



SENATE  
ANNUAL REPORT

2012 – 2013



# CONTENTS

## 2 CHAIR'S MESSAGE

## 2 MANDATE

## 3 STANDING COMMITTEES

STEERING COMMITTEE

ACADEMIC PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE (APPC)

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE (APC)

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

FINANCE COMMITTEE

SPECIAL GRADUATION AWARDS COMMITTEE

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR EMERITUS COMMITTEE

ETHICS COMMITTEE

## 4 AD HOC COMMITTEES

AD HOC COMMITTEE TO PROPOSE A CODE OF ETHICS

AD HOC COMMITTEE REGARDING THE BROADCASTING AND  
RECORDING OF SENATE MEETINGS

## 4 MEETINGS

ACADEMIC PLAN

RESEARCH

NEW GRADUATE PROGRAMS

E-LEARNING

BUDGET

## 7 MEMBERSHIP

## INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to present the annual report of Concordia University's Senate for 2012/2013. In keeping with the motion adopted by Senate at its [December 9, 2011](#) meeting, the report provides information on the role and operations of Senate for the academic year.

I thank all members of Senate, including those whose term ended in 2012/2013, for their hard work during a challenging year that included the need to quickly and efficiently address cuts in Government of Quebec operating grants.

Concordia advanced strongly throughout 2012/2013 on our priorities and in implementing our key research, teaching and curriculum development strategies. We will continue to assess progress on our commitment to academic excellence and report regularly to Senate on results.

Our strength comes from our people. Your dedication – our dedication - will ensure Concordia's future as one of Quebec's most innovative knowledge leaders.



Alan Shepard

## MANDATE

Senate is responsible for the academic governance of the University, including matters related to research, faculties, departments, libraries, programs and courses, academic standards, regulations, policies and procedures, and the granting of degrees, diplomas and certificates (excluding honorary degrees). The functions and powers of Senate are listed in [Section 13](#) of the By-Laws.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

The work of Senate is supported by its nine standing committees which regularly report to Senate and bring forward recommendations as required. A full description of each committee's composition and mandate is included in the [Membership and Functions of Senate Standing Committees](#).

### STEERING COMMITTEE

Reviews Senate Agendas and ensures that the documentation forwarded to Senate is appropriate and in a form permitting effective debate.

### ACADEMIC PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE (APPC)

Studies and evaluates the implications of all proposals regarding academic development and priorities, supports the academic planning function of the University and makes reports and recommendations to Senate on academic planning and academic priorities.

### ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE (APC)

Coordinates and makes recommendations to Senate regarding credit and non-credit curricula programs and undergraduate academic regulations.

### RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Studies and makes recommendations to Senate concerning the development, administration, guidelines and policies regarding research and the support thereof.

### LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Acts as an advisory body to the University Librarian and Senate in connection with library objectives, policies, and budget and the development of its services and collections.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Analyzes the relevant operating and capital budgets to inform the Senate discussion thereof.

### SPECIAL GRADUATION AWARDS COMMITTEE

Solicits and reviews nominations and recommends recipients to Senate for the eight special graduation awards.

### DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR EMERITUS COMMITTEE

Assesses and reviews nominations and recommends to Senate the awarding of the title of Distinguished Professor Emeritus.

### ETHICS COMMITTEE

Oversees and enforces the application of the *Code of Ethics and Conduct Applicable to Members of Senate and Members of Committees Established by Senate*.

## AD HOC COMMITTEES

Ad hoc committees are established from time to time to address issues falling outside of the mandate of the standing committees. The work of three such committees wrapped up during the 2012/2013 academic year.

### AD HOC COMMITTEE TO PROPOSE A CODE OF ETHICS

Established by Senate in December 2011, the Ad Hoc Committee presented a draft Code for Senate's consideration in the Spring 2012. The final version, [Code of Ethics and Conduct applicable to Members of Senate and Members of Committees Established by Senate \(Policy US-1\)](#), together with the mandate and composition of the Ethics Committee were approved by Senate in September 2012.

### AD HOC COMMITTEE REGARDING THE BROADCASTING AND RECORDING OF SENATE MEETINGS

In response to concerns raised by Senators regarding the presence of roving cameras and unauthorized broadcasting during Senate meetings, this Ad Hoc Committee was established in February 2012. Following input sought in the Spring 2012, formal guidelines, [Guidelines pertaining to the Recording and Broadcasting of Senate Meetings \(Policy US-2\)](#), were adopted by Senate in September 2012.

### AD HOC COMMITTEE ON BICAMERALISM

This joint Senate/Board Ad Hoc Committee was established in March 2012 to propose amendments to the By-Laws to strengthen Senate within the context of a bicameral system without re-opening the University's charter. Further to the endorsement by Steering Committee and the Board's Governance and Ethics Committee, the Ad Hoc Committee presented its proposal to Senate for recommendation to the Board of Governors in October 2012. Accordingly, amendments to [articles 40 and 69](#) (numbered 36 and 63 respectively at the time of the adoption of the proposal) of the By-Laws were approved by the Board of Governors and ratified by the Corporation in November 2012.

## MEETINGS

Senate met nine times during the 2012/2013 academic year :

- September 14, 2012
- October 5, 2012
- November 2, 2012
- December 7, 2012
- January 18, 2013
- February 15, 2013
- March 15, 2013
- April 19, 2013
- May 17, 2013

The summary and highlights of the main topics discussed during the year are summarized hereinafter. The full details are included in the [Minutes](#) which are posted on the Senate website.

## ACADEMIC PLAN

A commitment was made in September to provide regular reports and presentations to Senate throughout the year regarding the implementation of the [Academic Plan](#), adopted by Senate in January 2012.

Accordingly, updates were given at each meeting. At the May 2013 meeting a year-end progress overview was presented with respect to the three main priorities which had emerged during the 2012/2013 academic year: investing in the libraries, innovative and dynamic academic programs, and graduate student recruitment. Moreover, an [Academic Plan implementation dashboard](#) was set up to keep Senators as well as the University Community updated on the ongoing initiatives and opportunities to get involved.

## RESEARCH

- In November 2012, in accordance with the [Policy on Research Units \(Policy VPRGS-8\)](#), Senate granted the university-recognition status to the [Concordia Institute for Water, Energy, and Sustainable Systems](#).
- In April 2013, Senate approved amendments to the [Policy on Contract Research \(VPRGS-1\)](#) which had not been updated since 1995. The revised policy is aligned with other research and intellectual property policies, and the procedural elements and template documents formerly included in the policy were updated and moved to a separate companion document, [Contract Research Handbook](#).
- In May 2013, pursuant to an extensive consultation process, Senate adopted the [Strategic Research Plan 2013-2018](#), which identifies the University's overarching themes and clusters of established and emerging strengths in research. The Plan guides strategic level resource allocation and institutional decision-making in connection with major funding and recruitment initiatives.

## NEW GRADUATE PROGRAMS

While Senate approved numerous undergraduate curriculum changes and regulations as well as numerous graduate curriculum changes throughout the year, of special note is the approval of the following new graduate programs:

- *Graduate Diploma in Youth Work*: fills a pressing need in the Anglophone sector of youth-serving agencies. Unique in Quebec, this program focuses both on intervention and prevention, in normative contexts.
- *PhD in English Literature*: trains students to develop research and teaching expertise in literature and media, literary history and historiography, literacy form and genre, and theories of literature.
- *PhD in Geography, Urban and Environmental Studies*: focuses on human interventions in the environment through environmental change and human settlement in urban areas and building sustainable communities.

#### E-LEARNING

To address concerns raised regarding e-learning, two detailed presentations were made at Senate to outline technology-integrated teaching in the context specific to Concordia. Additionally, at its May 2013 meeting Senate adopted [eight e-learning principles](#) in support of learning objectives.

#### BUDGET

Senators received regular updates on the impact of the tuition fee rollback announced in early Fall 2012 as well as the government reductions in the University's funding announced in December 2012.

## MEMBERSHIP

The membership of Senate included 55 voting members and 8 non-voting members as follows:

### VOTING MEMBERS

#### **Ex-officio**

Alan Shepard  
President and Vice-Chancellor

Lisa Ostiguy  
Interim Provost and  
Vice-President  
Academic Affairs

Graham Carr  
Vice-President  
Research and  
Graduate Studies

Brian Lewis  
Dean  
Faculty of Arts & Science

Robin Drew  
Dean  
Faculty of Engineering &  
Computer Science

Catherine Wild  
Dean  
Faculty of Fine Arts

Steve Harvey  
Dean  
John Molson School  
of Business

Paula Wood-Adams  
Interim Dean  
School of Graduate Studies

Noel Burke  
Dean  
School of Extended Learning

Gerald Beasley  
University Librarian

#### **Faculty of Arts and Science**

Philippe Caignon  
Saul Carliner  
June Chaikelson  
Marcie Frank  
José Garrido  
James Grant  
Norman Ingram  
Csaba Nikolenyi  
Maria Peluso  
Harald Proppe  
Geneviève Rail  
Rosemary Reilly  
Rae Staseson  
Joanne Turnbull

#### **Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science**

Ali Akgunduz  
Ferhat Khendek  
Yousef Shayan  
M. Reza Soleymani  
Ted Stathopoulos

#### **Faculty of Fine Arts**

Luca Caminati  
David Douglas  
Barbara Layne  
Jason Lewis

#### **John Molson School of Business**

Isabelle Dostaler  
Linda Dyer  
Gordon Leonard  
Juan Segovia

#### **School of Extended Learning**

Scott Chlopan  
Mary Lee Wholey

#### **Undergraduate Students**

Hassan Abdullahi  
Hajar El Jahidi  
Isabella Giancotta  
Melanie Hotchkiss  
Wendy Kraus-Heitmann  
Melissa Lemieux  
Daniel McSharry  
Gene Morrow  
Sydney Swaine-Simon  
James Vaccaro  
Chad Walcott  
Chuck Wilson

#### **Graduate Students**

Audrey Dahl  
Daria Saryan  
Tareq Shahwan  
Robert Sonin



## NON-VOTING MEMBERS

### **Ex-officio**

Bram Freedman  
Vice-President  
Institutional Relations and Secretary-General

Roger Côté  
Vice-President  
Services

Marie Claire Morin  
Vice-President  
Advancement and Alumni Relations

Patrick Kelley  
Chief Financial Officer

Philippe Beaugard  
Chief Communications Officer

Stephanie Sarik  
Interim University Registrar

### **Administrative and Support Staff**

Joanne Beaudoin  
Rachel Marion

### **Secretary of Senate**

Danielle Tessier

