



SENATE  
ANNUAL REPORT



2011 – 2012





# CONTENTS

## 2 INTRODUCTION

## 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

## 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 OF SENATE

GOVERNANCE REVIEW

ACADEMIC PLAN

POLICY REVIEW

NEW GRADUATE PROGRAM

STUDENT PROTEST

## 8 MEMBERSHIP

---

## INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the issuance of the report of the [External Governance Review Committee \(“EGRC”\)](#) in June 2011, Senate adopted several resolutions to implement those recommendations specific to its mandate and functioning, which included the filing of an annual report.

This report is intended to provide members of the Concordia community with information respecting the role and operations of Senate during the 2011/2012 academic year. Its content is in keeping with the motion adopted by Senate at its meeting of December 9, 2011.

## 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 eight 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 make 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.

## AD HOC COMMITTEES

Ad hoc committees are established from time to time to address issues falling outside of the mandate of the standing committees. Senate established two ad hoc committees during the 2011/2012 academic year:

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

Established by Senate in December 2011 in response to a recommendation of the External Governance Review Committee, the Ad Hoc Committee, comprised of five members of Senate, submitted a draft Code of Ethics to Senate in April 2012. A final version of the Code will be presented for approval in Fall 2012.

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

Further to concerns raised by Senators regarding the presence of roving cameras and unauthorized broadcasting during Senate meetings, Senate established this four-member Ad Hoc Committee in February 2012. A preliminary report was discussed at the May 2012 meeting. Formal guidelines will be proposed for approval in Fall 2012.

## MEETINGS OF SENATE

Senate met eight times during the 2011/2012 academic year :

- September 9, 2011
- October 7, 2011
- November 4, 2011
- December 9, 2011
- January 20, 2012
- February 17, 2012
- April 20, 2012
- May 18, 2012

The summary and highlights of the main topics discussed during the year are summarized hereinafter.

### GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Pursuant to EGRC recommendations regarding the University's governance structure, Senate extensively discussed those recommendations at its meeting of September 2011 as well as the report from the Board's Ad Hoc Governance Review Committee which addressed the EGRC recommendations specific to the Board of Governors. Senate unanimously endorsed the EGRC report and recommendations in their entirety and urged the Board to participate in a joint Board/Senate committee to review and make recommendations regarding modifications to the By-Laws and consequential documents.

As a result of this resolution, a Joint Board/Senate Committee was formed, comprising four members of the Board and four members of Senate. Save for one issue in relation to the undergraduate student representation on the Board, all issues raised by Senate regarding the changes to the By-Laws proposed by the Board's Ad Hoc Governance Review Committee were resolved to the satisfaction of both parties. It was also agreed that discussions be continued regarding bicameralism and the other recommendations contained in EGRC report which had not yet been addressed. The [Joint Board/Senate Committee report](#) was received by the Board at its meeting of September 28, 2011 and forwarded to Senate on that date.

Senate then focused on the EGRC recommendations pertaining to its operations and mandated the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee together with the four Senators appointed to the Joint Board/Senate Committee ("APPC/SJC"), guided by views expressed by Senators, to propose recommendations regarding the implementation of the EGRC recommendations. This work resulted in Senate approving the following revisions to its composition and operations effective for the 2012/2013 academic year:

- revised composition of Senate, abolishing the position of Elected Speaker, to provide that Senate meetings be chaired by the President, and adding two part-time faculty members appointed by the School of Extended Learning (as voting members) as well as two members of the administrative and support staff (as non-voting members);
- implementation of term limits for Senators;
- revised mandate of Steering Committee to include meetings with the Executive Committee of the Board to discuss matters of mutual concern;
- implementation of a formal orientation session in the beginning of each academic year;
- adoption of a Code of Ethics; and
- preparation of this annual report.

While Senate supported the reopening of the [Charter](#) as envisioned in the EGRC report, it was agreed that the timing of any such initiative should be left to the discretion of the President, working with the Board and Senate. In the meantime, discussions are ongoing at the Ad Hoc Committee on Bicameralism, established by Steering Committee and the Board's Governance and Ethics Committee and composed of two members of the former and one member of the latter. The objective of the Ad Hoc Committee on Bicameralism is to propose amendments to articles 36 and 63 the [By-Laws](#) containing wording acceptable to the Board and Senate.

#### ACADEMIC PLAN

In October 2011, Senators were provided the opportunity to discuss and provide feedback on the revised consultation draft of the 2011/2016 Academic Plan. This version of the plan took into account over 400 pages of comments received in response to public consultation sessions, a round

of consultations with the Faculty and School Councils, the Libraries, the faculty associations, student groups as well as some departments and individuals. The draft plan and supporting documents had been posted online since February 2011.

In response to the comments provided by Senators, further amendments were brought to the text of the Academic Plan which was presented for approval at the November 2011 Senate meeting. The plan, which identifies the University's top academic priorities, was presented by the Provost as well as some members of the Academic Plan Working Group as a roadmap for reaching our objectives, providing a series of measures that, once in place, will help to guide the University's academic mission.

A number of Senators were supportive of the plan, while others found that it failed to address the needs of students and asked that its approval be deferred. In the end, upon recommendation of the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee, Senate voted to approve the [2011-2016 Academic Plan](#) and that Senate exercise oversight over its implementation. The Plan was approved by the Board of Governors in January 2012.

Pursuant to the adoption of the Academic Plan, which calls for the establishment of an Academic Plan Coordinating Committee, a majority of Senators agreed that regular reporting should be provided on the development of the plan via a standing committee and that the Academic Plan Coordinating Committee be established as a standing committee of Senate. This matter was referred to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee so that it draft a proposal to that effect for presentation to Senate.

Further to discussions at Senate regarding the pros and cons of establishing a new standing committee of Senate and the possible overlapping with this new committee's mandate with that of existing committees, a draft mandate for an Academic Plan Reporting Committee was presented but referred back to the Academic Planning and Priorities Committee for revision closer to the original motion approving the creation of the Academic Plan Coordinating Committee.

#### POLICY REVIEW

In order to comply with the Tri-Agency Framework: Responsible Conduct of Research, released in December 2011, the Research Committee presented a new policy, [Policy for the Responsible Conduct of Research \(Policy VPRSG-12\)](#) and its related [Procedures for the Inquiry and Investigation of Allegations of Research Misconduct](#) for Senate's approval at the May meeting.

As a result of changes made to the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans, major revisions were approved by Senate at the May meeting with respect to the [Policy for the Ethical Review of Research Involving Human Participants \(VRRGS-3\)](#) and the institution of related [Procedures for the Ethical Review of Research Involving Human Participants](#).

#### NEW GRADUATE PROGRAM

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 at the

May meeting of a new *Master of/Magisteriate in Design* (M.Des.) in the Department of Design and Computation Art of the Faculty of Fine Arts. This new program is unique in Montreal and Quebec and will offer an interdisciplinary, integrative and ecological approach to training future designers for the workplace or for postgraduate and doctoral work in design research.

#### STUDENT PROTEST

At the April Senate meeting, students expressed their concerns in connection with the effects of the academic implications of the ongoing student protest, seeking more support from the senior administration and also requesting more accommodation from their professors. Senior administrators responded that professors are working towards accommodating students who have missed classes and that the Provost and other senior administrators are working to accommodate the students with late DISC notations and waiving certain fees associated with deferrals.

The discussion resulted in the adoption of two motions, 1) expressing Senate's grave concern with the continuation of the student protests and the long-term consequences for all members of the university community and the government, urging dialogue and that all parties to set aside pre-conceived conditions and enter into discussions to bring back peaceful living to all of the citizens of Quebec, and that this motion be conveyed by the President on behalf of Senate to the Premier of Quebec, and 2) that Deans and senior administration continue dialogue with student representatives and chairs of academic units where the protest has most affected students in order to work on a satisfactory conclusion to the semester.

At the May Senate meeting, several questions arose regarding the effect and implications of Bill 78 with respect to the preparation of courses for the Fall. The Provost outlined a variety of measures that could be envisaged not to prejudice the students coming from the affected CEGEPs and assured Senate that the interests of all students are respected and that the best transitional measures will be put in place as required.

Further to questions about how students in the two Faculties most affected by the protests are being dealt with, the Provost confirmed that, in keeping with the motion adopted by Senate at the April meeting, the appropriate accommodations were being made, and he explained the measures taken since that meeting.

Some Senators were disturbed by what they termed as repressive measures and punitive provisions contained in Bill 78 which was being contemporaneously debated by the National Assembly during the May Senate meeting. However, there were diverging views on the appropriateness of adopting a proposed motion calling for the President to transmit to Premier Charest a statement from Senate condemning Bill 78 for violating fundamental freedom of association, assembly and expression, and the motion was referred to Steering Committee for consideration once Bill 78 will have been adopted by the National Assembly.



## MEMBERSHIP

The membership of Senate included 53 voting members and 6 non-voting members as follows:

### VOTING MEMBERS

#### **Ex-officio**

Frederick H. Lowy  
President and Vice Chancellor

David Graham  
Provost and Vice-President,  
Academic Affairs

Graham Carr  
Interim 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

Alan Hochstein  
Interim Dean, John Molson  
School of Business

Paula Wood-Adams  
representing the Dean,  
School of Graduate Studies

Noel Burke  
Dean, School of  
Extended Learning

Gerald Beasley  
University Librarian

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

Jason Camlot  
June Chaikelson  
José Garrido  
James Grant  
Norman Ingram  
Bradley Nelson  
Csaba Nikolenyi  
Maria Peluso  
Geneviève Rail  
Rosemary Reilly  
Frances Shaver  
William Sims  
Rae Staseson  
Joanne Turnbull

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

Ali Akgunduz  
Mourad Debbabi  
Ferhat Khendek  
M. Reza Soleymani  
Ted Stathopoulos

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

David Douglas  
Andrew Dutkewych  
Barbara Layne  
Jason Lewis

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

Linda Dyer  
Gordon Leonard  
Michel Magnan  
Christopher Ross

#### **Undergraduate Students**

Hasan Cheikhzen  
Sabrina D'Ambra  
Andy Filipowich  
Lex Gill  
Bilal Hamideh  
Melanie Hotchkiss  
Jamiey Kelly  
Michaela Manson  
Kyle McLoughlin  
Gene Morrow  
Daniel Shakibaian  
Chuck Wilson

#### **Graduate Students**

Eric Martineau  
Holly Nazar  
Mohammad Nurujjaman  
Robert Sonin

## NON-VOTING MEMBERS

### **Ex-officio**

Philippe Beauregard  
Chief Communications Officer

Patrick Kelley  
Chief Financial Officer

Donald Boisvert  
Elected Speaker (Chair)

Terry Too  
Acting University Registrar

Marie Claire Morin  
Vice-President, Advancement and  
Alumni Relations

Bram Freedman  
Vice-President, Institutional Relations &  
Secretary-General

Roger Côté  
Vice-President, Services

## STANDING COMMITTEES MEMBERSHIP

### Academic Planning and Priorities

Graham (Chair)  
Beasley  
Bergeron  
Burke  
Camlot  
Carr  
Filipowich  
Gheyara  
Jim  
Kelley  
Lowy  
McLoughlin  
Nazar  
Powlowski  
Trueman  
Tucker

### Academic Programs

Dyens (Chair)  
Barbieri  
Beasley  
Blair  
Burke  
Cheikhzen  
Hausfather  
Ibrahim  
Locke  
Lowy  
Miller

Mongerson

Narayanan

Salameh

Shayan

Too

Wood-Adams

### Distinguished

#### Professor Emeritus

Graham (Chair)

Ahmad

Carr

Kenneally

Kersten

Lowy

Russell

Sims

Vo-Van

### Finance

Chaikelson (Chair)

Bergeron

Cross

Esmail

Kelley

Lowy

Shakibaian

Sims

Sonin

Tucker

Walker

### Library

Beasley (Chair)

Beaudry

Blanchet-Cohen

Bober

Carr

Filipowich

Lowy

MacDonald

Novakovich

Ottenwaelder

Salameh

Sinner

Vahidov

Wang

### Research

Carr (Chair)

Ahmad

Bhabra

Brown

Carney

Debbabi

Graham

Ikeda

Lowy

Morrow

Mulligan

Nurujjaman

Piekny

Radomsky

Rail

Silverman

Wasson

### Special Graduation Awards

Woodall (Chair)

Ciampini

Garrido

Kelly

Lowy

Magonet

Mota

Shaver

### Steering

Lowy (Chair)

Boisvert

Carr

Debbabi

Douglas

Dutkewych

Gill

Graham

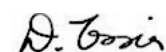
Hamideh

Magnan

Nikolenyi

Rail

Sonin



Danielle Tessier  
Secretary of Senate  
September 14, 2012

