

MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF SENATE

Held on Friday, April 19, 2013,
immediately following the Closed Session
in the Norman D. Hébert, LL.D. Meeting Room
(Room EV 2.260) on the SGW Campus

PRESENT

Voting members: Dr. A. Shepard (*Chair*); Mr. H. Abdullahi; Prof. A. Akgunduz; Mr. G. Beasley; Prof. P. Caignon; Prof. S. Carliner; Dr. G. Carr; Prof. J. Chaikelson; Prof. S. Chlopan; Ms. A. Dahl; Prof. I. Dostaler; Prof. D. Douglas; Prof. L. Dyer; Prof. M. Frank; Ms. I. Giacotta; Prof. J. Grant; Dean S. Harvey; Prof. N. Ingram; Prof. F. Khendek; Ms. W. Kraus-Heitmann; Ms. M. Lemieux; Prof. G. Leonard; Prof. J. Locke (*replacing Dean B. Lewis*); Mr. G. Morrow; Prof. C. Nikolenyi; Dr. L. Ostiguy; Prof. H. Proppe; Prof. R. Reilly; Ms. D. Saryan; Prof. J. Segovia; Mr. T. Shahwan; Prof. M. R. Soleymani; Mr. R. Sonin; Prof. T. Stathopoulos; Mr. S. Swaine-Simon; Mr. J. Vaccaro; Mr. C. Walcott; Prof. M. L. Wholey; Dean C. Wild; Mr. C. Wilson; Dean P. Wood-Adams

Non-voting members: Ms. J. Beaudoin; Mr. P. Beauregard; Mr. R. Côté; Me B. Freedman; Mr. P. Kelley; Ms. R. Marion; Ms. S. Sarik

ABSENT

Voting members: Mr. N. Burke; Prof. L. Caminati; Dean R. Drew; Ms. H. El Jahidi; Prof. J. Garrido; Ms. M. Hotchkiss; Prof. B. Layne; Prof. J. Lewis; Mr. D. McSharry; Prof. M. Peluso; Prof. G. Rail; Prof. Y. Shayan; Prof. R. Staseson; Prof. J. Turnbull

Non-voting members: Ms. M. C. Morin

1. **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Shepard at 2:18 p.m.

1.1 **Approval of Agenda**

R-2013-4-5 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Douglas, Lemieux), 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 March 15, 2013

R-2013-4-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Stathopoulos, Lemieux), it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of March 15, 2013 be approved.*

2. Business arising from the Minutes not included in the Agenda

There was no business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda.

3. President's Remarks

Dr. Shepard briefed Senators on the events that transpired at the recent CREPUQ meeting which led to the departure of Université Laval and possibly Université de Montréal. He noted the uncertainty of what will happen next and suggested that we watch, wait and see, while acknowledging the importance for universities to have effective advocacy, whether via CREPUQ or a new organisation. He emphasized the importance of getting the word out about the quality of a university education and its impact on people's lives.

The President thanked Drs. Carliner, Dyens and Ostiguy for their work in making the recent e.SCAPE conference very successful. He was pleased to report that Concordia will be hosting the annual conference of Acfas (Association francophone pour le savoir) in 2014 as well as Encuentro, organized in conjunction with the Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics.

Dr. Shepard concluded his remarks by highlighting several awards, accomplishments and endeavors of Concordia faculty, students, staff and alumni.

4. Update on the Academic Plan (<http://www.concordia.ca/about/who-we-are/strategic-framework/academic-plan/progress-dashboard/>)

Dr. Ostiguy indicated that the planning exercise is now moving into assessment mode and focusing on the establishment of priorities for next year.

At her invitation, Dr. Dyens updated Senators on curriculum reform initiatives, Dean Wood-Adams on initiatives supporting the graduate curriculum process and Mr. Beasley on the support for open access and the authors' fund. Dr. Ostiguy said that Senate will be provided with a more detailed review at the next meeting.

5. Standing Committee reports

5.1 Academic Planning and Priorities Committee

5.2 Finance Committee

These committees have not met since the last Senate meeting.

5.3 Library Committee (Document US-2013-4-D3)

This report was provided for information purposes.

5.4 Research Committee

This committee has not met since the last Senate meeting.

CONSENT

6. Minor amendments to the Guidelines for the Awarding of Honorary Degrees (Document US-2013-4-D4)

This document was provided for information purposes.

8. Academic Programs Committee: Report and recommendations (Document US-2013-3-D6)

8.1 Major undergraduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science – Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering (Document US-2013-4-D7)

R-2013-4-7 *The major undergraduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science outlined in Document US-2013-4-D7 were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2013-4-D6.*

8.2 Major graduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science

8.2.1 Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering (Document US-2013-4-D8)

8.2.2 Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (Documents US-2013-4-D9 and D10)

8.2.3 Centre for Engineering in Society (Document US-2013-4-D11)

R-2013-4-8 *The major graduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science outlined in Documents US-2013-4-D8 to D11 were approved by consent, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2013-4-D6.*

REGULAR

7. Annual report from the Office of Rights and Responsibilities (Document US-2013-4-D5)

Me Freedman responded to questions of clarification regarding the content of the report, noting that the long list of recommendations is based on the experience and observations of the Advisor over the past 2.5 years which will be considered during the next revision of the Code by the review committee constituted for that purpose.

9. Major graduate curriculum changes – Faculty of Arts and Science – Department of Applied Human Sciences (Document US-2013-4-D12)

Dr. Varda Mann-Feder was pleased to convey the highlights of the new 33-credit graduate Diploma in Youth Work which was developed to fill a pressing need in the Anglophone

sector of youth-serving agencies. This program, unique in Quebec, focuses both on intervention and prevention, in normative contexts. Moreover, graduates will have the option to apply for membership in the Ordre des Psychoéducateurs du Québec.

R-2013-4-9 *Upon motion duly made and seconded (Wood-Adams, Locke), it was unanimously resolved that the major graduate curriculum changes in the Faculty of Arts and Science outlined in Document US-2013-4-D12 be approved, as recommended by the Academic Programs Committee in Document US-2013-4-D6.*

10. Budget update

Mr. Kelley provided the planning landscape from a funding perspective, which include tuition indexing of 3% per year beginning in 2013/2014; \$26.4 million in funding cuts between 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 and subsequent years; repayment programs for deficits resulting from those budget cuts; \$1.7 billion reinvestment from 2014 to 2019, \$405 million of which is going into base funding and the balance in strategic envelopes which have yet to be finalized; and underfunding which has been accentuated by the tuition cuts in the past 18 months.

He outlined the issues which affect the University's budget, such as some \$11 million in salary increases which must be absorbed at the beginning of each year and which are not fully compensated by the teaching or other grants; the material increases in the costs for the employer contributions and the pension deficit funding; the increases in costs in other areas, such as utilities; and starting to generate the cost reductions in 2013/2014 to meet the mandated target cut of \$13.2 million.

He reviewed the cost reduction targets, by sector in light of the proposed budget, the base revenue projections for the next three budget cycles and adjustments based on changes by the Ministry of Education. He noted that the rules for reinvestment are still unknown at this point. For 2013/2014, given the management decision to transfer \$5.4 million from reserve, Board approval will be sought for a breakeven budget of just under \$100,000. Following his presentation, Mr. Kelley responded to questions.

Prof. Chaikelson, Chair of the Finance Committee, noted that this has been a very difficult budget year and praised Mr. Kelley and his team for their work, a sentiment echoed by the Provost and the President. While today's presentation does not convey much about the academic budget, she noted that more information in this regard will be provided in the Fall.

11. Amended Policy on Contract Research (Policy VPRGS-1) (Document US-2013-4-D13)

Dr. Carr provided the rationale for amending the Policy and summarized the main changes and improvements to the Policy which had last been revised in 1995. He noted that the review began three years ago and outlined the vetting process. Ms. Shelley Sitahal, Associate Director, Research Partnerships and Innovation, responded to questions.

R-2013-4-10 *Upon motion duly made and seconded (Carr, Wood-Adams), it was resolved that Senate approve the amendments to the Policy on Contract Research (Policy VPRGS-1) set out in Document US-2013-4-D13.*

12. Name change of the Department of Decision Science and Management Information Systems to Supply Chain and Business Technology Management (Document US-2013-4-D14)

Dean Harvey explained that the current name is outdated. The proposed name more accurately reflects the program offerings, is endorsed by the accreditation agencies and provides clarity to prospective students, career counselors and potential employers.

R-2013-4-10 *Upon motion duly made and seconded (Harvey, Wild), it was unanimously resolved that Senate recommend to the Board of Governors the approval of the name change of the Department of Decision Science and Management Information Systems to the Department of Supply Chain and Business Technology Management, as outlined in Document US-2013-4-D14.*

11. Question period

In response to a query from Prof. Wholey, Dr. Ostiguy updated Senators on the status of the review of the School of Extended Learning. A proposal for a revised mandate will be discussed at an upcoming meeting of the School's Council and then forwarded for discussion at APPC.

12. Other business

There was no other business to bring before Senate.

13. Next meeting

Dr. Shepard noted that the next meeting is scheduled to be held on Friday, May 17, 2013, at 2 p.m., in Room EV 2.2.60.

14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Danielle Tessier
Secretary of Senate