

**MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF SENATE**

Held on Friday, September 11, 2015,
immediately following the Closed Session meeting
in Room MB 2.210, on the SGW Campus

PRESENT

Voting members: Alan Shepard (*Chair*); Anjali Agarwal; Ali Akgunduz; Amir Asif; Benoit-Antoine Bacon; Guylaine Beaudry; Patrice Blais; Stephen Brown; Philippe Caignon; Saul Carliner; Graham Carr; Mikaela Clark-Gardner; Kira Cormier; Richard Courtemanche; Frank Crooks; Ricardo Dal Farra; Effrosyni Diamantoudi; Jill Didur; David Douglas; Charles Draimin; Rebecca Duclos; Mariana Frank; Sandra Gabriele; Lana Galbraith; Michael Giesbrecht; Khushboo Handa; Steve Harvey; Norman Ingram; Danica Jojich; Maidina Kadeer-Ozbek; Rupinder Kaur; Lea Katsanis; Gordon Leonard; Marion Miller; David Morris; Nicholaos Mouzourakis; Aloyse Muller; Monica Mulrennan; Jithin Nair; Alex Ocheoha; Virginia Penhune; Harald Proppe; Benjamin Prunty; Rosemary Reilly; André Roy; Yousef Shayan; Johanne Sloan; Ted Stathopoulos; Sofière Tahar; Terry Wilkings; Paula Wood-Adams

Non-voting members: Joanne Beaudoin; Philippe Beaugard; Roger Côté; Isabel Dunnigan; Bram Freedman; Patrick Kelley; Rachel Marion; Lisa Ostiguy; Bradley Tucker

ABSENT

Voting members: Vince Graziano; Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 2:25 p.m. by the President who welcomed new and returning Senators.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

R-2015-5-5 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Agenda of the Open Session be approved, with the removal of item 6 from the Consent Agenda.*

1.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of May 15, 2015

R-2015-5-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of May 15, 2015 be approved.*

2. Business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda

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

3. Senate orientation (Document US-2015-5-D3)

Me Freedman presented the highlights of the legal framework concerning the functioning of Senate, underlining the key duties, roles and responsibilities of Senators which are prescribed in the Code of Ethics. He provided an overview of the University's overall governance structure, the mandate of Senate and its standing committees and reviewed the meeting practices and procedures.

He urged Senators to read the [Senator's Handbook](#) which is posted on the Senate website and to contact the Secretary of Senate for any questions in relating to the operations of Senate.

4. President's remarks

Prof. Shepard reported the following:

- ⇒ There are over 8,000 new students on campus.
- ⇒ Several events to greet new members and welcome back returning members are being held on both campuses.
- ⇒ Thirty new tenure-track faculty searches have been approved, with the expectation to fill those positions by next summer.
- ⇒ He has reviewed the report of the Sexual Assault Policy Review Working Group, chaired by Dr. Ostiguy, and has accepted all recommendations contained therein, some of which will be implemented immediately, others requiring policy changes which will be implemented over the next months.
- ⇒ He noted a shift in faculty and staff's perception of the University, which has translated into many donations, a testament to their confidence and respect for the institution.
- ⇒ MEESR has recently approved two new graduate programs, a Master's of Design and a PhD in Geography, Urban and Environmental Studies.

5. Academic update (Document US-2015-5-D5)

The Provost provided the highlights of his written report, including two orientation sessions he attended last week, organized by the Centre for Teaching and Learning, where we welcomed 27 new full-time faculty members and 24 new part-time faculty members. He also congratulated all the award winners listed in his report.

6. Committee appointments (Document US-2015-5-D5)

A concern was raised about a faculty member nominated to the Faculty Tribunal Pool by the School of Graduate Studies. It was agreed that the nomination should be referred

back to the Dean of Graduate Studies who will decide whether or not this nomination should be resubmitted.

R-2015-5-7 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was resolved to table the nomination of Michael Lipson as a member of the Faculty Tribunal Pool and to approve all other appointments contained in Document US-2015-5-D5.*

7. Research Committee recommendation: Revisions to the Policy for the Responsible Conduct of Research (VPRGS-12) (Document US-2015-5-D6)

Dr. Carr explained that the modifications presented for Senate's approval were required in order to be in conformity with the *Politique sur la conduite responsable en recherche*, adopted by the Fonds de Recherche du Québec (FRQ), which takes effect in September 2015. He also spoke of the changes to the procedures which were presented for information purposes.

R-2015-5-8 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that, on recommendation of the Research Committee, Senate approve the proposed revisions to the Policy for the Responsible Conduct of Research (VPRGS-12), as outlined in Document US-2015-5-D6.*

8. Revisions to the membership of the Council of the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science (Document US-2015-5-D7)

Dean Asif presented the proposed changes to the ENCS Faculty Council's composition, noting that following an exchange with CUPFA and in recognition of the role of part-time faculty in maintaining the integrity of ENCS programs, he was proposing a friendly amendment to the composition by which the CUPFA member would be included among the non-voting members (with speaking privileges) instead of having the observer status as proposed in the document.

A concern was raised with respect to the requirement that the three graduate student representatives be designated from among the executive members of the Engineering and Computer Science Graduate Association and argued that the positions should be nominated or elected as provided for in the composition of the other Faculty Councils.

The point was made that the proposed changes had come from the students who serve on the ENCS Council. In the end, Dean Asif agreed to revisit this at the upcoming ENCS Council meeting and bring back a proposal for Senate's approval in due course.

9. Phase II of the Strategic Directions

Noting that we are at the mid-point of a two-phase process, the Provost summarized the elements of Phase I, which included a speaker series, Idea Cafés and participatory meetings with department chairs and senior managers, culminating in a strategic directions document that was approved by Senate and the Board.

Phase II will be about translating those nine directions into practices. In other words, the main units need to figure out what do those directions mean for their sector to determine goals, strategies and specific actions.

Using a power point presentation, the Provost conveyed the process and timeline for Phase II which has been endorsed by the Strategic Directions Advisory Committee. Essentially, there will be four streams of activity consisting in:

- Faculty and sector planning
- Cross-institutional strategies
- Process improvements
- Design challenges

While all nine strategic directions are instrumental, the cross-institutional strategies will focus on the four major institutional “platform” directions:

- Double our research
- Teach for tomorrow
- Grow smartly
- Embrace the city, embrace the world

Four task forces will be established to deal with the platform issues. The other five directions are mindsets, or ways of doing things, and they will be taken into account by both the vertical and the horizontal planning groups.

Given the disparity of size and role between the sectors, the Provost emphasized the importance of allowing for flexibility as to the process while providing a template for a boiled-down version of each unit’s output. All these outputs will contribute towards drafting university-level goals and objectives in the spring.

Following his presentation, the Provost responded to questions.

10. Annual academic hearing report for 2014/2015 (Document US-2015-5-D8)

Me Melodie Sullivan, Legal Counsel, Student and Administrative Affairs, summarized the process which leads to the convening of hearing panels. She noted that, as a requirement in the new Academic Code of Conduct, next year’s report will be more detailed with respect to the type of charges laid. She reviewed the statistics contained in the report.

In concert with next year’s report, it was suggested that the Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning could present data regarding trends in academic misconduct.

11. Question period

Following a query for more information about the Centre for Teaching and Learning’s initiative regarding the values of teaching, Dr. Bolton noted that more information will be

available soon on the various sessions, including the upcoming eEscape conference held in October. She indicated the importance of student involvement and encouraged students to contact her.

In response to a query regarding the distribution of the 30 new tenure-track positions per Faculty, there are 2 in FOFA, 4 in JMSB, 12 in A&S and 12 in ENCS. Additionally, there are also 3 ongoing searches for tenure-track positions in ENCS, for a total of 15 searches in that Faculty.

12. Other business

There was no other business to bring before Senate.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:59 p.m.



Danielle Tessier
Secretary of Senate