

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

Friday, October 7, 2022
following the meeting of the Closed Session
in the Norman D. Hébert, LLD Meeting Room
(Room EV 2.260) on the SGW Campus
and via Zoom video conferencing

PRESENT

Voting Members: Graham Carr (Chair), Mohamad Abdallah, Nagendra Sri Anurag Appala, Leslie Barker, Sabine Bergler, Dominique Bérubé, Beverley Best (attended remotely), Catherine Bolton, Adam Bouguila, Sally Cooke, Anne-Marie Croteau, Fabienne Cyrius, Selvadurai Dayanandan (attended remotely), Mourad Debbabi, Larry Deck, Effrosyni Diamantoudi, William Dickson, Mary Esteve (attended remotely), Mehdi Farashahi, Annie Gérin, Marina Ghali, Fawaz Halloum, Steve Henle, Asli Isaaq, Jordan Jerome-Pitre, Samreet Kaur, Michael Lecchino, Christopher Moore, Catherine Mulligan, Fuzhan Nasiri, Xavier Ottenwaelder, Mireille Paquet, Ian Rakita, Nachiketh R. Ravindra, Rosemary Reilly, Pat Riva, Ahmadou Sakho, Pascale Sicotte (attended remotely), Sofiene Tahar, Kelly Thompson, Craig Townsend, Deeva Wazir, Anne Whitelaw, Radu Grigore Zmeureanu

Non-voting members: Philippe Beauregard, Denis Cossette, Stéphanie de Celles, Nadia Hardy, Tom Hughes, Frederica Jacobs, Stefana Nita,

Also attending: Caroline Baril, Alison Beck, William Cheaib, Richard Courtemanche, Amy Fish, Lisa Ostiguy

ABSENT

Voting members: Matthew Barker, Alexandra Dawson, Moshe Lander, David Morris, Thenmozhi Rajan, Guylaine Vaillancourt

Non-voting members: Paul Chesser, Michael Di Grappa, Isabel Dunnigan, Émilie Martel

1. Call to order

The President called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.

1.1 Approval of the Agenda

The Chair informed Senate that item 13 of the agenda would be removed and presented at the next Senate, as the presenter was not able to attend today.

R-2022-5-4 Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the revised Agenda of the Open Session be approved.

1.2 Adoption of May 20, 2022 Minutes

R-2022-5-5 Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of May 20, 2022, be adopted.

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 President's remarks are summarized as follows:

- G. Carr started by expressing happiness to be back on campus in person. He welcomed new Senators and thanked them for agreeing to serve on Senate. He noted that in addition to the Provost's Academic Report, he wanted to highlight a few points.
- Beginning of fall 2022, the University had committed to offer all incoming undergraduate students at least one experiential learning opportunity during the course of their studies and at least two by 2025. Delivering on this goal would make Concordia the first university in Québec, and one of the first in Canada, to provide such an opportunity.
- By 2024, the University will triple the capacity of the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema's film production programs, accommodating more than 220 new students. This would adequately respond to the shortage of skilled professionals in the industry.
- Late this summer, the University had placed highly in the Sustainable Campus Index, which recognizes colleges and universities in 17 sustainability impact areas, based on recent submissions to the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System. The University had the top performance in the research category, scored highly in the transportation category and was lauded for its focus on sustainable investments.
- The University had been able to secure a sustainability-linked loan arrangement with the Bank of Montréal, which was a first in Québec.
- He offered thanks to everyone who participated in the Shuffle, which raised \$220,000 for student bursaries and support.

- Concordia received an \$812,000 gift to the University's Bioprocessing Centre on Loyola Campus from Lallemand, a yeast production company specializing in microbiology.
- The University also celebrated Research Excellence, which event took place on September 20th with more than 40 researchers celebrated for their outstanding research work. G. Carr thanked the Vice-President of Research and Graduate Studies, Dominique Bérubé for spearheading this important event.
- The Loyola Medal being awarded to The Honourable Murray Sinclair. He noted Justice Sinclair's work as a former senator, judge and chairperson of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The medal is the most prestigious non-academic award issued by Concordia.
- To mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation the EV and AD buildings were illuminated orange as part of the University's participation in Light the Country Orange.
- Unfortunately, two great Concordia supporters recently died. Mel Hoppenheim, namesake of the School of Cinema, who had been a pioneer of the local film industry and a generous donor to Concordia in 1997. He was 84 years old. Secondly, business leader Ned Goodman, who helped establish the world's first MBA-CFA program in 2001 – the Goodman Institute of Investment Management, also passed away.
- G. Carr congratulated Gina Cody, who received an honorary doctorate from the Université de Sherbrooke in recognition of her leadership and philanthropy. He also congratulated Jennifer Maccarone and Désirée McGraw on their recent election to l'Assemblée nationale. G. Carr noted that the University was looking forward to working with the newly re-elected government of François Legault.
- Speaking for the Concordia community which includes many past and current students, faculty and staff from Iran, he expressed deep concern about reports there both of violence against women and a university. The International Students Office has contacted all students who are Iranian nationals to check on their well-being and make sure they are aware of support services offered by the University. Messages have also been conveyed to all members of the community through Carrefour and the newsletters for students, staff and faculty.
- G. Carr also advised Senate that the report of the President's Task Force on Anti-Black Racism would be released at the end of this month, together with the announcement of several initiatives.

4. Academic update (Document US-2022-5-D2)

In addition to her written report, A. Whitelaw informed Senate that the first in-person Open House, with an online component, would be held on October 22nd.

A. Whitelaw also noted that the Sexual Assault Resource Centre had already held a support drop-in session for Iranian students, faculty and staff and another session will be held on October 13th. This is to ensure that all Iranian students at the University have the support they need amidst the events currently unfolding in Iran.

CONSENT

5. **Committee appointments** (Document US-2022-5-D3)

R-2022-5-6 That the committee appointments be approved.

6. **Appointment of members to the Concordia Council on Student Life** (Document US-2022-5-D4)

R-2022-5-7 That the members appointed to the Concordia Council on Student Life be approved.

7. **Academic Programs Committee – Report and recommendations** (Document US-2022-5-D5)

R-2022-5-8 That the Academic Programs Committee - Report and recommendations (Document US-2022-5-D5) be approved.

8. **Library Spectrum Report** (Document US-2022-5-D6)

This report was provided for information only.

9. **Registrar’s report on spring 2022 graduation** (Document US-2022-5-D7)

This report was provided for information only.

10. **Revisions to the Distinguished University Research Professor Award** (Document US-2022-5-D8)

R-2022-5-9 That the revisions to the Distinguished University Research Professor Award, outlined in Document US-2022-5-D8, be approved.

REGULAR

11. **Annual report of the academic hearing panel** (Document US-2022-5-D9)

Me A. Beck, Legal Counsel, presented the highlights of the report which is provided annually for information purposes in accordance with the requirements set out in Article 94 of the Academic Code of Conduct. A. Beck noted that there has been an increase in infractions, which has resulted in a backlog, but with optimized hearings and holding more panels, the number of hearings had been increased to three times to deal with this backlog. A. Beck assured Senators that the tribunals were on the path of getting to where they want to be in terms of adjudication numbers of cases before them.

12. Annual report of the Ombuds Office (Document US-2022-5-D10)

A. Fish, the Ombudsperson, presented highlights of the annual report, including some key statistics. To illustrate the type of concerns and issues the Ombuds Office deals with on a regular basis, A. Fish provided three examples of common scenarios. A. Fish was pleased to inform Senate that there were no major problems throughout the year and underlined the University's commitment to openness and fairness. While the number and complexity of files had changed since the pandemic started, there were signs that the number of complaints would fall back to pre-pandemic levels. As of the previous year, 83% of the files were of students and the rest were of staff and faculty.

Senators expressed their gratitude for the work done by the Ombuds Office and wished A. Fish the best for their renewed term, which will be effective March 2023.

13. Question period

There were no questions asked during the question period.

14. Other business

There was no other business to bring before the Open Session.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Karan Singh
Secretary of Senate