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Subject: Senate Meeting Report, 2013-11-20
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Senate Meeting Report, 2013-11-20

Colleagues,

The following is a summary of the Senate meeting which took place on Wednesday, November 20, 2013.

The meeting began with Senator Lach presenting a memorial tribute for Professor Peter Leonard. Senate adopted the minutes of the last Senate meeting

(http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/final_oct_16_2013_senate_minutes_3.pdf), the report of the Steering Committee

(http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/report_of_the_senate_steering_committee_-_nov_12_2013_0.pdf) and the agenda (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/agenda_-_november_20_2013_0.pdf). Due to the anticipated length of today's meeting the report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee will be dealt with after the agenda item on key performance indicators.

In her remarks from the Chair, Principal Fortier reported on the first meetings of the Association of American Universities, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and the U15 group which she had attended as Principal of McGill. She also referred to Quebec's *Politique nationale de la recherche et de l'innovation* (PNRI), saying that McGill is in good alignment with its research priorities. On December 3, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Principal Fortier and senior members of her team will make a presentation to the Quebec National Assembly's *Commission de la culture et de l'éducation*, before which Quebec universities appear every three years; a link to the webcast will be sent out by her office. The Principal then called on Deputy Provost Dyens to address a recent off-campus incident involving allegations of a sexual assault by three McGill students. Deputy Provost Dyens indicated that the Administration is reflecting on this incident, on its response to it and on the University's disciplinary

might be advisable for Senate to have an open discussion on the subject of scheduling at a future meeting.

The next question, from Senator Stewart-Kanigan, concerned employment equity (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/3._question_regarding_employment_equity_stewart-kanigan.pdf). Associate Provost White opened her response by underlining McGill's strong commitment to equity and by listing the various equity-related policies which cover all McGill staff. She indicated that the Federal Contractors Program is changing its reporting requirements, and that these revisions have not yet been communicated to McGill. Improvements to McGill's online self-identification questionnaire, which is used for internal tracking, are expected by April 2104; it is hoped that these improvements will clarify the picture. Since the tracking is voluntary, there is a lot of under-reporting. Professor White concluded by noting that McGill does not impose quotas or practice reverse discrimination in its hiring.

Associate Provost White next addressed the question on equity-related resources asked by Senator Butler (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/4._question_regarding_equity-related_resources_butler.pdf). She drew attention to various policies related to this subject, noting in particular that the Charter of Students' Rights is explicit about the right to equal treatment. She also mentioned the Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity and its five subcommittees, adding that she will soon be bringing to Senate a proposal to create a sixth subcommittee which would focus on family care. Professor White referred to two offices having relevant mandates (the Office for Students with Disabilities, and the Social Equity and Diversity Education Officeab4m* ()T,si'a.notiaccdoor tvsnaboutSenate improvemeiCorkng aith DS

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Senate next moved into closed session to consider the report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee. Upon returning to open session, Senate adopted the Senate approved the 450th report of the Academic Policy Committee (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/d13-20_450th_apc_report_2013-11-20_appendix_included.pdf), which includes a Policy on Research Centres. Senate then turned to the report of the Nominating Committee (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/d13-21_report_of_the_nominating_committee.pdf), approving several committee appointments as well as a proposal to revise the terms of reference of the Senate Nominating Committee. Proposed revisions to the terms of reference of the Senate Steering Committee were also considered; Senator Richard moved an amendment to delete the proposed addition to the Steering Committee of an ex-officio seat for a Dean; the amendment was defeated by a vote of 21 for / 29 against, and the proposal to revise the terms of reference was adopted in its original form. Senate then adopted the terms of reference creating an Ad Hoc Committee on the Enhancement of Senate Meetings, with two modifications: 1) the correction of "March 2013" to "March 2014"; and 2) at Senator Lu's suggestion, the addition by friendly amendment of a statement explaining the purpose of the enhancements which are being considered. Finally, Senate approved the terms of reference creating an Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Charter of Students' Rights and an Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Livestreaming of Senate Meetings.

Senate concluded its session by receiving the following reports for information:

- The annual report from the Senate Committee on Physical Development (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/d13-22_scpd_memo__report.pdf), presented by Mr. Robert Couvrette.

- The annual report from the Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/d13-23_cesa.pdf), presented by Deputy Provost Dyens.

- The annual report of the Committee on Student Discipline (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/d13-24_csd_memo_and_report.pdf), presented by Dean Costopoulos.

- The report of the Board of Governors to Senate (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/d13-25_report_from_bog_to_senate_nov_2013.pdf), presented by Secretary-General Strople.

- The report of the Joint Board-Senate Meeting (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/d13-26_joint_board-senate_report.pdf), presented by Secretary-General Strople.

The next Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4, 2013. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us.

Regards,
Your librarian Senate reps,
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Maya Kucij
Marc Richard