

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

Held on Friday, April 20, 2018,
following the meeting of 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*); Amir Asif; Reena Atanasiadis; Guylaine Beaudry; Pascale Biron; Patrice Blais; Rory Blaisdell; Stephen Brown; Saul Carliner; Graham Carr; Mikaela Clark-Gardner; Frank Crooks; Anne-Marie Croteau; Christine DeWolf; Jill Didur; Charles Draimin; Rebecca Duclos; Marcie Frank; Vince Graziano; Christophe Guy; Brigitte Jaumard; Lorraine Oades; Virginia Penhune; Harald Proppe; Martin Pugh; Omar Riaz; Daniel Salée; Yousef Shayan; Ali Sherra; Robert Soroka; Shaumia Suntharalingam; Julia Sutera Sardo; Leyla Sutherland; Sofiène Tahar; Paula Wood-Adams; Sharon Yonan Renold

Non-voting members: Joanne Beaudoin; Philippe Beauregard; Isabel Dunnigan; Bram Freedman; Emmet Henchey; Tom Hughes; Daniel Therrien

ABSENT

Voting members: Paul Allen; Ricardo Dal Farra; Tevfik Karatop; Chiranjeevi Koduri; David Morris; Mahesh Natarajan; John Potvin; André Roy; Francesca Scala; Thufile Sirajudeen; Matt Soar; Marc Steinberg; Christopher Trueman; Jean-Philippe Warren

Non-voting members: Denis Cossette; Roger Côté; Lisa Ostiguy

1. Call to order

The President called the meeting to order at 2:38 p.m.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

R-2018-3-5 *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 March 16, 2018

R-2018-3-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of March 16, 2018 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

The President's remarks are summarized as follows:

- He welcomed Marie-Claude Lavoie who began her mandate as Associate Vice-President, Facilities Management on April 16.
- He thanked Daniel Therrien who will be leaving the University in early May to assume the role of University Registrar at École de technologie supérieure (ÉTS).
- He congratulated:
 - ⇒ The Faculty of Fine Arts for teaming up with Denmark's The Alternative to offer the University's first-ever political party-in-residence.
 - ⇒ The four students from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics who recently won \$20,000 in the fourth annual Munich Re Cup
 - ⇒ Francine Pelletier, an adjunct professor in the Department of Journalism, on receiving the 2018 Hyman Solomon Award for Excellence in Public Policy Journalism.
- Concordia advanced six spots to 10th place among Canada's engineering schools in the Maclean's 2018 Program Rankings, while computer science advanced three spots into 11th position this year.
- At the President's request, Dr. Guy informed Senate that Concordia has had a higher rate of success in terms of acceptance of applications for funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC).
- He updated Senate on some gifts and pledges in connection with the ongoing comprehensive campaign.

4. Academic update (Document US-2018-3-D3)

In reference to the Maclean's rankings and in the context of the academic report, the Provost noted the University's growing visibility and enhanced reputation as a next-generation university. He made the point that this can be attributable to the activities which are undertaken at the University, the success of students and the achievements by faculty members.

5. Report of Standing Committees

5.1 **Finance** (Document US-2018-3-D4)

5.2 **Library** (Document US-2018-3-D5)

No questions were asked in connection with these reports.

CONSENT

6. Committee appointments (Document US-2018-3-D6)

R-2018-3-7 *That the committee appointments, outlined in Document US-2018-3-D6, be approved*

7. Academic Programs Committee: Report and recommendations (Document US-2018-3-D7)

7.1 Undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Arts and Science

7.1.1 **Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry** (Document US-2018-3-D8)

7.1.2 **Department of Classics, Modern Languages and Linguistics** (Documents US-2018-3-D9 and D10)

7.1.3 **Department of Geography, Planning and Environment** (Document US-2018-3-D11)

7.1.4 **School of Political Science** (Document US-2018-3-D12)

7.1.5 **Department of Psychology** (Document US-2018-3-D13)

R-2018-3-8 *That the undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Arts and Science, outlined in Documents US-2018-3-D8 to D13 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2018-3-D7.*

7.2 Graduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Fine Arts - Department of Design and Computation Arts (Document US-2018-3-D14)

R-2018-3-9 *That the graduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Fine Arts, outlined in Document US-2018-3-D14 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2018-3-D7.*

7.3 Graduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Arts and Science

7.3.1 **Department of Education** (Document US-2018-3-D15)

7.3.2 **Department of Geography, Planning and Environment** (Document US-2018-3-D16)

7.3.3 **Department of Psychology** (Document US-2018-3-D17)

R-2018-3-10 *That the graduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Arts and Science, outlined in Documents US-2018-3-D15 to D17 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2018-3-D7.*

7.4 Graduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Fine Arts - Department of Art History (Document US-2018-3-D18)

R-2018-3-11 *That the graduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Fine Arts, outlined in Document US-2018-3-D18 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2018-3-D7.*

REGULAR

8. New graduate program - John Molson School of Business - Graduate Certificate in Quantitative Business Studies (Document US-2018-3-D19)

Dean Wood-Adams and Croteau presented the highlights of this new certificate, which is designed for graduates from any discipline wishing to learn about quantitative aspects of business administration. This new certificate has no resource implications, since it will be comprised of five courses already offered as part of the Graduate Diploma in Business Administration.

R-2018-3-12 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the new graduate program in the John Molson School of Business, outlined in Document US-2018-3-D19 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2018-3-D7.*

9. CSU motion regarding internships (Document US-2018-3-D20 - revised)

Ms. Sutherland and Mr. Sherra presented the background which led to the proposal.

The benefits of internships include:

- experiential learning;
- hands on experience;
- head start in the job market;
- opportunity to try out their field;
- networking opportunities; and
- building valuable skill sets;

while the challenges are as follows:

- no standard of learning, evaluation or feedback;
- inconsistencies in remuneration and criteria; and
- financial precarity and the potential for exploitation.

They conveyed the undergraduate student perspective obtained following two referendum questions posed in the Fall 2017, which show that 83% are in favor of removing unpaid internships and 81% are in favor of establishing an equal and equitable standardized system and placement protocol for all student internships.

In light of the above, Ms. Sutherland and Mr. Sherra presented a motion on behalf of the CSU to Steering Committee with respect to a review of internships, and following discussion it was agreed that the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee should be

tasked with the review. They made the point that the proposed mandate would be in support of the strategic directions and in line with where Concordia is heading.

Following their presentation, they responded to questions, further to which the following motion was approved:

R-2018-3-13 Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved:

Whereas internships represent an invaluable hands-on learning experience for students;

Whereas internships exemplify Concordia University's direction towards broader engagement with students' respective fields as well as more global and experiential learning opportunities;

Whereas there exists a large disparity in the criteria, objectives, learning outcomes and evaluation methods of internships, as well as a significant imbalance in remuneration for students' labour; and

Whereas internship courses should have the same standards of learning, evaluation and support as other academic courses;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee be mandated to:

- 1. Evaluate internships at Concordia;*
- 2. Make recommendations to standardize internships;*
- 3. Review internal policies; and*
- 4. Produce regular reports to Senate on its progress; and*

That these objectives be met within two years.

10. Digital strategy consultation

Dr. Beaudry updated Senators on the activities in connection with the digital strategy, including the President's speaker series on digital futures, an environmental scan, the preliminary results of the survey sent to all students in March as well as the consultation process, which includes student, faculty and staff focus groups as well as individual interviews, today's Senate workshop and two creative workshops. It is expected that the report will be presented in mid-June.

Dr. Beaudry defined the possible priorities as follows:

1. Collaboration: encourage in-person and online collaboration by providing a platform to help people connect.
2. Coordination: make everything accessible from one single place.
3. Mobility: allow people to work and access what they need anywhere at any time.

4. Flexibility: give more freedom to individuals and/or departments to choose their technology and manage their web presence.
5. Feedback: collect feedback from the community on a regular basis to see what they want and need.
6. Information dissemination: make sure that the community can easily find out what is going on at Concordia.
7. Support: provide technical support available at all times to help with technology.
8. Physical spaces and equipment: make physical spaces and quality equipment available to the whole community.
9. Digital skills: offer more resources and workshops to help members of the community develop digital skills.
10. Personal information: increase security in the digital environment and provide assistance with legal issues related to personal information as needed.

Based on the above definitions, she asked that during the breakout session each table identify the top three priorities for students, faculty and staff. Following this exercise, she asked each table to define what a next-generation digital university will be and what it will not be. This will guide the digital strategy working group in defining its roadmap. She noted that the sheets from each table will be compiled. In the Fall, she will present the preliminary roadmap.

11. Question period

Referring to an article published in *The Link* on April 7 regarding potential tuition fee increases for international students in deregulated programs, Mr. Sherra asked if student representatives would be consulted. Dr. Carr replied that if there is a conversation about tuition hikes going forward, then there could be some broader conversations about that.

Ms. Clark-Gardner stated the importance of consulting students which are the University's *raison-d'être* and reiterated the question to the President. The latter acknowledged her concern but could not commit to such consultation.

12. Other business

There was no other business to bring before Senate.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.



Danielle Tessier
Secretary of Senate