

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

Held on Friday, April 7, 2006, immediately after the Closed Session
in Room EV 2.260, SGW Campus

PRESENT

Voting members: Prof. J. Camlot; Prof. O. Dyens; Dean N. Esmail; Dean D. Graham; Mr. B. Hamideh, Prof. E. Jacobs; Prof. M. Jamal; Prof. R. Kilgour; Dr. C. Lajeunesse; Prof. W. Lynch; Ms. C. Marshall; Prof. E. Regler; Mr. S. Rosenshein; Prof. R. Rudin; Dean E. Sacca; Ms. S. Salamoun; Mr. M. Shuriye; Dean J. Tomberlin; Prof. C. Trueman; Dr. T. Vo-Van; Ms. L. White; Mr. D. Zand

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

ABSENT

Voting members: Prof. A. Al-Khalili; Prof. I. Bachmann; Mr. D. Bernans; Prof. W. Bukowski; Mr. R. Daoud; Prof. M. Doyle; Prof. A. Dutkewych; Prof. C. Jourdan; Ms. J. Lewy; Mr. J. Moschella; Mr. M. Murphy-Perron; Prof. C. Ross; Prof. J. Segovia; Dr. M. Singer; Dean C. Wild; Prof. W. Zerges

Non-voting members: Mr. K. Pruden

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. O'Brien at 2:17 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

R-2006-3-4 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Lynch, Sacca), it was unanimously resolved that the Agenda be approved.*

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of:

3.1 February 3, 2006

R-2006-3-5 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Rosenshein, Graham), it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of February 3, 2006 be approved.*

3.2 March 17, 2006

Dr. Lynch noted that the second line in the second paragraph of item 10.2 on page 7 should read "prize for natural sciences and engineering" instead of "prize for electrical engineering".

R-2006-3-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Rosenshein, Graham), it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of March 17, 2006 be approved, subject to the aforementioned correction.*

4. Business arising from the Minutes

4.1 Tabling of proposed changes to the mandate of the Academic Programs Committee and to the powers of the Council of the School of Graduate Studies (Document US-2006-3-D2)

Dr. Lajeunesse reiterated that, as outlined in the attached document, the above-captioned proposed changes are being tabled at today's meeting and have been forwarded to the Faculty Councils and the Council of the School of Graduate Studies for their comments. Once all comments will have been received, the matter will be placed on Senate's agenda for decision.

5. Committee appointment (Document US-2006-3-D3)

R-2006-3-7 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Lajeunesse, Marshall), it was unanimously resolved that the committee appointment, as outlined in Document US-2006-3-D3, be approved.*

6. Report from the Academic Programs Committee (Document US-2006-3-D4)

6.1 Major undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science (Documents US-2006-3-D5 and D6)

R-2006-3-8 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Esmail, Hamideh), it was unanimously resolved that the major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, outlined in Documents US-2006-3-D5 and D6, be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2006-3-D4.*

6.2 Major undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Arts and Science (Document US-2006-3-D7)

R-2006-3-9 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Graham, Hamideh), it was unanimously resolved that the major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Arts and Science, outlined in Document US-2006-3-D7, be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2006-3-D4.*

6.3 Major graduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science (Documents US-2006-3-D8 and D9)

R-2006-3-10 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Sacca, Camlot), it was unanimously resolved that the major graduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, outlined in Documents US-2006-3-D8 and D9, be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2006-3-D4.*

7. Recommendation to approve the proposal to establish a School of General Studies
(Document US-2006-3-D10)

In the absence of Dr. Singer who was out of the country, Dr. Lajeunesse moved a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hamideh, that Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of the School of General Studies effective June 1, 2007 as well as the discontinuance of the Centre for Mature Students and the Centre for Continuing Education no later than May 31, 2007.

Dr. Lajeunesse reported that the proposal to establish this new entity, in accordance with the parameters set out in the Senate document, had been approved by each of the Faculty Councils as well as the Council of the School of Graduate Studies, specifying that four of the five approvals had been unanimous. In response to a concern that had been raised at one of the Council meetings, he mentioned that the ownership of credit courses will be vested within the Faculties and Departments, which includes course design and content, course quality and ongoing monitoring of quality, staffing and student recruitment. Dean Esmail added that this will not affect individual workload.

Dr. Oppenheimer opined that the closing of the Centre for Mature Students and the Centre for Continuing Education was not part of the original proposal which was previously tabled and was contrary to discussions that he had had with the Provost. He conveyed his understanding that, under the proposal, the services of the Centre for Mature Students would be expanded and picked up by the School of General Studies.

Referring to pages 12 and 13 of the proposal, Dr. Lajeunesse drew Senate's attention to the section dealing with transitional challenges, which stated that the advising and support services provided by the Centre for Mature Students would be subsumed by the School. He also pointed out that this is an operational issue, in that the Centre itself will be closed but its services will be continued and expanded. Dr. Oppenheimer conveyed his sentiment of different implications for the staff between subsuming and closing. Prof. Camlot stated that the Provost had originally presented the document as a concept document, not an implementation document. Dr. Morin pointed out that the closing of the Centre will allow more flexibility in addressing the needs of all special students.

Pursuant to the above discussion, Dr. Oppenheimer asked that the motion be amended to remove the recommendation regarding the discontinuance of the Centre for Mature Students and the Centre for Continuing Education. Dr. Lajeunesse agreed to this as a friendly amendment, pursuant to which the following resolution was adopted:

R-2006-3-11 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Lajeunesse, Hamideh), it was unanimously resolved:*

Whereas the proposal to establish a School of General Studies was tabled for information at the March 17, 2006 meeting of Senate;

Whereas the proposal was forwarded to the Faculty Councils and the Council of the School of Graduate Studies for input;

Whereas the proposal has been endorsed by each Faculty Council as well as the Council of the School of Graduate Studies;

BE IT RESOLVED that Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the establishment of the School of General Studies effective as of June 1, 2007, in accordance with the parameters set out in Document US-2006-3-D10.

8. Comments on the draft profile of the ideal candidate for the position of Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies (Document US-2006-3-D11)

Dean Graham conveyed two substantive issues that were raised at this morning's Arts and Science Faculty Council meeting with respect to The Candidate Qualifications stated on page 2:

- 1) It would be more productive to phrase the preamble positively rather than negatively and specify that the Committee should bring forward for serious consideration only the candidates who have all the attributes listed in the highest possible measure;
- 2) The two qualifications stated in the first point are equally important and therefore "and/or" should be replaced by "and".

Also on page 2, Prof. Rudin commented that the last phrase regarding linguistic ability was vague as formulated and suggested that it be reworded to specify French and English in lieu of bilingual.

Prof. Jacobs noted a typographical error in the second paragraph on page 1, in that "it's" should be replaced by "its".

9. Remarks from the President

9.1 Update on the search for the Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies

Dr. Lajeunesse reported that the work of the Search Committee continues to progress and that a meeting is scheduled for next week. An advertisement will be published in the April issue of *University Affairs*. The draft profile for the ideal candidate has been circulated to the Faculty Councils, Senate and Board Executive Committee for input. Once all comments will have been received, the Search Committee will finalize the draft and submit it to the Board of Governors for approval at the May meeting.

10. Items for information

10.1 Update on the search for the Dean of the John Molson School of Business

Reporting on behalf of the Chair of the Search Committee, Dr. Singer, Dr. Lajeunesse apprised Senate that an open meeting of the John Molson School of Business was held yesterday. This meeting was very well attended by JMSB faculty members and staff. The outcome of the meeting will be very useful to the Search Committee to identify JMSB's future direction as well as the best decanal candidate.

10.2 Other

Mr. Shuriye was pleased to convey a record voter turnout at the recent CSU elections, noting that 7886 students had voted, which is double from last year's turnout. The new CSU Executive will take office on June 1.

Mr. Rosenshein informed Senators of the success of yesterday's Ralph Nader conference, organized by the CSU. This event is part of an ongoing speaker series.

Dr. Vo-Van updated Senate on this year's funding received by the three major granting agencies. With respect to CIHR Operating Program, Concordia received \$970,000, representing a success rate was 27%, ahead of the national average of 25%. As for NSERC, \$5,700,000 was granted in the Discovery Program, representing a success rate of 69%, which is lower than last year's rate. He explained that this was partially attributable to the low success rate of new applicants and the fact that no new funding was allocated despite an increased number of applicants. However, \$870,000 was received in the NSERC Research Tools and Instruments Program, representing a success rate of 57%, compared to the national success rate of 42%. Finally, regarding SSHRC, \$3,000,000 was awarded, representing a success rate of 33%, up from last year's success rate of 25%.

11. Question period

No questions were asked.

12. Other business

Me Fréreau introduced Senate to Me Jonathan Levinson, newly-appointed Assistant General Counsel.

Stating difficulties in downloading and accessing the online Senate documents at the last minute, Prof. Regler enquired about the possibility of having the Agenda and Minutes also forwarded via attachment to the email. Ms. Tessier indicated that this could be arranged.

13. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Friday, May 5, 2006, at 2 p.m., Room EV 2.260, on the SGW Campus.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Danielle Tessier
Secretary of Senate