

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

Held on Friday, March 12, 2010, at 2 p.m.
in the Norman D. Hébert, LLD Meeting Room
(Room EV 2.260) on the SGW Campus

PRESENT

Voting members: Mr. G. Beasley; Mr. A. Dabchy; Dr. L. Dandurand; Prof. D. Douglas; Dean R. Drew; Prof. A. Dutkewych; Prof. L. Dyer; Prof. A. English; Prof. M. Fritsch; Mr. G. Giannis; Dr. D. Graham; Prof. J. Grant; Mr. R. Hafiz; Prof. M. Jamal; Mr. G. Johannson; Dean B. Lewis; Prof. W. Lynch; Prof. S. McSheffrey; Prof. S. Mudur; Prof. B. Nelson; Mr. A. Oster; Prof. L. Ostiguy; Prof. M. Paraschivoiu; Prof. M. Peluso; Ms. E. Perkins; Prof. H. Proppe; Prof. M. Pugh; Ms. D. Roldan; Prof. C. Ross; Dean S. Sharma; Prof. F. Shaver; Prof. W. Sims; Ms. S. Siriwardhana; Associate Dean T. Stathopoulos; Prof. P. Stoett; Prof. P. Thornton; Dean C. Wild; Dr. J. Woodsworth

Non-voting members: Ms. K. Assayag; Dr. D. Boisvert (*Speaker*); Mr. M. Di Grappa
Ms. L. Healey, Mr. P. Kelley

ABSENT

Voting members: Mr. N. Burke; Prof. M. Charland; Mr. E. Chevrier; Prof. R. Cross; Prof. M. Debbabi; Ms. S. Dolatshahi; Prof. J. Garfin; Prof. J. Garrido; Ms. K. Gregor; Mr. Z. Khan; Prof. G. Leonard; Mr. Z. Ling; Mr. P.R. Osei; Mr. D. Perera; Ms. S. Turnin

Non-voting members: Me B. Freedman

1. **Call to order**

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

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

R-2010-3-1 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Pugh, Sharma), it was unanimously resolved that Senate approve the Agenda of the Open Session, and that items 3 to 5 be approved, confirmed, or received for information by consent.*

CONSENT

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of February 12, 2010

R-2010-3-2 *The Minutes of the Open session meeting of February 12, 2010 were approved by consent.*

4. Report and recommendations from the Academic Programs Committee (Document US-2010-3-D1)

4.1 Major undergraduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Fine Arts

4.1.1 Department of Studio Arts (Document US-2010-3-D2)

R-2010-3-3 *The major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Department of Studio Arts, set out in Document US-2010-3-D2, were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2010-3-D1.*

4.2 Major undergraduate curriculum changes – John Molson School of Business

4.2.1 Department of Decision Sciences and Management Information Systems (Document US-2010-3-D3)

R-2010-3-4 *The major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Department of Decision Sciences and Management Information Systems, set out in Document US-2010-3-D3, were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2010-3-D1.*

4.2.2 English Second Language Requirements (Document US-2010-3-D4)

R-2010-3-4 *The major undergraduate curriculum changes regarding the English Second Language requirement, set out in Document US-2010-3-D4, were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2010-3-D1.*

4.3 Major undergraduate calendar changes

4.3.1 Section 13 regarding admission regulations (Document US-2010-3-D5)

R-2010-3-5 *The major undergraduate calendar changes to section 13 regarding admission regulations, set out in Document US-2010-3-D5, were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2010-3-D1.*

5. Reports from other Senate Standing Committees

5.1 Academic Planning and Priorities

5.2 Finance (Document US-2010-3-D8)

5.3 Library (Document US-2010-3-D9)

5.4 Research

The Academic Planning and Priorities and Research Committees had not met since the last Senate meeting. The reports of the Finance and Library Committees were provided for information.

REGULAR

6. Business arising from the Minutes:

6.1 Presentation made by the Provost to the Finance Committee on the academic sector budget allocation (Document US-2010-3-D10)

Dr. Boisvert noted that, further to a request at the last Senate meeting, Steering Committee had decided that a copy of the above-referenced presentation would be provided to Senators for their information.

6.2 Business not included on the Agenda

There was no business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda.

7. Report and recommendations from the Academic Programs Committee (Document US-2010-3-D1)

7.1 Major undergraduate calendar changes

7.1.1 Section 16 regarding academic information about definitions and regulations (Documents US-2010-3-D6 and D7)

Speaking privileges were granted to the Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning, Dr. Ollivier Dyens. In response to queries, he explained that a sudden illness occurring just before an exam is considered a short-term illness which calls for a deferred notation as opposed to a known long-term medical situation or chronic illness which calls for a medical notation. He specified that a request for a second deferral of a same exam would not automatically be granted but would be reviewed by the newly-established University Examinations Committee, whose role is to ensure that students with legitimate cases are granted the second deferral.

R-2010-3-6 Upon motion duly made and seconded (Graham, Wild), it was resolved by a majority that the major undergraduate calendar changes to section 16 regarding academic information about definitions and regulations, outlined in Document US-2010-3-D6, be approved as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2010-3-D1.

8. The Open Access Initiative at Concordia: Summary and Discussion (Document US-2010-3-D11)

The Speaker informed Senators that Mr. Beasley would introduce the topic, further to which Senate would go into a committee of the whole. Senators' comments would be recorded into the Minutes and communicated to Mr. Beasley so that he can finalize the proposal with a view to presenting a formal motion at the April Senate meeting.

Mr. Beasley indicated that Open Access is a fast-moving field and above all an academic issue. This topic has been discussed at the Library Committee, the Research Committee and the Faculty and School Councils. The objective of today's discussion is to determine Senate's will to endorse this initiative and to respond to concerns and/or questions in relation thereto. The draft motion, appended to Document US-2010-3-D11, is fundamentally a statement of principle and has received the support of an overwhelming majority of Council members in Arts and Science, Fine Arts and the School of Graduate Studies. It singles out scholarly articles accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals. The word "require" has been of particular concern. Mr. Beasley indicated that he supports the wording of the motion in its present form.

A discussion ensued, during which the following concerns were raised or addressed by Mr. Beasley:

- There are two reasons for the requirement to deposit. First, it will allow us to build a better tool in Spectrum; without feedback from faculty members, it would be difficult to know why some are not depositing. Second, by presenting an opt-out policy, we are engaging the University in a living relationship with Open Access. When faculty members are ready to publish, they must decide whether or not to deposit. A mere encouragement has not led to a significantly higher deposit rate at other institutions.
- With respect to the consequences for faculty members of not complying with the resolution, no additional powers have been conferred onto the Librarian, who would probably just write to them to enquire politely as to the status of the research.
- Responding to the comment that part-time faculty members do not perform the majority of their work at the University and therefore the requirement to deposit can be egregious, Mr. Beasley specified that no distinction was made between part-time faculty members and full-time faculty members because the aim was to be inclusive. The value of research done by part-time faculty members is as high as that of other faculty members and it seemed inappropriate to exclude them. The requirement amounts to notifying the Librarian as to why they have decided not to deposit.
- To simplify matters for faculty members who are not aware of all the requirements of the journals in which they publish, it was suggested that the Library be responsible for depositing. Mr. Beasley described the four aids in the process which can guide faculty members.
- When asked if the University would assume the defense of a faculty member who deposited by mistake, and more specifically who bore the legal responsibility, Mr. Beasley noted that the Spectrum license does not add to or detract from the author's responsibility towards his/her research. However, a safety net exists, given that the Library will be reviewing the material before it becomes public. Nonetheless, mistakes can still occur and perhaps the license governing Spectrum needs to be reviewed with these concerns in mind.
- It was suggested that Open Access infringes upon some provisions of the CUFA Collective Agreement and that the license should be examined from depositor's point of view.
- When asked why some work is encouraged to be deposited while other work is required to be deposited, Mr. Beasley reminded Senators that the requirement is to notify, not to deposit, adding that one reason for special treatment of peer-reviewed journal articles is because almost every mandate and policy adopted so far has focused on peer-reviewed scholarly publications.

- In reference to an article in the *University Affairs* regarding an author fund at the University of Ottawa, Mr. Beasley indicated the reason why such a fund is not provided for at Concordia.
- While the mandate and composition of the Spectrum Advisory Committee has yet to be determined, Mr. Beasley was amenable to including part-time faculty representation on it.
- Mr. Beasley outlined the reasons why, as a rule, the commercial interests of publishers will not cause them to challenge Open Access nor cause problems for faculty members.

Several Senators expressed their firm support of the Open Access initiative as presented for the following reasons:

- Public money that supports our research subsidizes the profits of private publishing houses and thus the public's right to that knowledge trumps private profit every time.
- Open Access represents a very positive step forward for the University and its faculty members. The Library has conducted the campaign in both a responsive and inclusive manner. While understanding the concerns expressed by the faculty members, ultimately they have as much to gain as the University does.
- Some issues relate to general insecurities about a fairly major transition in how we do things. However, this is not a reason not to move ahead, but a reason to show caution as suggested.
- The principle behind Open Access is important. The majority of the research done by the academy is supported by public funds. The fruits of our endeavors should be widely disseminated and made accessible. The ability is in the hands of the scholarly community to carry the torch of knowledge higher and further.

Mr. Beasley thanked Senators for their feedback and was pleased with the engagement demonstrated at today's meeting which is an inspiration to put mechanisms in place to address the issues raised during the discussion. Dr. Graham offered to follow up with Me Bram Freedman and Me Frederica Jacobs on the legal issues. With respect to the next steps, Mr. Beasley indicated his wish that the ENCS and JMSB Councils vote on this issue prior to coming back to Senate in April.

9. Update from the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of Graduate Studies

Dr. Dandurand, the Chair of the Committee, apprised Senators that a recommendation will be brought to the Board of Governors at its meeting of March 18.

10. Remarks from the President

Dr. Woodsworth apprised Senate of some recent activities and initiatives. Three ENCS professors received the President's Excellence in Teaching Awards at a reception held on March 3. She thanked Vice-Provost Dyens for leading this initiative by reviving the awards and congratulated the recipients.

The President commended JMSB students who continue to participate and place well in case competitions. They won gold for the second year in a row at the 2010 Financial Open. Moreover, they hosted the John Molson Undergraduate Case Competition, which attracts students from all over the world. JMSB placed third. She congratulated all participants and all those involved in hosting the competition and acting as judges.

With respect to the Haiti relief effort, an amount of \$11,000 was raised thanks to the mainly student-driven fundraisers held on campus. The Canadian government will match the donation so the actual amount will be \$22,000.

In connection with International Women's Week, Dr. Woodsworth congratulated Leah Del Vecchio for reviving the CSU Women's Caucus. Several inspiring events were held on campus, and Nobel peace laureate Dr. Shirin Ebadi was the keynote speaker of the week.

From March 4 to 6, the President joined Education Minister Michelle Courchesne and a number of representatives of other Quebec universities on a mission to Boston. The purpose of this trip was to strengthen ties between Quebec and New England with a view to recruiting more American students and increasing exchange opportunities.

11. Question period

In response to a question of clarification from Associate Dean Stathopoulos regarding the Finance Committee report filed under Document US-2010-3-D8, the Committee's Chair, Prof. Sims, confirmed that the report was not referring to the regular international fee remissions provided to our graduate students within the government quota but to the financial repercussions to the university should this international fee remission system be expanded to cover students over and above the government quota, as it happens in some other universities.

Further to a query from Prof. Ross, the Provost indicated that at its next meeting, scheduled for April 22, the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee will be discussing the Senate operating procedures as well as its composition in the context of this year's experience. Senators will be asked for their feedback, further to which a report will be provided to Senate.

12. Other business

Registrar Linda Healey reminded Senators that the deadline to submit nominations for the Convocation awards and medals is March 31, adding that nomination forms are available at the Birks Student Centre, the office of the Dean of Students on both campuses, and with the Secretaries of the Faculty Councils.

13. Next meeting

The Speaker noted that the next meeting will be held on Friday, April 16, 2010, at 2 p.m., in Room EV 2.260.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

D. Tessier

Danielle Tessier
Secretary of Senate