POLICY ON REVOCATION OF AWARDS AND OTHER TYPES OF RECOGNITION

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PREAMBLE

The University regularly recognizes the achievements and/or contributions of members of the Concordia and/or the global community by granting honorary degrees and other forms of Recognition (as defined below). However, in rare and exceptional circumstances, if the behaviour of a Recipient (as defined below) or maintaining a Recognition may harm or undermine the University’s reputation or may be found to be inconsistent with the mission and values of the University, the Recognition may be revoked or removed in accordance with this Policy.

SCOPE

This Policy applies to any and all types of Recognition that may have been bestowed upon any Recipient. As appropriate, revocation or removal can also apply to any person or entity.

In the event of any conflict or contradiction between the provisions of this Policy and the provisions of any other University policy or procedure, the provisions of this Policy shall prevail.

PURPOSE

This Policy and the related Guidelines on the Revocation of Awards and Other Types of Recognition (the “Guidelines”) set out the principles and the process that shall be followed in such cases.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions shall apply:

“Recipient” means any person from the University community or from the global community regardless of whether the person is still living or not, or any entity that may have received a Recognition.

“Recognition” means any form of recognition awarded by any body, unit or department of the University to any person or entity including, but not limited to, honorary degrees, Loyola
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Medal, Emeritus titles awarded by the Board or Senate and, CCSL awards, and the naming of University spaces, buildings, assets or other activities.

“Revocation Committee” means the committee described in section 1.

POLICY

1. In each instance when the revocation of a Recognition may be appropriate, the Provost and Vice-President, Academic (the “Provost”), or their delegate, may strike a Revocation Committee, the composition of which shall be appropriate in the circumstances having regard to the nature of the Recognition.

2. In the event that the Provost or any member of the Revocation Committee requires clarification regarding the application of this Policy, they may contact the Secretary-General for guidance. In such cases, the Secretary-General shall consult with the relevant parties as they deem appropriate.

3. The Revocation Committee receives and reviews information and/or documentation regarding the possible revocation or removal of a Recognition. The Revocation Committee may consider the revocation or removal of a Recognition based upon any information available or provided to the Revocation Committee and may consult with any person deemed appropriate. The Revocation Committee carefully considers the quality and provenance of any document or information consulted.

4. Neither the initial review nor the further analysis of the Revocation Committee involves a re-investigation of a matter that has been investigated by the University or on behalf of the University, whether pursuant to another University policy or process, or otherwise.

5. Following an initial review, if the Revocation Committee considers the information available to be insufficient or spurious, it may elect to discontinue any further analysis of the revocation or removal under consideration and will so advise the Provost, the Secretary-General or the President of that decision, as appropriate.

6. Under reserve of any decision by the Revocation Committee to discontinue the analysis of a revocation or removal in accordance with section 5, and, under reserve of section 7, in the case of the potential revocation of an honorary degree pursuant to the Policy on the Awarding of Honorary Degrees (BD-15) or a Recognition which has been approved by the
Board of Governors or Senate, the Revocation Committee shall forward to the relevant body its recommendation regarding revocation or removal.

7. Notwithstanding section 6, in the event that a decision to revoke or remove a Recognition is based in whole or in part upon a confidential investigation or report, the Revocation Committee shall share only the decision to revoke or remove in a confidential manner and it will not share any report or decision regarding that matter.

8. In the case of any other Recognitions which are awarded or granted on the basis of other University policies or practices, the Revocation Committee reviews the information in accordance with the Guidelines and makes the appropriate recommendation to the relevant Vice-President.

9. All of the deliberations of the Revocation Committee are strictly confidential, and its recommendations are to be treated confidentially by the body or person receiving such recommendations.

10. Once a decision has been rendered regarding revocation or removal of a Recognition, the decision as to if and/or how to communicate, display, delete or modify any University communication website, publication, or tool to reflect the decision reached shall be carefully considered on a case-by-case basis. In the event of revocation or removal, the Revocation Committee may request that the University’s publications are modified accordingly.

11. The overall responsibility for implementing and recommending amendments to this Policy shall rest with the Secretary-General.

Approved by the Board of Governors on December 16, 2021.