing technologies, projecting videos, and becoming a night cinema. The 4<sup>th</sup> Space encompasses all of the nine strategic directions. It is expected to be launched this Fall.

7. Presentation on Canada Excellence Research Chair

Dr. Guy apprised the Board that last December the University received the great distinction of being awarded the Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Smart, Sustainable and Resilient Cities and Communities. This is marked success for Concordia since out of 54 applications reviewed, only 11 projects were selected.

The CERC program supports Canadian universities in their efforts to build on Canada's growing reputation as a global leader in research and innovation. These awards are among the most prestigious and are granted to world-renowned researchers and their teams up to \$10 million over seven years to establish ambitious research programs.

Dr. Guy observed that research and training activities undertaken will be organized around four interrelated axes: clean energy systems, integrated built environment design, smart technologies, and collaborative knowledge mobilization and policy implications. He noted that the search for the CERC Chair was launched last month and outlined the process for interested scholars to apply.

In conclusion, he acknowledged the work of Dr. Andreas Athienitis and key research administrative personnel in the Office of Research. Receiving this CERC demonstrates the

University's established – and growing – expertise in the areas of smart cities. It will continue to advance Concordia's profile on both the national and international stages.

8. Other business

In response to a query from Ms. Sutherland about whether the University intends to split the contracts of TRAC members, the President indicated that it is not appropriate to comment on ongoing labour negotiations.

Ms. Sutherland observed that the CSU had failed to receive the applications of undergraduate students wishing to be appointed to the Task Force on Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Violence. The President replied that those students had applied under the first model, and therefore it would not be appropriate to disclose any information they indicated in their nomination forms, adding that any student who had applied has been informed that they must reapply directly to the CSU.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.



Danielle Tessier  
Secretary of the Board of Governors