



# SENATE ANNUAL REPORT

2016–2017

# CONTENTS

## 3 CHAIR'S MESSAGE

## 4 MANDATE

## 4 STANDING COMMITTEES

STEERING COMMITTEE

ACADEMIC PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE (APPC)

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE (APC)

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

FINANCE COMMITTEE

SPECIAL GRADUATION AWARDS COMMITTEE

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR EMERITUS COMMITTEE

ETHICS COMMITTEE

## 4 MEETINGS

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

RESEARCH

CURRICULUM CHANGES

ACADEMIC UNITS

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

GENERAL

## 7 MEMBERSHIP

## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

This annual report for Concordia University's Senate provides the highlights of activities for the 2016/2017 academic year.

Once again, Concordia placed among the top universities under 50 years in the Times Higher Education (THE) Young University Rankings. The university also advanced 30 spots over last year in the 2018 QS World University Rankings, placing our institution in the world's top 1.6 per cent.

These rankings reflect sustained momentum on many fronts – research grant funding, citations, awards and accolades for our researchers, faculty and students, and growing international visibility.

We received a record number of research grants, more than \$50 million. This included \$11.6 million from the [Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada](#), \$5.6 million from the [Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council](#), and \$2.2 million from the [Canadian Institutes of Health Research](#) for high-impact health research.

We made our first moves under the Strategic Directions Game Plan with notable achievements. These included launching several new and exciting initiatives: the Horizon Postdoctoral Fellowship program, the first cohort of the Public Scholars, Concordia University Press, the Indigenous Directions Leadership Group, and the establishment of the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering.

We also launched and revised several academic programs, featured in this report, as part of our efforts to build unique interdisciplinary platforms for research and teaching. Plus, we made gains to enhance experiential learning and to support professional and lifelong learning opportunities.

I would like to thank all of the departing and continuing members of Senate for their hard work and dedication during the past year. Your leadership has contributed to strengthening Concordia as a next-generation university.

I continue to be optimistic about our future, and believe together we can continue to make our university the best it can be.



Alan Shepard

## MANDATE

Senate is responsible for the academic governance of the University, including matters related to research, faculties, departments, libraries, programs and courses, academic standards, regulations, policies and procedures, and the granting of degrees, diplomas and certificates (excluding honorary degrees). The functions and powers of Senate are listed in [Section 13](#) of the By-Laws.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

The work of Senate is supported by its nine standing committees which regularly report to Senate and bring forward recommendations as required. A full description of each committee's composition and mandate is included in the [Membership and Functions of Senate Standing Committees](#).

### STEERING COMMITTEE

Reviews Senate Agendas and ensures that the documentation forwarded to Senate is appropriate and in a form permitting effective debate.

### ACADEMIC PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE (APPC)

Studies and evaluates the implications of all proposals regarding academic development and priorities, supports the academic planning function of the University and makes reports and recommendations to Senate on academic planning and academic priorities.

### ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE (APC)

Coordinates and makes recommendations to Senate regarding credit programs and undergraduate academic regulations.

### RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Studies and makes recommendations to Senate concerning the development, administration, guidelines and policies regarding research and the support thereof.

### LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Acts as an advisory body to the University Librarian and Senate in connection with library objectives, policies, and budget and the development of its services and collections.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Analyzes the relevant operating and capital budgets to inform the Senate discussion thereof.

### SPECIAL GRADUATION AWARDS COMMITTEE

Solicits and reviews nominations and recommends recipients to Senate for the eight special graduation awards.

### DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR EMERITUS COMMITTEE

Assesses and reviews nominations and recommends to Senate the awarding of the title of Distinguished Professor Emeritus.

### ETHICS COMMITTEE

Oversees and enforces the application of the *Code of Ethics and Conduct Applicable to Members of Senate and Members of Committees Established by Senate* ([US-1](#)).

## MEETINGS

Eight regular meetings of Senate were held during the 2016/2017 academic year:

September 16, 2016	January 20, 2017
October 7, 2016	March 17, 2017
November 4, 2016	April 21, 2017
December 9, 2016	May 19, 2017

The summary and highlights of the main topics discussed during the year are summarized hereinafter. The full details are included in the [Minutes](#) which are posted on the Senate website.

### STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

During the academic year, Senate received regular updates in connection with the strategic planning process following the approval of the [strategic directions](#) by the Board in June 2015.

At the September meeting, Senators were presented with an overview of the shared priorities, including some examples on how the year's focus was on continuing to support the academic sector, continuing to support student success, planning the comprehensive campaign and improving the University's reputation locally and internationally. For the benefit of new Senators, a summary of the strategic directions path was given, which resulted in an articulation of nine strategic directions for Concordia.

At the November meeting, Senators were provided with a high-level summary of some of the ongoing initiatives under the guidance of the game plan, developed at the conclusion of the strategic planning process, which includes a priority list of "[first moves](#)" undertaken in 2016/2017.

### RESEARCH

- In accordance with the *Policy on Research Units (VPRGS-8)*, during the course of the year Senate granted the university-recognition status to the Centre for Research Expertise on Aging Through Engagement (CREATE), with the recommendation that a more distinctive Centre name, not subject to Senate approval, be chosen.
- A comprehensive presentation was given regarding the University Research Units and

Infrastructure Platforms governed by Policy [\(VPRGS-8\)](#).

### CURRICULUM CHANGES

While Senate approved numerous undergraduate curriculum changes and regulations as well as numerous graduate curriculum changes throughout the year, of special note is the approval of the following new programs:

- *Master of /Magisteriate in Engineering (Environmental Engineering)*: stems from the reorganization of an existing option. Granting a distinct degree more accurately reflects the area of training. This program better prepares students to work for various environmental technology industries, municipalities and consulting firms.
- *Master of /Magisteriate in Engineering (Construction Engineering and Management)*: is also the result of a reformulation of an existing option, is the most popular graduate program in the Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering and addresses the demand of graduate students for training to obtain the knowledge and skills required in the construction industry.
- *Graduate Certificate in Entrepreneurship*: provides non-business graduates the required skills and knowledge to start their own micro-enterprise such as an artist-run studio, design firm or professional practice. This offering, unique to Canada, was designed in response to student demand for a short and focused program in entrepreneurship and is geared toward graduates from Fine Arts, Engineering, and Arts and Science.
- *BComm Honours in Accountancy*: provides an opportunity for the most gifted students in Accountancy to undertake accounting research work in their undergraduate program, thereby

enhancing their degree. It also encourages intellectually curious students to consider an academic career in accounting.

- *Minor in Information Systems Audit and Risk Management*: fills a gap in the areas of Information Systems Audit and Risk Management and helps students gain experience in both areas. It responds to an increasing demand for professionals in security audit, information technology audit, fraud risk management and information technology risk management.
- *Minor in Real Estate*: offers a multidisciplinary education in business, economics, finance, regional science, urban planning and public policy.
- *Master of/Magisteriate in Arts (Youth Work and Psychoeducation)*: is designed to form practitioners working with young people in different settings. Based on three distinct models in child work, it is the first Anglophone program in Quebec, with a dedicated content around intervention and prevention relative to indigenous youth.

## ACADEMIC UNITS

Senate recommended Board approval of the establishment of the [Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering](#). This unique program supports three of the strategic directions.

Senate also endorsed recommendations to the Board to modify the name of the following units, in order to better align their names with the scope of their activities:

- Department of Religion to [Department of Religions and Cultures](#)
- School of Canadian Irish Studies to [School of Irish Studies](#)
- Department of Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering to [Department](#)

[of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering](#).

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Following its establishment by Steering Committee of Senate in May 2016, the Ad Hoc Committee to Review Senate Eligibility Requirements presented its report and recommendation regarding revised eligibility requirements of its members to serve on Senate, which were unanimously endorsed by Senate. The revised eligibility requirements were incorporated into article 63 of the [By-Laws](#) and approved by the Board of Governors.
- Following review and approval by the Council of the School of Graduate Studies, Senate was provided with updated [guidelines for the supervision of Masters' students](#) and [guidelines for the supervision of PhD students](#) as well as a [modified process](#) regarding graduate curriculum review and approval procedures.

## GENERAL

To deepen their knowledge and understanding of the role of administrative operations relative to academic life, Senators benefited from presentations regarding facilities development, scholarly publishing and the establishment of the date of reading week.

## MEMBERSHIP

The membership of Senate for the 2016/2017 (as of May 2017) included:

### VOTING MEMBERS

#### EX-OFFICIO

Alan Shepard  
President and Vice-Chancellor

Graham Carr  
Provost and Vice-President, Academic Affairs

Justin Powlowski  
Interim Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies

André Roy  
Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science

Amir Asif  
Dean, Faculty of Engineering & Computer Science

Rebecca Duclos  
Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts

Stéphane Brutus  
Interim Dean, John Molson School of Business

Paula Wood-Adams  
Dean, School of Graduate Studies

Guylaine Beaudry  
University Librarian

#### FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

Patrice Blais (PT)

Philippe Caignon

Christine DeWolf

Effrosyni Diamantoudi

Jill Didur

Marcie Frank

Mariana Frank

David Morris

Monica Mulrennan

Virginia Penhune

Harald Proppe

Daniel Salée

Francesca Scala

Jean-Philippe Warren

#### FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Ali Akgunduz

Brigitte Jaumard

Yousef Shayan

Ted Stathopoulos

Sofiène Tahar

#### FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

Daniel Cross

Eliza Griffiths

Lorraine Oades (PT)

John Potvin

#### JOHN MOLSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Frank Crooks

Charles Draimin

Lea Katsanis

Robert Soroka (PT)

#### PROFESSIONAL LIBRARIAN

Vince Graziano

#### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Patrick Blair

Ian Campbell

Jana Ghalayini

Shannon Gittens-Yahoba

Rudy Grow

Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis

Marion Miller

Alexander Milton

Omar Riaz

Sophia Sahrane

Ali Sherra

Steven Tutino

#### GRADUATE STUDENTS

Mudasser Akbar

Esmaeel Kariminezhad

Rahul Kumar

Shahbaz Masood

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS****EX-OFFICIO**

Philippe Beaugard  
Chief Communications Officer

Denis Cossette  
Chief Financial Officer

Roger Côté  
Vice-President, Services

Isabel Dunnigan  
Director, Centre for Continuing  
Education

Bram Freedman  
Vice-President, Advancement  
and External Relations

Frederica Jacobs  
Secretary-General and General  
Counsel

Lisa Ostiguy  
Deputy Provost

Daniel Therrien  
University Registrar

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND  
SUPPORT STAFF**

Joanne Beaudoin  
Emmet Henchey

**SECRETARY OF SENATE**

Danielle Tessier

