

UNIVERSITY SENATEMINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 15 SEPTEMBER 2000ATTENDANCE

- PRESENT: Dr. J.W. O'Brien (Speaker); Dr. F. Lowy; Dr. J. Lightstone; Prof. M. Danis; Mr. M. Di Grappa; Mr. L. English; Mr. C. Adam, Dean M. Anvari; Prof. O. Badawi; Prof. C. Bayne; Dean C. Bédard; Mr. P. Blais; Dr. D. Boisvert; Prof. W. Bukowski; Prof. W. Byers; Mr. M. Coker; Prof. C. Cupples; Dean N. Esmail; Ms. S. Friesinger, Prof. C. Giguère; Prof. M. Gourlay; Ms. S. Grewal; Dean C. Jackson; Prof. E. Jacobs; Ms. J. Laberge; Ms. J. Landry; Ms. M. Mullarkey; Prof. S. Panet-Raymond; Ms. L. Prendergast; Prof. P. Rist; Prof. L. Roberge; Ms. N. Sajnani; Mr. C. Schulz; Mr. R. Sebaaly; Dean M. Singer; Prof. T. Stathopoulos; Prof. R. Tremblay; Prof. C. Vallejo; Mr. J. Woodrow
- ABSENT: Prof. A. Al-Khalili; Prof. M. Allor; Mr. W. Curran; Dr. W. Sellers; Prof. J. Tomberlin
- GUESTS: Me Bram Freedman (Assistant Secretary-General and General Counsel), Mr. Guy Major (Ministry of Education Accreditation Agent)

Documents associated with the Minutes

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|----------------|---|
| US-2000-6-D1   | Commerce and Administration Awards of Distinction   |
| US-2000-6-D2   | Steering Committee Election ballot  |
| US-2000-6-D3   | Report of the Appeals Committee on Academic Misconduct  |
| US-2000-6-D4   | Recommendations of the Academic Programs Committee  |
| US-2000-6-D5   | Major undergraduate curriculum changes for 2001-2002: Arts and Sciences - Exercise Science      |
| US-2000-6-D6   | Minor undergraduate curriculum changes for 2001-2002: Arts and Science - Applied Human Sciences |
| US-2000-6-D7.1 | Contrat de performance entre l'Université Concordia et le Ministère de L'Éducation              |
| US-2000-6-D7.2 | English-language executive summary of the Contrat de performance                                |
| US-2000-6-D8   | Canada Research Chairs  |
| US-2000-6-D9   | Policy on gender-neutral degree nomenclature  |
| US-2000-6-D10  | Fast-Track Provisional Approval Process for Short Graduate Programs                             |

Call to Order

- 2000-6-1 The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

Dr. O'Brien asked members of Senate to introduce themselves since this was the first meeting of the academic year. He informed Senate that Ms. Maria Paradiso, sitting to his left, had been acting as Interim Secretary and expressed his appreciation for her work. He then introduced and

welcomed Ms. Danielle Tessier, sitting to his right, the incoming Secretary of Senate. Dr. O'Brien also reminded members to sign the attendance sheet at the entrance of the room.

#### Approval of the Agenda

A student Senator asked that the matter under item 14 be moved up on the agenda since a representative from Quebec City was attending the meeting in order to make a presentation on the student accreditation process.

2000-6-2 SUBJECT TO THE ABOVE CHANGE, IT WAS MOVED BY DEAN ANVARI, SECONDED BY DR. LOWY, THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED.

MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. O'Brien asked non-Senators to leave the Chamber for the duration of the Closed Session.

#### CLOSED SESSION

##### Commerce and Administration Awards of Distinctions

2000-6-3 IT WAS MOVED BY DEAN ANVARI, SECONDED BY MR. SEBAALY, THAT SENATE APPROVE, AND RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS, THE NOMINATIONS FOR RECIPIENTS OF THE FALL 2000 COMMERCE AND ADMINISTRATION AWARDS OF DISTINCTION SET OUT IN SENATE DOCUMENT US-2000-6-D1.

MOTION CARRIED.

Dr. O'Brien reminded Senators of the confidential nature of the nominations until their formal announcement.

#### OPEN SESSION

##### Approval of Senate minutes (19 May 2000 and 9 June 2000)

Dean Bédard noted that two corrections should be made to the 19 May minutes. On page 4, in the "Remarks from the Rector", he pointed out that the creation of a CRC provides automatic eligibility to apply for a CFI grant rather than automatic granting of the CFI fund. The other correction was on page 9 (he moved the motion, Dr. Lightstone having seconded it).

2000-6-4 IT WAS MOVED BY MR. BLAIS, SECONDED BY DEAN BEDARD, THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 19 MAY 2000 BE APPROVED, SUBJECT TO THE ABOVE-NOTED CORRECTIONS, AND THAT THE MINUTES OF 9 JUNE 2000 BE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED.

MOTION CARRIED.

### Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

### Election of the faculty members of the Steering Committee

2000-6-5 Dr. O'Brien explained that faculty members who had previously served on Senate were eligible for election to the Steering Committee and that none of the eligible Senators were allowed to withdraw their names from the ballot.

Dr. O'Brien then instructed that only faculty members could vote for faculty members, the students Senators having their say in the appointment of student representatives to the Steering Committee. The Registrar and the Dean of Students acted as scrutineers for this election, and after one round of voting, the following persons were elected to serve on the Steering Committee as faculty representatives: Professors W. Byers, C. Giguère, P. Rist, J. Tomberlin and R. Tremblay.

### Remarks from the Rector

2000-6-6 Dr. Lowy indicated his intention of giving a brief overview of the University's general situation. He pointed out that a document containing his remarks had been distributed at the meeting.

The University is in good financial shape. A balanced budget has been achieved and the long-term debt has decreased from \$36 million to \$12 million over the past five years. Student enrolment has increased without sacrificing admission standards. Dr. Lowy is pleased that the graduation rate for full-time students has risen from 65.7% in 1995 to 70.2% in 1999.

Dr. Lowy proceeded to review the broad challenges that confront the University, the primary one being the recruitment and retention of full-time professors. Part time professors bring specific expertise but obviously cannot be as involved as their full-time colleagues in research, student support or in other University activities. The ratio of one full-time professor to 30 students is clearly unfavourable. The University would like to hire 150 full-time professors over the next three years.

Dr. Lowy mentioned the importance of increased participation in research and referred to the problems as well as the opportunities created by the Canada Research Chairs. He concluded his presentation by stressing the high priority that is being placed on the building program.

### Items for Information

2000-6-7 Registrar, Lynne Prendergast, reported on enrolments, noting that the figures were not final since one week remained until the deadline date to drop courses.

Ms. Prendergast pointed out that undergraduate enrolment had increased overall by 2.2%, the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science having experienced the largest increase, whilst preliminary figures indicated that

at the graduate level enrolment has gone up by 0.5% compared to the same time last year.

Dr. Lightstone pointed out that the Registrar's accurate and timely reporting of enrolment data will allow the University's administration to monitor and intervene in order to reach its targets.

2000-6-8 Mr. Blais informed Senate about the upcoming orientation session that the Concordia Student Union will be holding as well as of the visit of R. Douglas.

2000-6-9 Dr. O'Brien drew the members' attention to document US-2000-6-D3, the report of the Appeals Committee on Academic Misconduct, tabled for information purposes.

#### Question period

2000-6-10 Mr. Blais expressed his frustration regarding a statement printed on an advertisement concerning a certain university course, pointing out that this posting bore the stamp of the Dean of Students Office. Dean Boivert assured Mr. Blais that his office would be more vigilant in the future.

2000-6-11 A student Senator wondered why the final version of the Contrat de performance was presented at today's meeting considering the fact that a motion had been adopted at the June Senate meeting to the effect that Senators be kept abreast of the situation. In response to this query, Dr. Lightstone explained that on July 7, the government set a new non negotiable deadline (August 30) for the presentation of the Contrat. Dr. Lightstone did however consult with the Deans and met twice with representatives of the CSU but agreed that he should have reported in writing. Dr. Lowy added that the normal consultation process is interrupted during the Summer, and that the document sent to the government is a preliminary version, subject to review by Senate and the Board of Governors.

2000-6-12 A student Senator noted that in the University's submission to the government concerning the contrat de performance, no mention was made of the fact that 20% of funds received from the government would go toward reducing the administrative fee assessed by the University. Dr. Lightstone pointed out that the undertaking made by the University to the CSU in February 2000 was that the administration would recommend to Senate and the Board that 20% of additional, new, un targeted, recurring operating monies received from the government would be allocated to reducing the administrative fee. This recommendation will be brought forward to the Senate and the Board in the future.

#### Recommendations of the Academic Programs Committee

2000-6-13 Undergraduate curriculum changes for 2001-2002: Arts and Sciences Applied Human Sciences

Dr. O'Brien reminded Senators that minor changes to curriculum do not require Senate approval. Accordingly, document US-2000-6-D6, setting

out minor changes to the Applied Human Sciences program of the Faculty of Arts and Science, is submitted to Senate for information purposes only.

2000-6-14 Undergraduate curriculum changes for 2001-2002: Arts and Science Exercise Science

IT WAS MOVED BY DEAN SINGER, SECONDED BY PROF. GIGUÈRE, THAT THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM CHANGES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXERCISE SCIENCE, IN THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, AS SET OUT IN SENATE DOCUMENT US-2000-6-D5, BE APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED BY THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE IN SENATE DOCUMENT US2000-6-D4.

Concordia Student Union Accreditation Polling

2000-6-15 A document detailing the proposed polling procedure was handed out at the meeting. Mr. Blais tabled a motion concerning the use of mobile polls in classes and then asked that Mr. Guy Major, Accreditation Agent responsible for the application of the "Loi sur l'accréditation et le financement des associations d'étudiant(e)s", be granted speaking privileges and that he be allowed to address Senate in French.

Mr. Major advised that the law was adopted in 1983 and he then went on to explain the accreditation process, the effects of the accreditation and the University's obligations should the accreditation be successful.

In response to a question put by Prof. Danis, Mr. Major indicated that a successful accreditation would afford the exclusive right to CSU to appoint student representatives on all University-wide bodies. Pursuant to a query about the definition of a student, Mr. Major said that all undergraduate students, whether they be full-time, part-time or independent, are covered and cannot be excluded.

Following Mr. Major's presentation, Dean Anvari requested a rereading of the motion. Mr. Blais mentioned that he has been appointed by the CSU to preside over the accreditation drive, ensured that no campaigning will be done during polling and that the whole process will be done in a very efficient and non disruptive manner.

A very lengthy discussion ensued, during which various concerns were raised by some faculty members, more particularly regarding disruption of class, the likelihood that the polling process would take more than five minutes and the instructor's involvement in the polling process. Certain student Senators expressed their reservation with the mobile polling stating that class time is short enough without having to be interrupted by extra-curricular matters and that students wanting to vote can do so by going to permanent polling stations set up across the campus.

To appease the apprehension of certain Senators, Ms. Mullarkey proposed that the motion be amended to stipulate that the polling process be done during the first five minutes of class. Pursuant to the

discussion, Dr. O'Brien reread the motion with the proposed amendment and thereafter Senators were asked to vote on it:

Whereas the Concordia Student Union wishes to accredit under Bill 32 and will hold an accreditation drive from September 26 until October 12;

Whereas under the provincial law concerning accreditation the University must provide assistance to the accreditation drive;

Whereas the procedures approved by the Ministry of Education allow polling clerks to visit classrooms in order to obtain a sufficient turnout to reach quorum during the drive;

Whereas a similar procedure was used during the failed attempt to accredit in February of 1999 and not found to be disruptive;

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. BLAIS, SECONDED BY MS. MULLARKEY, THAT SENATE ALLOW THE ACCREDITATION POLLING CLERKS TO VISIT CLASSROOMS DURING THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE ACCREDITATION DRIVE TO PROCEED WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT CLASSES WILL BE VISITED ONLY ONCE DURING THE PERIOD AND THAT POLLING CLERKS WILL NOT INTERRUPT ANY CLASS WITH A MID-TERM IN PROGRESS.

MOTION CARRIED WITH ONE OPPOSITION.

Dr. O'Brien thanked Mr. Major for having taken the time to make his presentation to Senate.

A five-minute break was taken at 4:20 p.m.

#### New Funding Formula

2000-6-16

Mr. English made a detailed powerpoint presentation on the new funding formula. He specified that the presentation would deal strictly with the new funding formula and would not address the operating budget as a whole.

Mr. English informed Senate of the overall goals and specific objectives of the funding formula followed by an overview of the old funding formula which was based on historical data. Mr. English then explained the new formula, which is based on actual enrolments, and its various components, comprised of general and specific elements. Mr. English gave details on the distribution measure referred to as the "McGill Measure". Furthermore, he stated that the amounts granted under specific funding could be lost if they were not all spent.

Under the new formula, calculated on a preliminary basis, Concordia would receive \$122,015,100 in general funding, \$4,866,300 in specific funding, \$6,040,500 in other adjustments minus \$10,268,400 in government recuperation, representing a total grant of \$122,653,500. This translate into a 11.56% increase compared to last year. However, Mr.

English pointed out that the increased funding will only cover amounts already committed.

He ended his presentation by pointing out some of the University's areas of concern in relation to the new funding, namely that the new funding rates are reflective of average network costs and do not account for Concordia's organizational differences, the fact that the weighting of FTE's are based on average network costs in categories which encompass very different programs, and the fact that future funding for short programs is in jeopardy.

Pursuant to Mr. Sebaaly's query as to whether Mr. English would be willing to meet with new student Senators to brief them on the financial background, Mr. English responded that he would happily do so and invited any interested party to contact his office to make an appointment.

Contrat de performance entre l'Université Concordia et le Ministère de L'Éducation  
Canada Research Chairs  
Policy on gender-neutral degree nomenclature  
Fast-Track provisional approval process for short graduate certificates

Due to the lateness of the hour, it was agreed by all that these four matters be postponed to the next meeting.

Next meeting

Dr. O'Brien announced that the next meeting of Senate would be held on Friday, October 6, 2000, at 2 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Sebaaly, seconded by Dr. Lowy.

Danielle Tessier  
Secretary of the Board of Governors and Senate