

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

Held on Friday, April 20, 2012, at 2:00 p.m.
in the Norman D. Hébert, LL.D. Meeting Room
(Room EV 2.260) on the SGW Campus

PRESENT

Voting members: Prof. A. Akgunduz; Mr. G. Beasley; Mr. N. Burke; Prof. J. Camlot; Dr. G. Carr; Prof. J. Chaikelson; Mr. H. Cheikhzen; Ms. S. D'Ambra; Prof. M. Debbabi; Prof. D. Douglas; Dean R. Drew; Mr. A. Filipowich; Ms. L. Gill; Dr. D. Graham; Prof. J. Grant; Mr. B. Hamideh; Ms. M. Hotchkiss; Dean A. Hochstein; Prof. N. Ingram; Mr. J. Kelly; Prof. G. Leonard; Dean B. Lewis; Prof. J. Lewis; Dr. F. Lowy; Ms. M. Manson; Mr. E. Martineau; Mr. K. McLoughlin; Mr. G. Morrow; Ms. H. Nazar; Mr. M. Nurujjaman; Prof. M. Peluso; Prof. G. Rail; Prof. R. Reilly; Mr. D. Shakibaian; Prof. F. Shaver; Prof. M. R. Soleymani; Mr. R. Sonin; Prof. R. Staseson; Prof. T. Stathopoulos; Prof. J. Turnbull; Dean C. Wild; Mr. C. Wilson; Associate Dean P. Wood-Adams

Non-voting members: Mr. P. Beauregard; Dr. D. Boisvert (*Speaker*); Mr. R. Côté; Me B. Freedman; Mr. P. Kelley; Ms. M. C. Morin; Mr. T. Too

ABSENT

Voting members: Prof. A. Dutkewych; Prof. J. Garrido; Prof. F. Khendek; Prof. B. Layne; Prof. M. Magnan; Prof. B. Nelson; Prof. C. Nikolenyi; Prof. W. Sims

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Dr. Boisvert apprised Senators that Document US-2012-3-D17 has been distributed as supplemental information in connection with item 6 on the Consent Agenda.

R-2012-3-1 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Peluso, Graham), it was unanimously resolved that the Agenda of the Open Session be approved, with the removal of items 3 and 7 from the Consent section to the Regular section, and the rearrangement of the Regular section to place item 16 before item 12 and item 17 before item 15, and that items 4 to 6 and item 8 be approved or received by consent.*

CONSENT4. Reports of Senate Standing Committees4.1 Library Committee (Documents US-2012-3-D1 and D2)

These documents were submitted for information.

4.2 Research Committee

The Research Committee has not met since the last meeting

5. Report and recommendations of the Academic Programs Committee (Document US-2012-3-D3)5.1 Major undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Arts and Science - Department of Education (Document US-2012-3-D4)

R-2012-3-2 *The major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Arts and Science, detailed in Document US-2012-3-D4, were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2012-3-D3.*

5.2 Major undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science5.2.1 Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (Document US-2012-3-D5)5.2.2 Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering (Document US-2012-3-D6)

R-2012-3-3 *The major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, detailed in Documents US-2012-3-D5 and D6 were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2012-3-D3.*

5.3 Major undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Fine Arts - Fine Arts courses of faculty-wide interest (Document US-2012-3-D7)

R-2012-3-4 *The major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Fine Arts, detailed in Document US-2012-3-D7, were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2012-3-D3.*

6. Spectrum: Concordia University Research Repository Second Annual Report (Documents US-2012-3-D8 and D17)8. Update on ongoing senior administrative searches (Document US-2012-3-D10)

These documents were presented for information purposes.

REGULAR3. Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of February 17, 2012

Prof. Peluso asked that item 13 in the Minutes be corrected to reflect that the request was for a document outlining the precise distribution of awards among the Faculties, including bursaries, scholarships and fellowships.

R-2012-3-5 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Peluso, Graham), it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of February 17, 2012 be approved, as amended.*

7. Non-curriculum Graduate Calendar Changes – Council of the School of Graduate Studies (Document US-2012-3-D9)

With respect to the non-curriculum changes to the graduate calendar, Prof. Chaikelson pointed out that the marks being due seven days after final exams is not a problem in April but is in December. She gave notice that she will be submitting a motion proposing changes to the graduate and undergraduate calendars at the next Senate meeting.

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

Dr. Chaikelson asked to speak about the non-credit courses in the School of Extended Learning which need to be approved by Senate. The Speaker asked her to raise this under Question Period.

10. Remarks from the President

Dr. Lowy conveyed important upcoming changes, including the completion of the term of the Chair of the Board of Governors, Mr. Peter Kruyt, and the announcement of the incoming Chair on July 1, Mr. Norman Hébert Jr.; the candidate for next President, Dr. Alan Shepard from Ryerson University; and the appointment of Dr. Steve Harvey as Dean of JMSB effective July 1.

11. Report of the Finance Committee (Document US-2012-3-D11)

Prof. Peluso noted that the report was very well done but that she would like more detail in how the Arts and Science faculty can spend the least amount of money and how much the Provost and Deans' offices spend on salaries for their personnel, broken down into full-time, part-time and time-sheets staff. Mr. Kelley responded that he cannot display every position in these offices because it would allow a link back to the individuals. A discussion ensued regarding the fiscal priorities of the senior administration and their staff.

A question arose regarding the figure in the report of the 240 unused reserve courses. A discussion ensued surrounding the confusion of not using the reserve courses to their full potential and the lack of help in funding graduate students which is the purpose of the

reserve course. Dr. Graham assured Senate that getting more graduate students teaching reserve courses is something his office has been working on. He apprised Senators that he had received information from Mr. Serge Bergeron that the current reserve courses are being used by graduate students, adjunct professors, eConcordia courses and other adjunct professors and that there are currently 33 unused reserve courses. A report will be submitted to Senate regarding the breakdown of reserve courses.

In response to a query as to why the \$2 million fine imposed by MELS for the severance packages for senior management is not included in the report, Prof. Chaikelson answered that the University does not know the terms of penalty and therefore it has not made provisions for it.

16. Trans Identity project update

Mr. Côté gave a short introduction then asked Prof. Rail to speak on the topic. Prof. Rail said that Gabrielle Bouchard, from the 2010 Centre for Gender Advocacy, has advocated diligently to help the Trans students at Concordia. The University has agreed that beginning in the Fall 2012 semester, all students will have the option to register with a preferred name and no gender notation in order to avoid the embarrassment, anxiety and confusion of being referred to by their birth name and gender.

The preferred name will be used in all internal documents pertaining to the student and will be printed on their student ID card along with the legal last name, but it will not be used in official correspondence with other universities. As well, the legal full name of the student will appear on the official university transcript. Senators applauded this measure.

12. Follow-up from last Senate meeting regarding the relationship between Concordia University, eConcordia and KnowledgeOne (Document US-2012-3-D12)

Dr. Boisvert noted that Document US-2012-3-D12 was distributed at the meeting.

A discussion ensued, during which an overlap was noted in the membership on both the eConcordia and KnowledgeOne boards. Me Freedman explained that there was only one example of this and that this was a temporary situation where Mr. Meti took a leadership position in the companies while being a member of the eConcordia board. In response to a concern about the overlap of the membership with Concordia's Board of Governors, Dr. Lowy answered that it meant that Concordia was able to exert influence over both organizations.

There was a question regarding clarification on the eConcordia cost to Concordia. Dr. Lowy explained that KnowledgeOne runs at a breakeven point. If it generates money outside of providing courses to Concordia, the revenue would stream back to the University.

13. Report and recommendation of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee
(Document US-2012-3-D13)

Dr. Graham moved that, on recommendation of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (APPC), Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the approval of an amendment to Article 65 of the University By-Laws to provide for the establishment of the Academic Plan Reporting Committee as a standing committee of Senate; and that the document entitled "Membership and Functions of Senate Standing Committees" to be amended to provide for the Academic Plan Reporting Committee (APRC) as a standing committee of Senate, in accordance with the membership and mandate outlined in Document US-2012-3-D13.

Prof. Chaikelson was opposed to the current iteration of the proposal, stating that it was not in keeping with the name (Academic Planning Coordinating Committee - APCC) or the mandate approved by Senate. A lengthy discussion ensued, during which several Senators agreed that the mandate was for a committee to oversee the proper implementation of the academic plan and that it was envisioned that this committee would take over for the Academic Plan Steering Committee.

Dr. Graham and Dr. Carr, along with other members of the APPC who were present, defended the proposed mandate and composition of the APRC since the original iteration from Senate overlapped with the mandate of the APPC and the Academic Plan Steering Committee. However, some Senators felt that Senate should be deeply involved in the decision-making process of the implementation of the academic plan. A number of Senators also felt that all constituencies should be represented on the committee.

R-2012-3-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Rail, Debbabi), it was resolved that item 13 be tabled and sent back to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee for revision closer to the original approved motion to create the committee.*

14. Recommendation to adopt a Code of Ethics and Conduct applicable to Members of Senate and Members of Committees Established by Senate (Document US-2012-3-D14)

Dr. Carr moved that, on recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee to Propose a Code of Ethics to Senate, Senate approve the establishment of the Code of Ethics and Conduct applicable to Members of Senate and Members of Committees Established by Senate (Policy US-1), as set out in Document US-2012-3-D14.

A lengthy discussion ensued, during which Senators felt that the Ad Hoc Committee should revise the Code of Ethics according the following comments:

- The wording and provisions of items 3 and 5 should be clearer
- Be more specific about the sanctions for a Senator who breaches the Code, including the procedures on hearing a breach of the Code
- Members should be able to vote in the best interest of their constituency
- Define loyalty, care, diligence and prudence within the context of the Code

- With respect to the proposed composition of the Ethics Committee, Senators favored a membership having representatives from all the Senate constituencies

R-2012-3-7 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Ingram, Leonard), it was resolved that item 14 be tabled and sent back to the Ad Hoc Committee to Propose a Code of Ethics to Senate for revision.*

17. Academic implications of student protest

The Speaker opened the floor for a committee-of-the whole discussion. The main themes which emerged from the discussion are summarized as follows:

- Appreciation to the people who are supporting the student protest
- Protesting students want more accommodation including the suspension of classes and exams
- Protesting students want the opportunity to learn the material they missed by protesting
- Protesting students want the President and the administration to stand up to the government and tell the Education Minister to end the assault on education
- Professors are working to accommodate the students who have missed classes
- The Deans are asking the professors to accommodate students who have missed classes
- The Provost and other senior administrators are working to accommodate the students with late DISC notations and waiving certain fees associated with deferments

Pursuant to the lengthy discussion, the following resolutions were adopted.

R-2012-3-8 *Upon motion duly made and seconded (Peluso, Douglas) it was unanimously resolved that:*

- *Senate is gravely concerned with the continuation of the student protests and the long-term consequences for all members of the university community and the government.*
- *Dialogue is urgently called for.*
- *Senate urges all parties to set aside pre-conceived conditions and enter into discussions to bring back peaceful living to all of the citizens of Quebec.*
- *This motion should be conveyed, on behalf of Senate, to the Premier of Quebec by President Lowy.*

R-2012-3-9 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Rail, Nazar), it was resolved that Deans and senior administration continue dialogue with student representatives and chairs of academic units where the strike has most affected students in order to work on a satisfactory conclusion to the semester.*

Due to the late hour, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Renaud".

Andrea Renaud
Acting Secretary of Senate