

UNIVERSITY SENATEMINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION MEETING OF NOVEMBER 10, 2000ATTENDANCE

- PRESENT: Dr. J.W. O'Brien (Speaker); Dr. F. Lowy; Prof. M. Danis; Mr. M. Di Grappa; Mr. L. English; Dr. J. Lightstone; Mr. C. Adam; Prof. A. Ahmad; Dean M. Anvari; Dean C. Bédard; Dr. D. Boisvert; Prof. W. Bukowski; Prof. W. Byers; Mr. M. Coker; Mr. W. Curran; Dean N. Esmail; Ms. S. Friesinger; Prof. C. Giguère; Ms. J. Laberge; Ms. J. Landry; Prof. S. Panet-Raymond; Ms. L. Prendergast; Prof. P. Rist; Prof. L. Roberge; Vice-Dean R. Roy (representing Dean M. Singer), Mr. R. Sebaaly; Prof. T. Stathopoulos; Prof. J. Tomberlin; Prof. C. Vallejo
- ABSENT: Prof. A. Al-Khalili; Prof. O. Badawi; Prof. C. Bayne; Mr. P. Blais; Prof. C. Cupples; Prof. M. Gourlay; Ms. S. Grewal; Dean C. Jackson; Prof. E. Jacobs; Ms. M. Mullarkey; Ms. N. Sajnani; Mr. C. Schulz; Dr. W. Sellers; Prof. H. Shulman; Dean M. Singer; Prof. P. Thornton; Prof. R. Tremblay; Mr. J. Woodrow

Documents associated with the minutes

US-2000-8-D1	Honourary Degree nominations
US-2000-8-D2	Recommendation from the Faculty of Commerce and Administration
US-2000-8-D3	Performance contract update
US-2000-8-D4	Appointments
US-2000-8-D5	Recommendations of the Academic Programs Committee
US-2000-8-D5.1	Major Undergraduate Curriculum changes: Faculty of Commerce and Administration
US-2000-8-D6	Major Undergraduate Proposal: Faculty of Arts and Science
US-2000-8-D7	Minor curriculum changes: Faculty of Fine Arts
US-2000-8-D8	Memo and summary of the comments received relating to the recommendations of the Task Force to review the 1994 rules and procedures for Advisory Search Committees
US-2000-8-D9	Document regarding the establishment of the "Concordia Institute for Aerospace & Design"
US-2000-8-D10	Document regarding the composition of the Fine Arts Faculty Council

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Dr. O'Brien suggested that the agenda be amended in order to add a new sub-item 12.1 (Major Undergraduate curriculum change: Faculty of Commerce and

Administration) and that consequently current sub-items 12.1 and 12.2 be renumbered 12.2 and 12.3, respectively.

R-2000-8-1 *Subject to the above change, upon motion duly moved and seconded (Sebaaly, Tomberlin), it was unanimously resolved that the agenda be approved as submitted.*

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

CLOSED SESSION

3. Honourary Degree nominations
4. Recommendation from the Faculty of Commerce and Administration

Separate minutes have been drafted to report on these two Closed Session items and they will be submitted for Senate's approval at the next Closed Session Senate meeting.

OPEN SESSION

5. Approval of Senate minutes (October 6, 2000)

R-2000-8-4 *Upon motion made duly moved and seconded (Stathopoulos, Bédard), it was unanimously resolved that the minutes of the meeting of October 6, 2000 be approved as submitted.*

6. Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

7. Remarks from the Rector

Dr. Lowy congratulated Dr. Balbir Sahni, Director of the Centre for International Academic Cooperation, for the 15.5% increase in international students studying at Concordia, including the 19.4% increase in graduate international students. The total number of international students is currently 1735, the highest in Concordia's history, which indicates a growing interest in Concordia on the international level.

During the ongoing federal election campaign, Dr. Lowy urged Senators to take the opportunity to remind their MP about the issues dealing with education. Although education falls under provincial jurisdiction, the provinces depend largely on funding they receive via federal transfer payments. Over the last decade, federal contribution towards education has been reduced.

Considering the tension in the Middle East, Dr. Lowy appealed to the University community to be tolerant. Meetings with Dean of Students Boisvert, Advisor on Rights and Responsibilities Spilhaus and the representatives of both Jewish and Palestinians student groups have been held to defuse tensions. Dr. Lowy reiterated the University's policy on freedom of speech and right of assembly while stressing that these rights must be exercised in a peaceful manner. Violence, or any form of incitement to violence, will not be tolerated.

8. Items for Information

Speaker Dr. O'Brien apprised Senators of a discussion at the last Senate Steering Committee meeting concerning the following issues:

Name plates: In order to clearly identify Senators, name plates will be used from now on. These name plates should be ready for the next Senate meeting or for January's Senate at the latest.

Question period: It was decided that the maximum of 15 minutes should be respected. However, the Speaker will exercise latitude when the occasion requires it.

Speaking privileges: This practice will also be continued when a request from a Senator is made for a non-Senator to speak. However, Steering Committee restated that such privilege confers to a non-Senator the right to inform or answer specific questions but should never be used to debate an issue or to confer a "quasi-Senator" status to a non Senator.

Ms. Lynne Prendergast, the University Registrar, conveyed her congratulations to the staff of the Registrar's Office and the University Faculties who made the Fall convocation ceremonies a great success, more particularly to the Department of Psychology for its eight doctorates and its Governor General gold medal winner, Dr. Suzanne Erb.

9. Question period

Considering the current federal election campaign, Prof. Roberge enquired whether CREPUQ had a plan of action to inform the electorate about the inadequate funding of universities. The problem is that education is under provincial jurisdiction, answered Dr. Lowy. However, provincial funding is obtained through federal transfer payments and more money should flow towards education.

10. Performance contract update

Dr. Lightstone asked if Senators had any specific questions in connection with his report on the recent meeting with Minister François Legault concerning Concordia's Contrat de performance, which had been forwarded to Senators for their information.

Ms. Prendergast asked about the changes envisaged to enrolment strategies to meet the graduation rate specified in the report. Although such changes had not yet been determined, Dr. Lightstone stated that the University will be conducting an in-depth study over the next year to examine the factors which contribute to retention and dropout rates of each Faculty before any changes are carried out.

11. Appointments

11.1 Senate Standing Committees

11.2 Ad Hoc Finance Committee

11.3 Code of Ethics Hearing Pool

11.4 Special Graduation Awards Committee

R-2000-8-5 *Upon motion made duly moved and seconded (Lowy, Rist), it was unanimously resolved that the appointments to Senate Standing Committees, the Ad Hoc Finance Committee, the Code of Ethics Hearing Pool and the Special Graduation Awards Committee, set out in Senate Document US-2000-8-D4 be approved.*

12. Recommendations of the Academic Programs Committee

12.1 Major Undergraduate curriculum changes: Commerce and Administration

R-2000-8-6 *Upon motion made duly moved and seconded (Anvari, Tomberlin), it was unanimously resolved that the undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Commerce and Administration set out in Senate Document US-2000-8-D5.1 be approved as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Senate Document US-2000-8-D5, as revised.*

12.2 Major Undergraduate proposal: Arts and Science

R-2000-8-7 *Upon motion made duly moved and seconded (Roy, Bédard), it was unanimously resolved that the major undergraduate proposal for a new BA Major in Community, Public Affairs and Policy Studies, in the Faculty of Arts and Science, as set out in Senate Documents US 2000-8-D6 be approved as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Senate Document US-2000-8-D5, as revised.*

12.3 Minor curriculum changes: Fine Arts

Dr. O'Brien reminded Senators that minor changes to curriculum do not require Senate approval. Accordingly, document US-2000-8-D7, setting out minor changes to the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema of the Faculty of Fine Arts, is submitted to Senate for information purposes only.

Ms. Prendergast notified Senators that any undergraduate curriculum changes not yet approved by Faculty Councils and Senate as of today will not be included in the calendar, due to a shortage of editorial staff at the Registrar's Office.

13. Comments on the recommendations of the Task force to review the 1994 rules and procedures for Advisory Search Committees

Dr. O'Brien asked Dr. Byers to address this matter. He briefed Senators on the history. In 1999, the Board of Governors struck a committee to review the 1994 rules and procedures for Advisory Search Committees in light of the difficulties with the current search procedures and the various issues having arisen therefrom. The committee tabled its report and recommendations in the Spring 2000, and a University-wide request for comments on the foregoing was done. Various constituencies did respond and a summary of the comments received was forwarded to Senators with their Senate package.

While it is important that Senate provide guidance to the Board of Governors on this matter, Dr. Byers emphasized that time was of the essence since three searches are due to begin in March 2001. He added that in order to deal with the

comments efficiently, Steering Committee proposes that the three major concerns be dealt with separately.

1. The evaluation procedure: Should there be one, and if so, what should it be?

The present system provides for an automatic search at the end of a term even when the incumbent is seeking another term. There was a consensus that an evaluation procedure would be appropriate. However, in looking to set up an evaluation procedure, the rules which were put in place in past years should be considered in order to avoid repeating the same errors. For example, in the past this procedure was sometimes used as a way to attack senior administrators rather than to evaluate them. The make-up of the evaluation committee should be different from that of the search committee. The Board of Governors would be responsible for writing the parameters of the procedure.

2. Two-term limitation: Most agreed on a two-term limit with a possibility of a short-term extension.

3. The composition of the search committees: Most committees are currently made up of 13 people. On this subject, there were divergent opinions. On the one hand, the Faculty of Arts and Science felt strongly that on search committees for the Rector and Vice-Rectors, the number of faculty and undergraduates coming from its Faculty should be increased in order to reflect the reality of the professorial staff and student body. On the other hand, some Senators believed that the number of faculty and/or students should be uniform regardless of which Faculty they come from since the work of these committees transcends Faculty issues and deals with University-wide policies. Some Senators felt an effort should be made to keep the size of such committees from growing.

In light of the above discussion, Dr. O'Brien informed Senate that Steering Committee will synthesize the comments of Senate for presentation to the Board and that further discussion concerning the evaluation process would take place at the Steering Committee and be brought to the next Senate meeting.

14. Establishment of the "Concordia Institute for Aerospace Design & Innovation"

Dean Esmail was pleased to inform Senate about this exciting new initiative. In order to address the need expressed by the engineering profession for more design engineers, the objectives of the Institute will be to promote awareness and provide leading edge know how to engineering students and practicing engineers in design and innovation, particularly in the field of aerospace. A consortium of Montreal-based international companies has approached the Faculty with a proposal to collaborate in the education of these students. This industry involvement will provide a contribution of \$1.75 million over the next five years. Furthermore, NSERC will establish sixteen Chairs in Canada in Design Engineering over the next three years.

Dean Anvari stated that this was very complementary to Commerce and Administration's activities in the aviation program.

Ms. Friesinger felt she was not provided enough information about this matter to be in a position to vote for it.

R-2000-8-8 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Esmail, Anvari), it was resolved with a majority (Friesinger and Laberge having opposed the motion) that, as recommended by the Engineering and Computer Science Faculty Council, Senate approve the establishment of the Concordia Institute for Aerospace Design & Innovation as an academic entity within the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, as set out in Document US-2000-8-D9.*

15. Composition of the Fine Arts Faculty Council

R-2000-8-9 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Rist, Panet-Raymond), it was unanimously resolved that, as recommended by the Fine Arts Faculty Council, Senate approve the addition to the appointed membership to the Fine Arts Faculty Council as set out in Document US-2000-8-D10, and that Senate recommend this change to the Board of Governors.*

16. Other business

There was no other business to discuss.

17. Next meeting

Dr. O'Brien announced that the next meeting of Senate would be held on Friday, December 1, 2000 at 2 p.m.

18. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m., on a motion moved by Mr. Sebaaly and seconded by Ms. Landry.

Danielle Tessier
Secretary of the Board of Governors and Senate