

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

Held on Friday, September 9, 2005, immediately after the Closed Session
in Room SP 110, Loyola Campus

PRESENT

Voting members: Prof. A. Al-Khalili; Mr. D. Bernans; Prof. W. Bukowski; Prof. J. Camlot; Mr. R. Daoud; Prof. M. Doyle; Dean N. Esmail; Dean D. Graham; Mr. B. Hamideh, Dean C. Jackson; Prof. E. Jacobs; Prof. M. Jamal; Prof. C. Jourdan, Prof. R. Kilgour; Dr. C. Lajeunesse; Ms. J. Lewy; Prof. W. Lynch; Ms. C. Marshall; Mr. J. Moschella; Mr. M. Murphy-Perron; Prof. E. Regler; Mr. S. Rosenshein; Prof. C. Ross; Prof. R. Rudin; Dean E. Sacca; Ms. S. Salamoun; Prof. J. Segovia; Prof. H. Shulman; Mr. M. Shuriye; Dr. M. Singer; Dean J. Tomberlin; Prof. C. Trueman; Mr. A. Uwihanganye; Dr. T. Vo-Van; Dean C. Wild

Non-voting members: Mr. W. Curran; Prof. M. Danis; Mr. M. Di Grappa; Mr. L. English; Me P. Frégeau; Ms. L. Healey; Mr. A. McAusland; Dr. J. W. O'Brien (*Speaker*); Dr. R. J. Oppenheimer; Mr. K. Pruden

ABSENT

Voting members: Prof. A. Dutkewych; Mr. D. Zand

ALSO ATTENDING Dr. C. Wild (Dean-elect, Faculty of Fine Arts)

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. O'Brien at 2:22 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

R-2005-6-4 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Sacca, Doyle), it was unanimously resolved that the Agenda be approved.*

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of May 30, 2005

R-2005-6-5 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Singer, Kilgour), it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of May 30, 2005 be approved.*

4. Business arising from the Minutes

Dr. Martin Singer, Provost and Vice-President, Academic, updated Senate on the progress of some of the key points of the academic plan. With respect to rebuilding the ranks of the full-time faculty members, he reported the hiring of 43 new tenured or tenure-track full-time professors, 5 extended-term appointments and 113 limited-term appointments, bringing the total complement above the 850 mark for the year.

The Provost gave some statistics on enrolments and admission, noting that undergraduate enrolments were up by nearly 3% as of this date last year and graduate enrolments appeared to be stable. While admission of CEGEP students was up 1% and that of other Canadian students was up by 4%, he noted a decline of 19% in the number of new international students, which could be explained by the increasing competitive international market as well as the lack of student residences. Vice-Provost, International Relations Liselyn Adams will spearhead and coordinate efforts in this regard.

Dr. Singer informed Senate that the course change deadline has been extended by five days to coincide with the course drop deadline. Accordingly, the final figures with respect to admission and enrolments will only be known after September 20. Dr. Singer gave a brief update on the research efforts led by Vice-Provost, Research Truong Vo-Van.

On a different topic, Dr. Singer informed Senate of the measures that had been taken to accommodate students affected by Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana and Mississippi. He took the opportunity to introduce Bradley Tucker, Senior Analyst, Academic Planning, Susan Aberman, Senior Community Relations Officer and currently Acting Senior Executive Officer, and Serge Bergeron, Director, Academic Administration.

In connection with the revised composition of Senate, Dr. Lajeunesse reported that at its last meeting, the Board of Governors had rejected Senate's proposal. With a view to resolving this issue, the President indicated that he will discuss this matter with the Chair and the Vice-Chairs of the Board in order to find a compromise suitable to both the Board and Senate. In his opinion, the problem stems from miscommunication rather than substantive issues.

5. Election of the faculty members of Steering Committee (Document US-2005-6-D2)

Dr. O'Brien conveyed that the terms of reference of Senate Steering Committee provide for one faculty member from each of the John Molson School of Business (JMSB), the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science (ENCS) and the Faculty of Fine Arts (FA) and two from the Faculty of Arts and Science (A&S). He gave the instructions in relation to the voting and to the eligibility requirements to sit on Steering Committee. The following faculty members were elected by acclamation since they were the only eligible members from their Faculty not teaching at the usual time of Steering Committee meetings: Juan Segovia (JMSB), Andrew Dutkewych (FA), and William Bukowski and Robert Kilgour (A&S). Further to the election, Christopher Trueman was elected as the ENCS representative.

6. Committee appointments (Document US-2005-6-D3)

Dr. O'Brien pointed out that a revised Document US-2005-6-D3 had been distributed.

R-2005-6-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Singer, Jamal), it was unanimously resolved that the appointments to committees, as outlined in Document US-2005-6-D3 (revised), be approved.*

7. Appointment of a Tribunal Hearing Chair (Document US-2005-6-D4)

R-2005-6-7 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Singer, Jackson), it was unanimously resolved that the appointment to a Tribunal Hearing Chair, as set out in Document US-2005-6-D4, be approved.*

8. Reappointment of Tribunal Hearing Chairs (Document US-2005-5-D5)

R-2005-6-8 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Singer, Kilgour), it was unanimously resolved that the reappointment of Tribunal Hearing Chairs, as set out in Document US-2005-6-D5, be approved.*

9. Remarks from the President

Dr. Lajeunesse opened his remarks by thanking Dr. O'Brien for having accepted to continue to act as Speaker of Senate for this year. He said he was honoured to have been chosen as Concordia's President and was looking forward to working with the entire community. After five weeks into the position, he was impressed by the warmth of the community and by the welcoming attitude he experienced on campus. Dr. Lajeunesse introduced two of his close collaborators in the Office of the President, Garry Milton, Executive Director, and Enza De Cubellis, Director of Administration.

The President stated that University has matured and grown over the past 10 years and continues to build on the tradition and mission of its founding institutions. He recognized the special contribution of Dr. Frederick Lowy and his team during this period of development and growth.

Dr. Lajeunesse informed Senators that he will be delivering his formal statement at his Installation, at which time he will clarify expectations, define goals and identify the key milestones for the next five years. He added that he will build on the success of the last 10 years and specified that one of his roles will be to act as a facilitator to ensure that Senate, the Board of Governors and the administration work together harmoniously and cohesively to achieve the University's goals and potential. He added that he is looking forward to working with all Senators to achieve his mandate and to move Concordia forward both nationally and internationally.

Dr. Lajeunesse apprised Senators of a meeting he had this morning with the Minister of Education, Jean-Marc Fournier, to discuss the funding strategy for higher education. He was quite encouraged by Mr. Fournier's reaction and is confident that Concordia should be

receiving its fair share of funding. He conveyed that Mr. Fournier had favourably commented on Concordia's outreach effort to Katrina victims. The President concluded his remarks by calling upon Senators to get into shape with a view to participate in the 16th annual Shuffle walk, which will be held on September 30.

10. Items for information

10.1 Annual report from the Academic Hearing Panel (Document US-2005-6-D6)

In accordance to article 69 of the Code of Conduct (Academic), this report is filed for information purposes.

10.2 Update on the Code of Conduct (Academic) review process (Document US-2005-6-D7)

Dr. O'Brien stipulated that this memorandum had been filed for information purposes.

Other items for information were reported as follows:

Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni Relations Kathy Assayag reiterated Dr. Lajeunesse's call to participate and support the Shuffle. The kick-off will be held in the atrium of the EV Complex at 1 p.m. on September 30. Since its inception 16 years ago, Shufflers have raised over \$650,000 in student scholarships and bursaries. Ms. Assayag also highlighted a few of 82 events that are scheduled to be held during Homecoming locally, nationally and in the Tri-State area.

Vice-Provost, Research, Truong Vo-Van updated Senate on the status of the Canada Research Chairs (CRC) and specified that a new CRC in Economics had been awarded to Prof. Szilvia Papai.

Graduate Students' Association (GSA) President David Bernans drew attention to a conference hosted by the GSA on September 16 to 18 regarding graduate student contributions to education and research. He gave details on the keynote speaker and the topic of the workshops and encouraged Senators to attend, including faculty members and undergraduate students.

Dean of Graduate Studies Elizabeth Sacca was pleased to announce that Dr. Ted Stathopoulos had been reappointed Associate Dean, Curriculum, and that Dr. Monica Mulrennan has been appointed Associate Dean, Student Affairs.

Undergraduate student Awel Uwihanganye was very proud to inform Senate of two initiatives led by undergraduate students this spring and summer in Africa. He reported on the specifics of two projects that took place in Uganda. He expressed gratitude to the staff members in the office of Vice-President, External Relations and Secretary-General and of the Dean of Students as well as to the Concordia Student Union (CSU) for their support in organizing these important endeavours.

11. Question period

In response to a question by Prof. Ross, Dr. Lajeunesse clarified that his early statement under *Business Arising from the Minutes* was made in connection with the Board's decision to reject Senate's proposal with respect to the amendment of its composition.

In reference to Dr. Singer's update on the status of the academic plan, Prof. Segovia mentioned that the latter had alluded to seven challenges but only spoken of two and asked if he could elaborate on the other challenges. While Dr. Singer was quite amenable to do so, it was the general sentiment of Senate that in lieu thereof, a copy of the academic plan be forwarded to Prof. Segovia, given that the elaboration of all seven challenges had been done at previous Senate meetings.

Prof. Shulman queried Dr. Lajeunesse with respect to funding expectations and whether or not a funding deficit would be considered. The President replied that it was premature at this time to make a budget prediction since he is waiting for the government's decision.

Referring to an article in *The Link* with respect to high fines charged by the library for late returns, Mr. Bernans expressed concern and wondered about the revision and approval process. Mr. Curran, the Director of Libraries, answered that the fines are approved by the President's Cabinet. He added that prior to being submitted to the President's Cabinet, library charges are discussed at the University Library Committee, which counts student representatives among its members.

In response to a question raised by Mr. Rosenshein regarding Concordia's stance on the use of anti-cheating online tools such as turnitin.com, Dr. Singer indicated that the University had discussed using this tool but that he believed the University had decided against it. He suggested that Andrew McAusland, Executive Director of IITS, who had already left the meeting, should report further at the next Senate meeting.

12. Other business

CSU President Mohamed Shuriye invited all Senators to attend the various orientation activities which run from September 6 to September 16. He mentioned that the CSU will take the opportunity to collect donations for victims of Hurricane Katrina and encouraged students to donate whatever amount they can afford.

13. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Friday, October 14, 2005, at 2 p.m., at a location to be confirmed in the official notice of meeting.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Danielle Tessier
Secretary of Senate