



# SENATE ANNUAL REPORT

2014–2015

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## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to present the Concordia University Senate 2014/2015 annual report. The report provides information on the Senate's role and operations for the past academic year.

The University continued to build on its momentum in 2014/2015. With Concordians claiming everything from Pan Am and Commonwealth Games gold medals, international case competition victories and top engineering prizes to multi-million-dollar grants, Trudeau Foundation Fellowships and the Scotiabank Photography Award, our community had many reasons to celebrate.

I thank all departing and continuing members of Senate for their hard work during the year. My special thanks go to the Strategic Directions Advisory Committee for going above and beyond with their tireless, high-level engagement in developing our university's road map for the coming years.

Through this and all our work, together we are further strengthening Concordia's reputation for changing lives and helping the next generation improve our society.



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 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 (US-1)*.

## **MEETINGS**

Eight regular meetings of Senate were held during the 2014/2015 academic year:

September 12, 2014	January 16, 2015
October 3, 2014	February 13, 2015
October 31, 2014	April 17, 2015
December 5, 2014	May 15, 2015

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.

## MEMBERSHIP OF SENATE

The following changes were approved to Senate's composition throughout the year, all of which take effect on June 1, 2015.

- Modification of the term limits for undergraduate and graduate students from two to three consecutive one-year terms.
- Addition of one professional librarian as a voting member.
- Removal of the two part-time faculty members voting members appointed by the School of Extended Learning.
- Addition of the Director, Centre for Continuing Education as a non-voting member.

## ACADEMIC PLAN

In keeping with the commitment to provide regular reports and presentations to Senate throughout the year in connection with the implementation of the [Academic Plan](#), the Provost provided written reports and also summarized these reports orally at each Senate meeting.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

During the academic year, Senate was actively involved in the strategic planning process.

During the Fall term, the President sought Senate's input and feedback on the proposed approach of the two-phased process. Prior to the formal launch of Phase 1 in January, a brainstorming session was held at the December meeting, and the observations which emerged from that session were communicated to the Strategic Directions Advisory Committee.

During the Winter term, the Provost gave a presentation on the strategic planning process over the last decade, and updates were provided by some of the working groups charged with examining various themes. At the April meeting, the draft directions were unveiled and discussed. Pursuant to Senate's input and feedback received by the community, at the May meeting Senate endorsed the [strategic directions](#), with two minor amendments, and recommended their approval to the Board of Governors.

## RESEARCH

- In September, in accordance with the *Policy on Research Units* ([VPRGS-8](#)), Senate granted the university-recognition status to the Centre for Clinical Research in Health ([CCRH](#)) as well as the Centre for Microscopy and Cellular Imaging ([CMCI](#)).
- In October, in response to a requirement of the Canadian Council on Animal Care which oversees the ethical use of animals in science in Canada, Senate approved the *Policy on the Ethical Use of Animals in Research and Training* ([VPRGS-13](#)).
- In January, modifications to the *Policy on Intellectual Property* ([VPRGS-9](#)) were brought to exclude intellectual property created in context of coursework and extra-curricular activities from the policy if such intellectual property does not involve significant use of University resources, is not co-invented with a faculty member and is not subject to agreements with funding agencies or companies.

## ACADEMIC CODE OF CONDUCT

Pursuant to a comprehensive review of the *Academic Code of Conduct* (the [Code](#)) from January 2012 to August 2014, at its February meeting Senate approved revisions to the Code, as recommended by a review committee following consultations with each Faculty Council.

These main changes, effective for the summer 2015 term, include:

- Adding a preamble to emphasize the values of the University with respect to academic work and, in particular, the importance of academic integrity.
- Re-ordering articles so they follow the same procedural order as the process experienced by a student charged under the Code.
- Re-writing of article 18 to highlight that intent is an important and relevant element when determining the appropriate sanction when a charge of academic misconduct is upheld.
- Re-writing article 25 to clarify that suspension, in addition to expulsion, is a sanction that the Provost may use when a student is charged with a second offence.
- Modifying article 94 to clarify the required detail to be disclosed in the annual report regarding the charges laid under the Code.

## CURRICULUM CHANGES

Senate approved numerous undergraduate curriculum changes and regulations as well as numerous graduate curriculum changes throughout the year.

## DISCONTINUANCE OF THE SCHOOL OF EXTENDED LEARNING

Following approval in May 2014 of a revised mandate that focused the School's activities on continuing education and non-credit language instruction, at its April meeting Senate approved the discontinuance of the School as an academic unit, effective June 1, 2015, with the proviso that any of the School's remaining activities be continued under the [Centre for Continuing Education](#).

# MEMBERSHIP

The membership of Senate for the 2014/2015 included:

## VOTING MEMBERS

### EX-OFFICIO

Alan Shepard,  
President and Vice-Chancellor

Benoit-Antoine Bacon,  
Provost and Vice-President,  
Academic Affairs

Graham Carr,  
Vice-President, Research and  
Graduate Studies

André Roy,  
Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science

Amir Asif,  
Dean, Faculty of Engineering &  
Computer Science

Catherine Wild,  
Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts

Steve Harvey,  
Dean, John Molson School  
of Business

Paula Wood-Adams,  
Dean, School of Graduate  
Studies

Brian Lewis,  
Dean, School of Extended  
Learning

Guylaine Beaudry,  
University Librarian

### FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

Patrice Blais (PT)

Philippe Caignon

John Capobianco

Saul Carliner

Richard Courtemanche

Jill Didur

Marcie Frank

Mariana Frank

Brian Gabrial

James Grant

Norman Ingram

Monica Mulrennan

Rosemary Reilly

### FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Angali Agarwal

M. Omair Ahmad

Ali Akgunduz

Yousef Shayan

Ted Stathopoulos

### FACULTY OF FINE ARTS

David Douglas (PT)

Eliza Griffiths

Christopher Jackson

Johanne Sloan

### JOHN MOLSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Isabelle Dostaler

Lea Katsanis

Gordon Leonard (PT)

Juan Segovia

### SCHOOL OF EXTENDED LEARNING

Scott Chlopan (PT)

Mary Lee Wholey (PT)

### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Emma Alguire

Stephen Brown

Annie Chevalier

Carlos Fuentes

Jessica Lelièvre

Lucinda Marshall-Kiparissis

Marion Miller

Aloyse Muller

Matthew Palynchuk

Benjamin Prunty

Emma Saboureau

Terry Wilkings

### GRADUATE STUDENTS

Sean Boivin

Isabelle Johnston

Korosh Koochekian

Trevor Smith

### NON-VOTING MEMBERS

#### EX-OFFICIO

Philippe Beauregard,  
Chief Communications Officer

Roger Côté,  
Vice-President, Services

Bram Freedman,  
Vice-President, Development  
and External Relations, and  
Secretary-General

Patrick Kelley,  
Chief Financial Officer

Lisa Ostiguy,  
Deputy Provost

Bradley Tucker,  
University Registrar

### ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

Joanne Beaudoin

Rachel Marion

### PERMANENT OBSERVERS

Gene Morrow

Lisa Ostiguy

### SECRETARY OF SENATE

Danielle Tessier

