

UNIVERSITY SENATEMINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION MEETING OF MAY 11, 2001ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Dr. J. W. O'Brien (Speaker); Dr. F. Lowy; Prof. M. Danis; Mr. M. Di Grappa; Mr. L. English; Dr. J. Lightstone; Prof. A. Al-Khalili; Dean M. Anvari; Prof. C. Bayne; Dean C. Bédard; Mr. P. Blais; Dr. D. Boisvert; Prof. W. Bukowski; Mr. M. Coker; Ms. S. Friesinger; Prof. C. Giguère; Prof. M. Gourlay; Dean C. Jackson; Mr. A. McAusland; Ms. M. Mullarkey; Mr. S. Nazzal; Prof. S. Panet-Raymond; Prof. P. Rist; Prof. L. Roberge; Mr. R. Sebaaly; Prof. H. Shulman; Dean M. Singer; Prof. T. Stathopoulos; Prof. P. Thornton; Prof. J. Tomberlin, Prof. R. Tremblay; Prof. C. Vallejo

ABSENT: Mr. C. Adam; Prof. A. Ahmad; Prof. W. Byers; Prof. C. Cupples; Mr. W. Curran; Dean N. Esmail; Ms. S. Grewal; Prof. E. Jacobs; Ms. J. Laberge; Ms. J. Landry; Ms. L. Prendergast; Ms. N. Sajjani; Mr. C. Schulz; Dr. W. Sellers

Documents associated with the minutes

US-2001-5-D4	Recommendations of the Academic Programs Committee
US-2001-5-D5	Major undergraduate curriculum changes: Faculty of Fine Arts
US-2001-5-D6	Major undergraduate curriculum changes: Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science
US-2001-5-D7	Minor undergraduate curriculum changes: Faculty of Arts and Science
US-2001-5-D8	Resolution from the Faculty of Arts and Science regarding the merger of TESL and the Department of Education
US-2001-5-D9	Resolution from the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science relating to the name change of the Department of Mechanical Engineering
US-2001-5-D10	Memo from the Secretary of Senate regarding the Professor Emeritus resolution
US-2001-5-D11	Background documentation regarding the criteria for fast-track provisional approval process for short graduate programs
US-2001-5-D12	Proposal regarding graduate mentoring awards

1. Call to Order

The Speaker called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

R-2001-5-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Bédard, Thornton), it was unanimously resolved that the agenda be approved as submitted.*

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session meeting held April 6, 2001

R-2001-5-7 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Stathopoulos, Al-Khalili), it was unanimously resolved that the minutes of the Open Session meeting of April 6, 2001 be approved as submitted.*

4. Business arising from the minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Remarks from the Rector

The Rector informed Senate that a call for nominations had been done with a view to selecting this year's recipient of the Loyola Medal. This medal, initiated in 1961 by the Loyola Alumni Association, is awarded every other year to outstanding citizens. Former awardees include Jacques Ménard, Oscar Peterson, Don McNaughton, Jean Béliveau and Maureen Forrester. Criteria and nomination forms were available in the Senate Chamber.

Dr. Lowy reminded the assembly that Spring is the prime time for student admissions and that the University's budget heavily depends on student enrolment. There is a gap between the number of students who are accepted and those who will actually attend Concordia. Therefore, it is our collective responsibility to be open to all potential students.

In closing, the Rector was pleased to announce that the official groundbreaking ceremony for the Loyola Science Complex will be held on June 15, at 11 a.m. He added that, further to discussion with the City of Montreal, the approval of the downtown project is expected imminently.

6. Items for Information

At the Senate Committee on Academic Planning and Priorities (SCAPP) held on May 10, the Faculty of Fine Arts academic plan was received. Thus, the current phase of the planning process has been brought to a close, stated Dr. Lightstone. He restated the importance of implementing the physical infrastructure of the planning mandate and mentioned that things are moving toward that direction. Money will be available through targeted funds to equip and "IT-enable" all large classrooms and the library. Further, considering the priority that will be placed on the hiring of 150 faculty members, the entirety of the Faculty Research Development Program monies will be devoted to the start up phase over the next three years.

Dean Jackson informed the assembly that the Faculty of Fine Arts and its corresponding faculty at UQAM had received a \$6 million grant from Valorisation Recherche Québec to set up the Institute for Emerging Digital Arts.

Dean Anvari told Senators that the Accountancy Program of the John Molson School of Business had been accredited by the AACSB- International. Furthermore, ten scholarships offered to international students had been named after the Honourable Pierre Sévigny.

7. Question period

Saying that students are often unaware or misinformed on the recourse available to them when encountering academic problems or dealing with advocacy cases, Student Nazzal suggested a sheet be added to course outlines providing the appropriate information. One Senator pointed out that academic departments do provide booklets and moreover, it is the role of the student association to provide such information. Another Senator felt that the course outline was an inappropriate venue, underlining that orientation sessions provide all the relevant information. Nonetheless, the Provost felt that this was a constructive suggestion that he will discuss with the Deans.

8. Recommendations of the Academic Programs Committee

8.1 Major undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Fine Arts

R-2001-5-8 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Jackson, Roberge), it was unanimously resolved that the major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Fine Arts, set out in Senate Document US-2001-5-D5, be approved as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Senate Document US-2001-5-D4.*

8.2 Major undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

R-2001-5-9 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Giguère, Al-Khalili), it was unanimously resolved that the major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, set out in Senate Document US-2001-5-D6 as revised, be approved as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Senate Document US-2001-5 D4.*

8.3 Minor undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Arts and Science

Dr. O'Brien pointed out that minor changes are submitted to Senate for information purposes only.

9. Merger of TESL and the Department of Education

Dean Singer explained that the proposed merger had been two years in the making. This merger will reduce the number of departments in the Faculty of Arts and Science from 22 to 21. The main reason for this merger is to ensure the efficiency of all Education-related programs in the University.

R-2001-5-10 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Singer, Tremblay), it was resolved with a majority that, on recommendation of the Arts and Science Faculty Council, the discontinuance of the TESL Centre as an independent academic unit and its integration into the Department of Education, set out in Senate Document US-2001-5-D8, be approved for recommendation to the Board of Governors.*

10. Name change of the Department of Mechanical Engineering

The proposal was being put forth so that the name of the department reflect the two degrees it offers.

R-2001-5-11 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Giguère, Al-Khalili), it was unanimously resolved that, on recommendation of the Council of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, the name change of the Department of Mechanical Engineering to the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, set out in Senate Document US 2001-5-D9, be approved for recommendation to the Board of Governors.*

11. Amendment to the Professor Emeritus resolution

Further to the resolution adopted by Senate at the March 9, 2001 meeting, it was resolved that professors retired in good standing having made an outstanding contribution may be awarded the title of “Distinguished Professor Emeritus”, following the selection procedure adopted at that meeting. It was further resolved that the universal title to all professors retired in good standing be that of “Professor Emeritus”. Since questions arose regarding the application of this resolution to Associate Professors retired in good standing, Dr. Lightstone suggested that Resolution R-2001-3-7 adopted at March 9, 2001 be amended to eliminate any ambiguity.

R-2001-5-12 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Lightstone, Tomberlin), it was resolved with a majority:*

WHEREAS a clarification to Resolution R-2001-3-7 regarding the use of the title of Professor Emeritus is advisable;

THAT, as set out in Senate Document US-2001-5-D10, Resolution R-2001-3-7, adopted by Senate at its March 9, 2001 meeting, be amended so that it read:

- that designation to be given to all faculty members retiring in good standing be that of [rank at the time of retirement] Emeritus;*
- that all other faculty members retired in good standing be advised in writing that they can use the title of [rank at the time of retirement] Emeritus.*

12. Criteria for fast-track provisional approval process for short graduate programs

The criteria drafted by the Provost in August 2000 had been circulated to Faculty Councils for their input. Since Steering Committee did not find any comment to be substantive, the original criteria was proposed for Senate’s approval.

R-2001-5-13 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Lightstone, Lowy), it was unanimously resolved that:*

WHEREAS on April 7, 2000, Senate approved the fast-track provisional approval process for short graduate programs;

WHEREAS paragraph 6 of the process provides for the drafting of specifications to be submitted for approval by the Faculty Councils and the Council of the School of Graduate Studies and Research;

WHEREAS such specifications have been drafted by the Provost and reviewed by the above-mentioned councils and are now being presented for Senate’s approval;

THAT the criteria to determine which short graduate certificates require the fast-track provisional approval, as set out in Senate Document US-2000-6-D10, be approved.

13. Awards for graduate mentoring

Dean Bédard presented this proposal. The initiative was taken by the School of Graduate Studies and supported by the Graduate Students' Association. (GSA). He stated that other institutions, such as McGill University and University of Ottawa, give out similar awards. Dean Bédard underlined the GSA's involvement in this project from the outset and emphasized that extensive consultations had been made throughout the University. The award will be initiated and driven by the graduate students. He addressed the concerns of this award turning into a popularity contest or a vehicle of self-promotion by reassuring Senators that the appropriate measures to avoid same have been included in the proposal. The award would be bestowed upon the recipient at the Fall Convocation ceremony which focuses on graduate studies.

Speaking on behalf of Steering Committee, the Provost stated that while this fits into the culture of some faculties, other faculties have different approaches about teaching awards. GSA representative Malcolm Coker supported the proposal as presented. Some expressed that, in principle, this was an excellent idea. However, others felt uncomfortable with the concept, wording and process. A discussion ensued at which time a few alternatives were proposed, the last being that Steering Committee revisit this matter and bring forth another proposal to Senate. When asked whether this was an urgent matter, Dean Bédard replied no, reiterating, however, that this was originally adopted by the Council of the School of Graduate Studies in April 2000 and that some graduate students were looking forward to beginning the nomination process.

14. Other business

There was no other business to report.

15. Next meeting

Dr. O'Brien announced that the next meeting of Senate would be held on Friday, May 25, 2001, at 2 p.m.

16. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m., on a motion moved by Dr. Lightstone and seconded by Prof. Rist.

Danielle Tessier
Secretary of the Board of Governors and Senate