

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

Held on Friday, December 13, 2019, at 2 p.m.  
in the Norman D. Hébert, LLD Meeting Room  
(Room EV 2.260) on the SGW Campus

**PRESENT**

Voting members: Graham Carr (*Chair*); Ali Akgunduz; Amir Asif; Maryam Bagherzadeh; Leslie Barker; Matthew Barker; Guylaine Beaudry; Pascale Biron; Elizabeth Bloodgood; Catherine Bolton; Sue Callender; Sally Cooke; Mark Corwin; Frank Crooks; Alex De Visscher; Jill Didur (*Acting for André Roy*); Rebecca Duclos; Ariela Freedman; Vince Graziano; Christophe Guy; Jarrad Hass; Chris Kalafatidis; Jooseop Lim (*Acting for Anne-Marie Croteau*); Esther Morand; Helena Osana; Gilles Peslherbe; Martin Pugh; Patrick Quinn; Marguerite Rolland; Bayan Abu Safieh; Matt Soar; Robert Soroka; Ron Stern; Alex Stojda; Victoria Videira; Jean-Philippe Warren; Anne Whitelaw; Paula Wood-Adams; Radu Zmeureanu

Non-voting members: Johanne Beaudoin; Philippe Beauregard; Roger Côté; Stéphanie de Celles; Isabel Dunnigan; Nadia Hardy; Tom Hughes; Candace Jacobs; Frederica Jacobs

**ABSENT**

Voting members: Shimon Amir; Bakry Alsaieq; Arshdeep Singh Batia; Christopher Brett; Ricardo Dal Farra; Linda Dyer; Medhi Farashahi; Colin Philip; Timir Baran Roy; Catherine Russell; Reza Soleymani; Elizabeth Tasong; Marlana Valenta

Non-voting members: Paul Chesser; Denis Cossette

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m.

**1.1 Approval of Agenda**

R-2019-7-1     *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, 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 November 8, 2019

R-2019-7-2 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of November 8, 2019, be approved.*

## 2. Business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda

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

## 3. President's remarks

The highlights of the President's remarks are summarized as follows:

- Over 1,000 students graduated at the November 18 convocation ceremonies.
- He thanked Philippe Beauregard, Nadia Bhuiyan, Denis Cossette and Suzanne Kaye for their work in making this year's Centraide campaign the most successful ever, which will have raised about \$190,000 once matching gifts will have been received.
- Referring to the letter included in the mailing, he urged Senators to consider donating to the Student Emergency and Food Fund.
- Concordia graduate Manon Tremblay has been appointed Senior Director, Indigenous Directions. Donna Kahérakwas Goodleaf, who served as interim Senior Director, has been appointed to the new role of Director, Decolonizing Curriculum and Pedagogy.
- December 6 marked the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the École Polytechnique massacre. Several commemorative events were held.
- District 3 joined the City of Montreal to organize and host the Biohealth Innovation Week from December 2 to 6.
- He acknowledged the success of Concordia's athletic teams.

## 4. Academic update (Document US-2019-7-D1)

As complementary information to her written report, Dr. Whitelaw was pleased to apprise Senate that Bloomberg Businessweek has ranked the JMSB MBA fourth in Canada and best in Quebec and also placed it first in Canada for entrepreneurship.

## 5. Committee reports

### 5.1 Library (Document US-2019-7-D2)

### 5.2 Research (Document US-2019-7-D3)

There were no questions on these reports which are provided for information.

CONSENT

**6. Committee appointments (Document US-2019-7-D4 – Revised)**

R-2019-7-3 *That the committee appointments, outlined in Document US-2019-7-D4 - Revised, be approved.*

**7. Academic Programs Committee – Report and recommendations (Document US-2019-7-D5)**

**7.1 Undergraduate curriculum proposals – Faculty of Arts and Science**

**7.1.1 Department of Applied Human Sciences (Document US-2019-7-D6)**

**7.1.2 Department of Economics (Document US-2019-7-D7)**

**7.1.3 Department of Health, Kinesiology and Applied Physiology (Document US-2019-7-D8)**

**7.1.4 Department of Geography, Planning and Environment (Document US-2019-7-D9)**

**7.1.5 Department of Theological Studies (Document US-2019-7-D10)**

R-2019-7-4 *That the undergraduate curriculum proposals in the Faculty of Arts and Science be approved.*

**7.2 Undergraduate curriculum proposal– Faculty of Fine Arts – Department of Theatre (Document US-2019-7-D11)**

R-2019-7-5 *That the undergraduate curriculum proposals in the Faculty of Fine Arts be approved.*

**7.3 Undergraduate curriculum proposals – Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science**

**7.3.1 Requirements (Document US-2019-7-D12)**

**7.3.2 Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (Document US-2019-7-D13)**

**7.3.3 Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering (Document US-2019-7-D14)**

**7.3.4 Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (Document US-2019-7-D15)**

**7.3.5 Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering (Document US-2019-7-D16)**

R-2019-7-6 *That the undergraduate curriculum proposals in the Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science be approved.*

**REGULAR**

**8. Motion regarding Concordia University Foundation (Document US-2019-7-D17)**

R-2019-7-7 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved:*

*Whereas during the presentation at the November 8, 2019 meeting of Senate on the Concordia University Foundation, commitments by the latter were announced regarding divestment in fossil fuels, impact investing and sustainable investment;*

*BE IT RESOLVED:*

*That Senate applaud the Concordia University Foundation for its decision on sustainable investment; and*

*That Senate also express its deep appreciation for the research work and tireless advocacy efforts of the University's students, faculty and staff who have been engaged with the topic of responsible investing through various groups and interventions over the years.*

**9. Undergraduate curriculum proposal – Office of the Registrar – Baccalaureate by Accumulation** (Documents US-2019-7-D18 and D19)

In the course of her presentation, Sandra Gabriele, Vice-Provost, Innovation in Teaching and Learning, noted that faced with a changing landscape, many universities around the world are trying to address the issue by thinking about how they deliver programs. Therefore, this is at the heart of today's proposal. She spoke of the non-university organizations and the well-established post-secondary institutions which have broken down learning into micro-chunks and are creating challenges to university credentials. Micro-credentials are gaining relevance and prominence in the changing workforce. She urged Senators to read the reports and studies, a link to which is provided in the package.

Stackable degrees have been offered in the French university system for over 20 years. Dr. Gabriele said that the *Bac par cumul avec appellation* (BACCAP) is what is being proposed, which constitutes a defined pathway that most resembles a conventional undergraduate degree, in that it is in a defined area, the degree is named, and the pathway for the student is laid out. She shared some examples of predetermined BACCAP at Université de Montréal, HEC and Polytechnique.

Dr. Gabriele conveyed the rigorous consultation process. She underlined the key elements of the proposed changes to Sections 16.2.2 and 16.2.4 as follows:

- ✓ Defined pathways of eligible certificates need to be developed by the Faculties and would be subject to the standard curriculum approval process.
- ✓ Faculties retain control of admissions and set the standards for GPA.
- ✓ One certificate could now be combined with a 60-credit Major.
- ✓ Extended Credit Programs (120 credits) are possible (4 certificates are possible).
- ✓ Mature Entry Programs (108 credits) would be comprised of 3 certificates and 18 credits.
- ✓ No double counting of credits towards more than one program of study.

Going forward, implementation and development will go hand in hand. Dr. Gabriele apprised Senate that the certificates will continue to go through the same approval process as other curriculum changes (Department and Faculty curriculum committees and councils, Academic Programs Committee, Senate, and in the case of graduate certificates, the School of Graduate Studies). She made the point that currently certificates are not subject to the formal review process mandated by the Ministry for existing degree programs. However, as certain certificates may now become eligible to be applied towards a degree program, these certificates will need to be incorporated into the formal

review process currently established for existing degree programs. She also noted that student fees will go to the Faculty where the certificate will be offered.

She presented some speculative ideas not yet vetted by the Departments, solely as examples that arose from conversations with Deans and Associate Deans about what they could see emerging from this new structure. She concluded by conveying that this proposal constitutes the first phase to create the foundations by removing the barriers to this work, the second phase involving working on development and implementation.

A discussion ensued, the main questions or concerns summarized as follows:

- How many U15 have baccalaureate by accumulation? Université de Montréal and Université Laval offer the Bac par cumul, while University of Calgary, University of Alberta, Queen's and UBC offer the ladder approach.
- Some certificates only include 200 - 300 level courses. The point was made that under current requirements Majors do not always require a 400-level course. The defined combinations of certificates leading towards a Baccalaureate by Accumulation will mirror the standard number of credits for upper level courses required in existing Major and Honours programs. For example, if each certificate includes one 3-credit course at the 400-level, the total degree would include 9 credits of courses at the 400-level, which is on par with the current standard for many Honours programs at Concordia.
- Were current or prospective students consulted? Students would be consulted in the development phase, as part of the regular curriculum process.
- More resources will be needed for advisers in Faculties, classroom sizes might also be impacted? This proposal removes barrier and opens a pathway, so there will be minimal impact on advising. The three certificates will be designed to respond to student and societal needs.
- Redesign existing program? Current certificates would likely need to be redesigned, and 30-credit Minors could also be converted into certificates, depending on the nature what is being proposed and the ability to deliver.
- A concern was expressed about what will happen to Majors. This proposal does not touch the structure of degrees. Down the road, there could be distinct markets for each.
- There is no double counting of credits, but there could be an option to explore allowing this under specific circumstances, in consultation with the Departments and Faculties.
- Yes, employers will take these degrees seriously.
- If a job requires a BA, will this degree count? Yes, the diploma will indicate BA or BSc by Accumulation; for example, a BA in English by Accumulation of certificates.
- It was confirmed that at this point, students will need to apply for each certificate as they are distinct certificate. However, through the next phase of consultation, options to facilitate students' transitions from a certificate to a Major program may also be considered. This may take the form of "laddering" models offered by a number of English language universities in Canada.

- The BACCAP is a proven model which has worked in Quebec for over 20 years, and trend towards introducing micro-credentials is growing in post-secondary institutions all around the world.
- Class scheduling is an issue in every single program, and work will be done to meet the needs of students.
- A concern was expressed that this type of degree is geared towards professional degrees and its long-term effect on academic degrees. It was reiterated that this is simply another pathway for students. Nothing is diluted. It allows students to broaden their knowledge base.

R-2019-7-8 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was resolved that the undergraduate curriculum proposal in the Office of Registrar regarding the Baccalaureate by Accumulation be approved.*

**10. Graduate curriculum proposal – New program - Faculty of Fine Arts – Department of Creative Arts Therapies - Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy (Document US-2019-7-D20)**

Deans Wood-Adams and Duclos introduced this proposal for a 15-credit Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy which will be offered in the Summer term by the Department of Creative Arts Therapies, as part of the Faculty of Fine Arts' long-term plan to develop and offer graduate-level certificates with a focus on professional development, skills training and experiential learning opportunities. Department Chair Guylaine Vaillancourt noted that this certificate will be the first of its kind in Canada and North America and that the Department of Arts Therapies possesses the expertise.

Prof. Bonnie Harnden explained that this program will provide clinicians with the training and the tools to effectively intervene with children who have suffered complex trauma. She emphasized the need for training in this area and that the five courses have been scientifically proven to help children.

In response to questions, the following elements were clarified:

- The funding from the Provost's Office is in addition to the FTE funding and will be provided for the first three years.
- The visiting scholar will provide support for the initial phase of the program.
- The number of projected enrolments is indeed based on analysis.

R-2019-7-9 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was resolved that the new Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy, in the Department of Creative Arts Therapies, Faculty of Fine Art, be approved.*

**11. Research Committee recommendation: University Recognition of Research Unit – Thermal Spray and Surface Engineering Research Centre (TSSE) (Document US-2019-7-D21)**

R-2019-7-10 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that, on recommendation of the Research Committee, Senate grant the university-recognized status, in the category of emerging research centre, to the Thermal Spray and Surface Engineering Research Centre (TSSE), in accordance with the Policy on Research Units (VPRGS-8).*

**12. Presentation on Time and Space**

This presentation is deferred to the next meeting.

**13. Question period**

Ms. Morand asked that the territorial acknowledgment be read at the beginning of each Senate meeting. The President responded that this request would be taken up with Steering Committee.

**14. Other business**

There was no other business to bring before Senate.

**15. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.



Danielle Tessier  
Secretary of Senate