

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

Held on Friday, May 13, 2016,  
immediately following the Closed Session  
in the Norman D. Hébert, LL.D. Meeting Room  
(Room EV 2.260) on the SGW Campus

**PRESENT**

Voting members: Alan Shepard (*Chair*); Ali Akgunduz; Anjali Agarwal; Amir Asif; Guylaine Beaudry; Patrice Blais; Stephen Brown; Stéphane Brutus; Philippe Caignon; Saul Carliner; Graham Carr; Mikaela Clark-Gardner; Richard Courtemanche; Frank Crooks; Jenna Cucullo; Effrosyni Diamantoudi; Charles Draimin; Rebecca Duclos; André Furlani; Sandra Gabriele; Lana Galbraith; Jana Ghalayini; Vince Graziano; Khushboo Handa; Norman Ingram; Maidina Kadeer-Ozbek; Gordon Leonard; Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis; Marion Miller; David Morris; Aloyse Muller; Monica Mulrennan; Alex Ocheoha; Virginia Penhune; Harald Proppe; Benjamin Prunty; André Roy; Yousef Shayan; Johanne Sloan; Ted Stathopoulos; Sofiène Tahar; Terry Wilkings; Paula Wood-Adams

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

**ABSENT**

Voting members: Kira Cormier; Ricardo Dal Farra; David Douglas; Mariana Frank; Eliza Griffiths; Lea Katsanis; Jithin Nair; Rosemary Reilly

Non-voting members: Philippe Beaugard; Frederica Jacobs

1. **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:17 p.m.

1.1 **Approval of Agenda**

R-2016-5-6     *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Agenda of the Open Session be approved.*

1.2 Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of April 22, 2016

R-2016-5-7 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of April 22, 2016 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. President's remarks

Prof. Shepard's remarks are summarized as follows:

- ⇒ He thanked Senators for their service throughout the year, especially those whose term was ending.
- ⇒ He encouraged Senators to attend the upcoming Convocation ceremonies on June 6, 7 and 8. Nine distinguished individuals will be receiving honorary degrees.
- ⇒ Compared to this time last year, undergraduate applications are slightly up while those at the graduate level are up by 4 to 5%.
- ⇒ Daniel Therrien will become Interim Registrar on June 1.
- ⇒ Lucie Lequin has been named Chevalière of the Ordre des Palmes Académiques by the government of France.
- ⇒ The shortlist for the annual Sobey Art Award includes four Concordia alumni.
- ⇒ The Library Transformation project is going well.
- ⇒ He listed a number of funding and grants received from NSERC, SSHRC and FRQ.

As an update from the last Senate meeting, Mr. Wilkings apprised Senators that Steering Committee has established an Ad Hoc Committee to review Senate eligibility requirements. The Committee will be meeting during the summer, with the objective of bringing a recommendation to Senate in the fall.

4. Academic update (Document US-2016-5-D4)

The Interim Provost provided the highlights of his written report.

5. Report of Standing Committees

5.1 Academic Planning and Priorities (Document US-2016-5-D5)

5.2 Research (Document US-2016-5-D6)

No questions were asked in connection with these reports.

CONSENT

6. Committee appointments (Document US-2016-5-D7)

R-2016-5-8 *That the committee appointments, outlined in Document US-2016-5-D7, be approved.*

7. Academic Programs Committee: Report and recommendations (Document US-2016-5-D8)

7.1 Undergraduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Arts and Science – Department of Mathematics and Statistics (Document US-2016-5-D9)

R-2016-5-9 *That the undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Arts and Science, outlined in Document US-2016-5-D9, be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Documents US-2016-5-D8.*

7.2 Undergraduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Fine Arts

7.2.1 Department of Art History and Studio Arts (Document US-2016-5-D10)

7.2.2 Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema (Document US-2016-5-D11)

R-2016-5-10 *That the undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Fine Arts, outlined in Documents US-2016-5-D10 and D11, be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Documents US-2016-5-D8.*

7.3 Undergraduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science – Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering (Document US-2016-5-D12)

R-2016-5-11 *That the undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, outlined in Document US-2016-5-D12, be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Documents US-2016-5-D8.*

REGULAR

8. Research Committee recommendation regarding University recognition of a research unit: The Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art (Document US-2016-5-D13)

Dr. Carr provided the background and context leading to the Research Committee's recommendation that the The Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art be granted recognition in the category of emerging research centre and established infrastructure platform.

R-2016-5-12 *Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that, on recommendation of the Research Committee, Senate grant the university-recognized status, in the category of emerging research centre and established infrastructure platform, to the The Gail and Stephen A. Jarislowsky Institute for Studies in Canadian Art, in accordance with the Policy on Research Units (VPRGS-8), as outlined in Document US-2016-5-D13.*

9. Presentation by the Dean regarding a proposal to establish the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering (Documents US-2016-5-D14 and D15)

During the course of his presentation, Dean Asif conveyed that the proposed creation of this new department is congruent with the Strategic Directions, since it will promote academic innovation and research excellence and positively contribute to society. It will complete the academic structure of engineering offerings, build on existing strengths and develop a niche. Dean Asif also made the point that this new department will address gender imbalance in the Faculty, Chemical Engineering being the engineering discipline with the highest female enrolment across Canada.

This initiative is multi-disciplinary and faculty-member driven, having received strong support across the University. The core group which reviewed the proposal included representation from the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science as well as from the Faculty of Arts and Science. The proposal has been presented and unanimously approved by all engineering departments and the Faculty Council as well as being endorsed by Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science, the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, the Provost and the Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies. Consultation also included presentations to the Academic Cabinet and the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee.

The creation of this department will constitute an interdisciplinary collaboration of a unique nature, building on existing strengths with emphasis on developing new products which have applications in a wide variety of industries, and will create opportunities to further strengthen existing collaborations and build new ones. Dean Asif presented data regarding enrolments, enrolment trends and projected enrolments. In a steady state, it is expected that the department will be revenue neutral in three to four years.

Following his presentation, Dean Asif responded to questions. The President specified that an assessment of capital needs will be done over the summer, further to which the proposal will be presented for approval in the fall.

11. Strategic directions update (Documents US-2016-5-D16 to D18)

The President apprised Senators that the objective of today's presentations was not to provide a comprehensive overview of strategic plans, projects and ideas but rather to give a flavour of what is to come in 2016/2017 with respect to the first moves of the four Faculties, the School of Graduate Studies and the Libraries.

Following the introduction, each Dean and the University Librarian presented highlights of a few priority initiatives which have emerged over the course of the year. A copy of each presentation is posted on the [Senate website](#).

A presentation was also given by Peter Stoett, Provost's Fellow for Sustainability, summarizing some ongoing initiatives, strategic opportunities and ongoing discussions emerging from his report entitled "*Sustainability as an Animating Theme for Concordia*

*University's New Strategic Directions"* which is based on the collaborative input from an ad hoc working group on sustainability.

Senators commented on the presentations as well as on the content of the *Strategic Directions Preliminary Game Plan* which was included in the mailing as follows:

- The game plan contains ambitious ideas and plans, but two key issues, capacity and morale, need to be kept in mind.
- If interdisciplinarity is a priority, we need a plan for making it happen, e.g. with respect to hiring of full-time faculty.
- Would like to see commitment to improvements in classrooms.
- Indigenous initiatives were not fleshed out. Will they be?
- Would like to see more integration of specific sustainability items, such as those included in the Dr. Stoett's report.
- The reasons for items being added, removed, or recombined in the game plan is not clear. And there seem to be fewer direct references to students.
- Indicators have been removed. How will this impact our ability to gauge progress? The status of items labelled "in the works" and "under consideration" could be made clearer. Some specificity has been lost.
- We are moving into the phase where we are starting to articulate relatively specific objectives and actions. We need to be sensitive to the different ways the Faculties will proceed and allow them flexibility as objectives are set.
- Unclear in preface who will have influence on implementation. In the absence of an oversight committee, there be more robust reporting and accountability.

Prof. Shepard indicated that Mr. Ens has noted the comments and will do the appropriate follow-ups. The President also specified that presentations on the cross-institutional strategies will be done in the fall, and perhaps a presentation could be given by Mr. Côté on plans regarding physical plant.

10. Progress report on the implementation of recommendations stemming from the Report of the Sexual Assault Policy Working Group

Dr. Ostiguy updated Senate on the progress since August 2015 in connection with the key recommendations emanating from the report of the Sexual Assault Policy Working Group on five key areas.

Policy

- A new stand-alone policy regarding sexual violence was presented to Senate at the last meeting, the Governance and Ethics Committee of the Board and will be presented for Board approval at its upcoming meeting.
- Review of faculty/student relationships is ongoing. Ongoing recommendations, including a draft policy, will follow.

Procedures and processes

- The website has been revamped to make it easier to find information about the Sexual Assault Resource Centre (SARC) and the "What to do in cases of sexual assault" page

- A new sexual assault response team has been activated

#### Education and training

- SARC has launched “Leaders in prevention” program with student athletes and coaches
- Tailored education has been provided to several faculty, administration, staff and student audiences across campus, including Resident Assistants, the President’s Executive Group, Health Services staff, in-class presentations.
- A comprehensive education plan has been developed for 2016/2017, with new modules to come.
- Consent and bystander intervention are part of harm reduction training for student leaders and staff at Reggie’s in anticipation of student orientation activities.

#### Communications

- Dialing up the dialogue by having visual conversations (posters, website pages) on the impact of sexual assault.
- Consent and bystander intervention campaigns to be refreshed in 2016/2017.
- Engaging film animation students to create new concepts for social medial marketing that will launch at student orientation.

#### Evaluation

- Work will be done during 2016/2017 on developing a system to evaluate the prevalence of reported sexual violence on campus.
- An independent committee review of the implementation of the recommendations will be done every two years; the first being in 2018.

Following her update, Dr. Ostiguy and Jennifer Drummond, the SARC Coordinator, responded to questions and comments.

#### 12. Question period

##### 12.1 Response to written questions submitted by Norman Ingram (Document US-2016-5-D19)

Prof. Ingram thanked Dean Roy for his elaboration of the budget impact on the Faculty of Arts and Science of the new budget model.

#### 13. Other business

Dean Asif apprised Senators that the Engineering Change Lab would be taking place next weekend at the University.

#### 14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Danielle Tessier  
Secretary of Senate