

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

Held on Friday, November 2, 2012,
immediately following the Closed Session meeting
in the Norman D. Hébert, LL.D. Meeting Room
(Room EV 2.260) on the SGW Campus

PRESENT

Voting members: Dr. Alan Shepard (*Chair*); Mr. H. Abdullahi; Prof. A. Akgunduz; Mr. G. Beasley; Prof. P. Caignon; Prof. L. Caminati; Dr. G. Carr; Prof. J. Chaikelson; Prof. S. Chlopan; Ms. A. Dahl; Prof. I. Dostaler; Prof. D. Douglas; Dean R. Drew; Dr. O. Dyens; Prof. L. Dyer; Prof. M. Frank; Prof. J. Garrido; Ms. I. Giacotta; Prof. J. Grant; Dean S. Harvey; Ms. M. Hotchkiss; Ms. W. Kraus-Heitmann; Prof. F. Khendek; Mr. S.-P. Lauzon; Prof. B. Layne; Dean B. Lewis; Prof. J. Lewis; Mr. D. McSharry; Mr. G. Morrow; Prof. C. Nikolenyi; Dr. L. Ostiguy; Prof. M. Peluso; Prof. G. Rail; Prof. R. Reilly; Ms. D. Saryan; Prof. J. Segovia; Mr. T. Shahwan; Prof. Y. Shayan; Prof. M. R. Soleymani; Mr. R. Sonin; Prof. R. Staseson; Prof. T. Stathopoulos; Mr. S. Swaine-Simon; Prof. J. Turnbull; Mr. C. Walcott; Dean C. Wild; Mr. C. Wilson; Dean P. Wood-Adams

Non-voting members: Ms. J. Beaudoin; Mr. P. Beauregard; Mr. R. Côté; Ms. B. Freedman; Mr. P. Kelley; Ms. R. Marion; Ms. M. C. Morin; Mr. T. Too

ABSENT

Voting members: Mr. C. Brenchley; Prof. S. Carliner; Prof. N. Ingram; Mr. R. Khoriaty; Prof. G. Leonard; Prof. W. Sims; Prof. M. L. Wholey

1. **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Shepard at 2:12p.m.

1.1 **Approval of Agenda**

R-2012-7-5 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Chaikelson, Stathopoulos), 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 October 5, 2012

R-2012-7-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Ostiguy, Beasley), it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of October 5, 2012 be approved.*

2. Business arising from the Minutes

2.1 Response to query regarding KnowledgeOne income tax paid in 2011 and 2012
(Document US-2012-7-D4)

Dr. Segovia thanked Mr. Kelley for the transparency of his response. The latter responded to questions of clarifications.

3. President's Remarks

Dr. Shepard spoke of his Installation as a moving experience which meant a lot to his family. This ceremony occurred on the same day as the Fall Convocation, during which 1,800 students graduated and honorary degrees were awarded to Elsa Bolam and Aldo Bensadoun.

He noted the following accomplishments:

- Jean-Philippe Gouin (Psychology) and Sylvia Santosa (Exercise Science) have been awarded Canada Research Chairs (CRC) for their research in preventative healthcare;
- Margie Mendell (School of Community and Public Affairs) has earned the inaugural Prix Pierre-Dansereau from the Association francophone pour le savoir (Acfas) in recognition of an individual who best exemplifies a commitment to improving society;
- Peter Stoett (Political Science) has been appointed as the Erasmus Mundus Visiting Scholarship in the European Union, to be taken at the International Institute of Social Sciences in April of 2013;
- the Women's Rugby team defeated University Laval's team;
- the Recruitment Office organized a successful Open House last weekend.

Further to receiving instructions from the government regarding the cancellation of the tuition fee increase, the University is acting upon those instructions to facilitate the reimbursement process.

4. Standing Committee reports

4.1 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee (Document US-2012-7-D5)

Dr. Ostiguy noted that the discussion of the October 11 meeting was summarized in the report which was circulated to Senators. Essentially, the Committee was asking Senate to reconsider its December 2011 decision with respect to establishing the Academic Plan Coordinating Committee as a standing committee of Senate. She said that, in accordance with its mandate, APPC can serve this function in the short term. Moreover, APPC has the option to nominate a faculty Senator, and it is contemplating completing its

membership for this academic year by adding a faculty Senator from among one of the five part-time faculty members on Senate.

A discussion ensued, during which the original proposers of the motion to establish the Academic Plan Coordinating Committee as a standing committee of Senate agreed that the circumstances had changed with the President and Provost's commitment that regular updates on the Academic Plan be provided to Senate.

R-2012-7-7 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Chaikelson, Douglas), it was unanimously resolved that Senate defer the implementation of Senate's resolution R-2011-9-13, adopted on December 9, 2011 establishing the Academic Plan Coordinating Committee as a standing committee of Senate, until September 2013.*

As a follow-up to several questions regarding various committees and working groups included in the Academic Plan actions, Dr. Ostiguy suggested that it would be helpful if more information was made available and accessible to members of Senate as well as the University community on the reporting structure, composition and membership of such committees and working groups. She mentioned opportunities to get involved in various working groups and noted that a plan is in the works to make all this information available on the website.

4.2 Finance Committee (Document US-2012-7-D6)

4.3 Library Committee (Document US-2012-7-D7)

There were no questions on these reports.

4.4 Research Committee (Document US-2012-7-D8)

Dr. Carr responded to questions of clarifications.

5. Update on the Academic Plan

Dr. Ostiguy updated Senators on the ongoing initiatives under the Academic Plan in connection with additional funding for the library, the creation of a student writing and communication skills centre as well as a math support centre, e-learning principles, the development of a statement on accessibility, the launching an undergraduate research initiative, and the efforts towards graduate student recruitment.

CONSENT

6. Committee appointments (Document US-2012-7-D9)

R-2012-7-8 *The committee appointments set out in Document BG-2012-7-D9, were approved by consent.*

7. Academic Programs Committee: Report and recommendations (Document US-2012-7-D10)
- 7.1 Major undergraduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Arts and Science
- 7.1.1 Department of Applied Human Sciences (Documents US-2012-7-D11 and D12)
- 7.1.2 Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry (Document US-2012-7-D13)
- 7.1.3 Department of Classics, Modern Languages and Linguistics (Documents US-2012-7-D14 and D15)
- 7.1.4 Department of Communication Studies (Document US-2012-7-D16)
- 7.1.5 Département d'études françaises (Documents US-2012-7-D17 and D18)
- 7.1.6 Department of Exercise Science (Document US-2012-7-D19)
- 7.1.7 Department of Geography, Planning and Environment (Document US-2012-7-D20)
- 7.1.8 Department of Mathematics and Statistics (Documents US-2012-7-D21 and D22)
- 7.1.9 Department of Philosophy (Document US-2012-7-D23)
- 7.1.10 Department of Physics (Document US-2012-7-D24)
- 7.1.11 Department of Religion (Document US-2012-7-D25)
- 7.1.12 Department of Sociology and Anthropology (Document US-2012-7-D26)
- 7.1.13 Department of Theological Studies (Document US-2012-7-D27)
- 7.1.14 Liberal Arts College (Document US-2012-7-D28)
- 7.1.15 School of Community and Public Affairs (Document US-2012-7-D29)

R-2012-7-9 *The major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Arts and Science outlined in Documents US-2012-7-D11 to D29 were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2012-7-D10.*

- 7.2 Major undergraduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science
- 7.2.1 Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering (Document US-2012-7-D30)
- 7.2.2 Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (Document US-2012-7-D31)
- 7.2.3 Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering (Documents US-2012-7-D32 and D33)

R-2012-7-10 *The major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science outlined in Documents US-2012-7-D30 to D33 were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2012-7-D10.*

- 7.4 Major undergraduate curriculum – School of Extended Learning
- 7.4.1 Reorganization and update of calendar section (Document US-2012-7-D38)

R-2012-7-11 *The major undergraduate curriculum changes in the School of Extended Learning outlined in Document US-2012-7-D38 were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2012-7-D10.*

- 7.5 Minor undergraduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Arts and Science
- 7.5.1 Loyola College for Diversity and Sustainability (Document US-2012-7-D39)
- 7.5.2 Honour regulations (Document US-2012-7-D40)

7.5.3 Mature entry requirements (Document US-2012-7-D41)

Minor curriculum changes are submitted for information only.

REGULAR

7.3 Major undergraduate curriculum changes - Faculty of Fine Arts

7.3.1 Department of Music (Documents US-2012-7-D34 and D35)

7.3.2 Department of Studio Arts (Documents US-2012-7-D36 and D37)

In response to concerns raised regarding the inconsistency within the Faculty of Fine Arts as to how many class-time contact hours equate to a three-credit course, Dean Wild explained that there are different hours for lecture-based and studio-based courses and that the Faculty works to ensure consistency of contact hours and credits but has to consider specific disciplinary needs.

She gave the example of film studies needing time to screen a film in class or private study courses in music that involve one-on-one teaching as reasons why contact hours may differ. Dean Wild noted that there may be a few historical anomalies in contact hours, but that the Faculty is continuing to work with units to ensure appropriate consistency of credits and contact hours.

R-2012-7-12 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Layne, Walcott), it was unanimously resolved that the major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Fine Arts outlined in Documents US-2012-7-D34 to D37 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2012-7-D10.*

8. Research Committee: Recommendation for University recognition of a research unit: Concordia Institute for Water, Energy, and Sustainable Systems (CIWESS) (Document US-2012-7-D42)

Dr. Catherine Mulligan, Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science, presented the Institute's mission and the scope of research and training activities. She also spoke of the Institute's structure as well as its multi-faculty approach, inter-university initiative and partnerships outside of Concordia.

R-2012-7-13 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Carr, Drew), it was unanimously resolved that, on recommendation of the Research Committee, Senate grant the university-recognized status to the Concordia Institute for Water, Energy, and Sustainable Systems (CIWESS), in accordance with the Policy on Research Units (VPRGS-8), as outlined in Document US-2012-7-D42.*

9. Question period

Pursuant to a concern raised by Prof. Frank regarding the service and high cost of renting a room and equipment charged by Hospitality Concordia for research-related events, other Senators reiterated similar concerns. Mr. Côté acknowledged the concerns,

explained the current practices but indicated that a review of those practices will be done to see how best to support the needs of the various constituencies. He urged anyone who experiences challenges in dealing with the Hospitality Concordia services to communicate the specifics to him. At the request of Prof. Peluso, Mr. Côté said that detailed information regarding an inventory of rooms available for events can be provided.

In response to Mr. Wilson's query, Mr. Côté apprised Senate that the University is addressing issues related to its international student homestays. A working group, convened by the Dean of Students, is looking into the housing needs and support for international students. Moreover, a review of the student recruitment program in China is being completed and appropriate follow-up actions will be done. Students are being consulted and the Presidents of the CSU and GSA, as well as others, are participating in the working group.

9.1 Response to question regarding Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies (Document US-2012-7-D43)

Prof. Nikolenyi reiterated that the Azrieli Institute is a scholarly research institute and not a political organization, specifying that the funding comes through an arm's length agreement between the donor and the University. It is a faculty-level research institute approved by the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Mr. Shahwan indicated that in posing the question he was also expressing the concern of other organizations that the Institute is biased towards one side of the Middle East conflict and is marginalizing the Palestinian view. Dr. Nikolenyi did not agree with that view and said that it would be helpful to see the letter from those organizations or those who have particular complaints so that they could be addressed. As well, he indicated that anyone was free to join the Institute's mailing list so as to keep abreast of the Institute's activities.

10. Centraide appeal

Prof. Peluso spoke about the importance of Concordia's commitment to the Centraide Campaign as a component of its community involvement and urged everyone to participate. She noted that the participation of Concordia's faculty is low, which is surprising given that many faculty work on projects with several communities which are supported by Centraide.

Dr. Ostiguy echoed Prof. Peluso's plea and urged every member of Senate to donate.

11. Other business

There was no other business to bring before the meeting.

12. Next meeting

The President noted that the next meeting of Senate will be held on Friday, December 7, 2012, at 2 p.m., in Room EV 2.260.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.



Danielle Tessier
Secretary of Senate