

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION  
OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

Held on Friday, October 17, 2008,  
immediately following the Closed Session  
in the Norman D. Hébert, LLD Meeting Room  
(Room EV 2.260) on the SGW Campus

PRESENT

Voting members: Mr. S. Bellemare; Prof. L. Blair; Dr. L. Dandurand; Mr. K. Diaz; Dean R. Drew; Prof. L. Dyer; Prof. A. English; Prof. B. Gamoy; Prof. J. Garrido; Mr. C. Goldfinch; Dr. D. Graham; Mr. S. Jack; Prof. M. Jamal; Ms. K. Kashfi; Prof. S. Lister; Dean J. Locke; Prof. W. Lynch; Prof. S. McSheffrey; Prof. N. Nixon; Mr. P.R. Osei; Ms. A. Peek; Prof. M. Peluso; Prof. M. Pugh; Dean S. Sharma; Ms. M. Sheppard; Prof. P. Stoett; Prof. C. Trueman; Mr. M.F. Uddin; Ms. R. Wilcox; Dean C. Wild; Dr. J. Woodsworth

Non-voting members: Mr. G. Beasley; Dr. D. Boisvert (*Speaker*); Mr. M. Di Grappa; Mr. L. English; Me B. Freedman; Ms. L. Healey; Mr. A. McAusland; Ms. E. Morey

ABSENT

Voting members: Prof. J. Chaikelson; Mr. R. Doucet; Prof. A. Hamalian; Prof. C. Ross; Prof. F. Shaver; Associate Dean T. Stathopoulos

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 2:11 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

R-2008-9-5 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Drew, Peluso), it was unanimously resolved that the Agenda be approved.*

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of September 26, 2008

R-2008-9-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Wild, Garrido), it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of September 26, 2008 be approved.*

4. Business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda

Dr. Boisvert apprised Senate that, further to Ms. Peek's request formulated at the last meeting, Steering Committee reviewed the manner in which the content of Senate discussion are drafted and reproduced into the Minutes. Word for word transcription is not done, and Steering Committee is satisfied that the Minutes as currently drafted convey the themes which emerge from the discussion and state the debate and concerns expressed. The Speaker pointed out that while individual questions and answers are not typically recorded, those Senators who feel strongly that their comment or question should be recorded should make a request accordingly at the meeting.

5. Report and recommendations from the Academic Programs Committee (Document US-2008-9-D3)

5.1 Major graduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Arts and Science (Documents US-2008-9-D4 to D7)

R-2008-9-7 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Locke, Wild), it was unanimously resolved that the major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Arts and Science, set out in Documents US-2008-9-D4 to D7 be approved as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2008-9-D3.*

5.2 Major graduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Fine Arts (Document US-2008-9-D8)

R-2008-9-8 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Wild, Blair), it was unanimously resolved that the major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Fine Arts, set out in Document US-2008-9-D8, be approved as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2008-9-D3.*

5.3 Minor undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Arts and Science (Document US-2008-9-D9)

Dr. Boisvert indicated that minor curriculum changes are submitted for information purposes.

5.4 Major graduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science (Documents US-2008-9-D10 and D11)

R-2008-9-9 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Dandurand, Drew), it was unanimously resolved that the major graduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, set out in Documents US-2008-9-D10 and D11, be approved as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2008-9-D3.*

6. Report and recommendations of the Senate Committee on Academic Planning and Priorities regarding the composition of Senate (Document US-2008-9-D12)

Dr. Graham noted that pursuant to the last Senate meeting, at which time Senate had extensively discussed the composition of Senate and adopted in principle the SCAPP Report on the "Recommendations of the Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Role of Senate in University Governance", SCAPP has finalized the implementation documentation which is being proposed for final approval at today's meeting.

R-2008-9-10 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Graham, Peek), it was unanimously resolved that, upon recommendation of the Senate Committee on Academic Planning and Priorities, Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the revised composition of Senate as set out in Table 3 (voting members) and Table 4 (non-voting members) of Document US-2008-9-D12;*

*That Senate mandate the Senate Committee on Academic Planning and Priorities to review the composition of Senate no later than during the 2012-2013 academic year and to bring forward a recommendation to maintain or alter it for the September 2013 meeting of Senate at the latest; and*

*That the above-mentioned review by the Senate Committee on Academic Planning and Priorities include explicit consideration of the overall size of Senate, in light of the substantial increase in voting membership proposed in Table 3 referred to hereinabove.*

7. Recommendation of the Senate Research Committee regarding the approval of the 2008-2012 Strategic Research Plan (Document US-2008-9-D13)

Dr. Dandurand was pleased to present the purpose, process and concept of the strategic research plan. The last update was conducted in 2005 and all universities are in the midst of updating their plans for the upcoming CRC and CFI competitions. While the plan is geared essentially towards major granting agencies such as CRC and CFI which use those plans to evaluate where the university is headed, the document is also used as a blueprint for other provincial and federal granting agencies. She noted that the plan is not a strict blueprint for resource allocations but puts emphasis on areas of strengths and emerging areas.

Dr. Dandurand indicated that the direction and content of the proposed plan were discussed at length with the associate deans of each Faculty, further to which two iterations of the plan were reviewed by the Senate Research Committee. The plan was then presented to the Faculty Councils and the Council of the School of Graduate Studies and comments received following those presentations have been integrated into the plan.

While the former plan was more closed and built on a discipline by discipline approach, this one looks at trends in an integrated way and reflects an interdisciplinary approach to addressing problems. The plan identifies two main clusters: *The Person in Society* and *Technology, Industry and the Environment*.

In closing, Dr. Dandurand thanked Dr. Carole Brabant, Ms. Kristina Ohrvall, Ms. Brenda Fewster as well as the four associate deans of research for their contribution and work on bringing the plan to fruition.

R-2008-9-10 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Dandurand, Sharma), it was unanimously resolved that, upon recommendation of the Senate Research Committee, Senate approve the 2008-2012 Strategic Research Plan, as set out in Document US-2008-9-D13.*

8. Report of other Senate Standing Committee

8.1 Library

8.2 Finance

Those committees had not met since the last Senate meeting.

9. Committee appointments (Document US-2008-9-D14)

*R-2008-9-12 Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Graham, Sharma), it was unanimously resolved that the committee appointments, set out in Document US-2008-9-D14, be approved.*

10. Comments on the draft profile for the position of Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science (Document US-2008-9-D15)

11. Update of the Advisory Search Committee for a Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science

Dr. Graham reported that the Search Committee had met. The executive search firm Ray & Berndtson has been retained, with Mr. André Couillard as the lead consultant. The Chair has prepared the draft profile for the ideal candidate.

The Speaker indicated that the search procedures provide an opportunity for various constituencies to comment on the draft profile before the Advisory Search Committee submits a final version to the Board for approval. Ms. Tessier will note the comments formulated at the meeting and convey them to the Secretary of the Advisory Search Committee.

Further to a query, Dr. Graham informed Senators that the draft profile was based on the 2004 profile but had been revised to update some factual and numerical data and to expand the last paragraph to reinforce some of the requirements with regard to personal and ethical qualities.

Noting that she was also a member of the Advisory Search Committee, Ms. Peek clarified the comment she had made to the Committee that students are actively involved in the life and development of the University. Therefore, she felt that a phrase should be added to the profile indicating that the candidate should be prepared and willing to work with an active student body. Dr. Graham agreed to add such a phrase prior to submission of the profile to the Board of Governors.

12. Remarks from the President (Document US-2008-9-D16)

Dr. Woodsworth reported her continued emphasis on getting to know the internal and external communities better and invited Senators to read her report which conveys the details of her various activities in relation thereto.

With respect to the governance issue, discussions are ongoing at CREPUQ and with the Minister of Education. A meeting was held with the heads of universities, Board Chairs and the Minister. The general consensus among universities is that they oppose legislation but ascribe to the principles of good governance based on accountability and autonomy in respect of each university's tradition. The Minister will be introducing the legislation very shortly. A parliamentary commission will be held but parties will be heard by invitation only. Dr. Woodsworth noted that students and faculty will have opportunities to convey their thoughts on this matter since the Minister will also be meeting with student and faculty associations and unions such as the CSN.

The President also updated Senators on the strategic planning process and urged them to visit the strategic planning website which includes a draft public consultation document on strategic directions. This document is generic, the goal being to seek input and feedback from the community. Moreover, public consultations and world cafés will be held, the details of which are found on the strategic planning website. Dr. Woodsworth noted that a sample action plan is also posted on the website for feedback. For each broad direction, sample actions are proposed. The purpose of the sample action plan is to identify ways of achieving the goals and measuring their success. In closing, the President invited all members of the community to provide feedback on this process.

13. Items for information

There were no items for information.

14. Question period

No questions were asked.

15. Other business

There was no other business to bring before Senate.

16. Next meeting

The next meeting of Senate will be held on Friday, November 14, 2008, at 2 p.m.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Danielle Tessier  
Secretary of Senate