

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

Held on Friday, September 14, 2018,
following the meeting of the Closed Session
in the TD Bank Financial Group Amphitheatre
(Room MB 3.210) on the SGW Campus

PRESENT

Voting members: Alan Shepard (*Chair*); Sarah Abou-Bakr; Sami Al-Hanbali; Ali Akgunduz; Paul Allen; Amir Asif; Reena Atanasiadis; Leslie Barker; Guylaine Beaudry; Pascale Biron; Rory Blaisdell; Mathilde Braems; Christophe Brett; Graham Carr; Mikaela Clark-Gardner; Sally Cooke; Mark Corwin; Frank Crooks; Christine DeWolf; Jill Didur; Rebecca Duclos; Mehdi Farashahi; Marcie Frank; Vince Graziano; Christophe Guy; Brigitte Jaumard; George Kanaan (*Acting for Anne-Marie Croteau*); Jean-Gabriel Lacombe; Sarah Mazhero; Zenobia Pais; Virginia Penhune; Martin Pugh; André Roy; Daniel Salée; Francesca Scala; Rashmikaa Sethu Madhavan; Safa Sheikh; Ali Sherra; Robert Soroka; Marc Steinberg; Ron Stern; Nafisa Tabassum Jamal; Christopher Trueman; Jean-Philippe Warren; Paula Wood-Adams; Radu Zmeureanu

Non-voting members: Philippe Beaugard; Roger Côté; Marcel Dupuis; Frederica Jacobs; Tom Hughes; Ilze Kraulis; Anne Whitelaw

Also attending: Melodie Sullivan

ABSENT

Voting members: Shaina Ali; David Morris; John Potvin; Matt Soar

Non-voting members: Joanne Beaudoin; Denis Cossette; Isabel Dunnigan; Emmet Henchey

1. Call to order

The President called the meeting to order at 2:46 p.m.

1.1 Approval of Agenda

R-2018-5-5 *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 May 18, 2018

R-2018-5-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of May 18, 2018 be approved, as corrected.*

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

During the course of his remarks, Prof. Shepard commented that the University is on track for a great academic year, with strong applications and enrolments. He spoke of the successful events surrounding orientation organized by the CSU, GSA and the University as well as the welcome-back events held on both campuses. He updated Senate on research chairs and awards received by Concordia faculty members and concluded his remarks by inviting Senators to participate in Homecoming which will be held September 20 to 24 as well as the Shuffle which will be held on September 28.

4. Academic update (Document US-2018-5-D3)

As complimentary information to his written update, Dr. Carr noted that the Bachelor of Engineering degree will be celebrating its 50th anniversary during Homecoming and that the 5th annual edition of Concordia's Undergraduate Research Showcase is taking place on September 21.

He was also pleased to note that in August recent Fine Arts graduate Clara Couzino won the BMO 1st Art! competition, beating out 266 other submissions to claim the \$15,000 national prize.

CONSENT

5. Committee appointments (Document US-2018-5-D4)

R-2018-5-7 *That the committee appointments, outlined in Document US-2018-5-D4, be approved.*

6. Academic Programs Committee: Report and recommendations (Document US-2018-5-D5)

6.1 Undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

6.1.1 Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering (Document US-2018-5-D6)

6.1.2 Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (Document US-2018-5-D7)

6.1.3 Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering (Document US-2018-5-D8)

R-2018-5-8 *That the undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, outlined in Documents US-2018-5-D6 to D8 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2018-5-D5.*

6.2 Undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Fine Arts - Department of Music
(Document US-2018-5-D9)

R-2018-5-9 *That the undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Fine Arts, outlined in Document US-2018-5-D9 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2018-5-D5.*

6.3 Graduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

6.3.1 Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering (Document US-2018-5-D11)

6.3.2 Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (Documents US-2018-5-D12 and D13)

6.3.3 Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering (Documents US-2018-5-D14 and D15)

R-2018-5-10 *That the graduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, outlined in Documents US-2018-5-D11 to D15 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2018-5-D5.*

REGULAR

7. New undergraduate programs – Faculty of Fine Arts – Department of Music – BFA Specialization in Electroacoustic Creative Practices and BFA Specialization in Electroacoustic Recording Arts (Document US-2018-5-D10)

Dean Duclos introduced these new programs, noting that they have no resource implications. The Chair of the Department of Music, Prof. Corwin, indicated that these programs are unique in North America and bring together creative, technical and artistic aspects following an expressed need. These programs will allow for specificity and are adapting to the market by attracting students from trade schools who are seeking more breadth in their training.

R-2018-5-11 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that that the new undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Fine Arts, outlined in Document US-2018-5-D10 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2018-5-D5.*

8. Annual report of the academic hearing panel (Document US-2018-5-D16)

Me Sullivan presented the highlights of the report, which is provided annually for information purposes in accordance with Article 94 of the Academic Code of Conduct and responded to questions of clarification.

9. Strategic directions update

For the benefit of the new members, Dr. Carr summarized the consultation process of the strategic planning exercise initiated in 2015 which resulted in the articulation of nine strategic directions to achieve the overarching goal to design a next-generation university:

1. Double our research
2. Teach for tomorrow
3. Get your hands dirty
4. Mix it up
5. Experiment boldly
6. Grow smartly
7. Embrace the city, embrace the world
8. Go beyond
9. Take pride

Last year the academic leadership team identified five guiding principles to support actions relating to our strategic directions:

- Position globally
- Partner meaningfully
- Integrate for impact
- Deliver on innovation
- Augment the student experience

The Provost provided an overview of the accomplishments and highlights of initiatives undertaken during the last three years.

YEAR 1 (2016/2017)

The “first moves” to launch the plan included the following initiatives:

- Creation of the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering.
- Public Scholars Program: A high-profile program in which ten highly-qualified PhD students from all Faculties share the significance of their research with the wider community.
- Horizontal postdoctoral fellowships: Promotes research careers and recognizes the excellence of the work of university-level students, postdoctoral fellows and members of a university.
- Institute for Urban Futures: Has organized a slate of programming since 2016 focused on the culture of cities and social justice, including hosting urban futurists in residence, organized public art competition and running schools.
- Concordia University Press: A digital and open access publishing model.

YEAR 2 (2017/2018)

The second year’s focus was on the following projects:

- Health Institute: Focuses on five key areas spanning all Faculties that will position Concordia in a key field of research and training: health and technology; preventive health, health policy and governance; biomedical fundamentals; and health and wellbeing.
- Montreal 2050: Part of our clustering effort around cities which is focused on convening and engaging faculty across disciplines, with governments, private sector partners, and citizens in the work of imagining how Montreal and other cities should be designed for the future.
- Digital strategy: Establishes a plan of action for fully integrating and leveraging digital tools and practices that serve all members of our community and place users at the center of things.
- Summer@Concordia: Ensures that the University is active and thriving 12 months a year, by scheduling greater offerings for students, providing teaching flexibility for faculty; maximizing space utilization and capitalizing on Montreal as a destination city.
- Next-generation learning: Fosters experimentation around active learning practices, experiential learning opportunities, transdisciplinary course offerings, and digital tools.
- Indigenous directions: Begins to articulate the University response to the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission through the creation of an Indigenous Directions Leadership Group with a mandate to draft recommendations.

YEAR 3 (2018/2019)

For the current year, Dr. Carr indicated that emphasis will be to sustain the momentum in the areas identified in Years 1 and 2 and to continue to drive what is already successful with respect to indigenous directions, international positioning, research and training innovation, student mobility and hands-on learning, activating alumni, and taking pride. He noted that other exciting initiatives are underway. The emerging picture is that Concordia is a university that is forward-looking, agile and responsive, deeply rooted, globally networked, serious fun, and that is a university other universities want to be.

10. Question period

Ms. Clark-Gardner read a statement in which she conveyed that an undergraduate student who is on conditional standing has been blocked by the administration from serving on Senate. She opined that the eligibility requirements are in contravention of the Accreditation Act. Ms. Clark-Gardner made the point of the CSU's intention and hopes to have a positive year working towards a common goal. In her view, this was a Senate issue and she requested that a vote be held at the next meeting Senate to grant an exception so that this student have a voice on Senate, noting that the student had now resolved the issues which contributed to the conditional standing.

Prof. Shepard voiced his objection to naming individuals on the floor of Senate. He added that in October 2016, following an extensive review and the recommendation of an

Ad Committee established by Senate, Senate approved revised eligibility requirements which maintained the requirement of an acceptable academic standing. That said, he noted that there is a process to follow with respect to the By-Laws and that this matter, as any other agenda matter, will be referred to Steering Committee which determines the agendas of Senate.

In response to a question from Prof. Corwin regarding an update on tuition remission, Dean Wood-Adams replied that a meeting will be held in October with Graduate Program Directors, Chairs and Professors to discuss graduate funding, including the issue of tuition remission.

11. Other business

There was no other business to bring before Senate.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.



Danielle Tessier
Secretary of Senate