

**MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

Held on Wednesday, April 16, 2014, at 4 p.m.
immediately following the Restricted Closed Session
in Room GM 410 (Board of Governors Meeting Room)
located on the 4th floor of the Guy-Metro Building,
1550 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West
on the SGW Campus

PRESENT

Governors: Mr. Norman Hébert jr., *Chair*, Dr. Shimon Amir, Dr. Sandra Betton, Me Antoinette Bozac, Mr. Craig Buchanan, Mr. Erik Chevrier, Me Francesco Ciampini, Mr. Jean-Pierre Desrosiers, Ms. Hélène Fortin, Dr. Norman Ingram, Dr. Edward Little, Ms. Mélanie La Couture, Me John Lemieux, Dr. William Lynch, Me Marie-José Nadeau, *Vice-Chair*, Mr. Georges Paulez, Prof. Maria Peluso, Dr. Alan Shepard, *President and Vice-Chancellor*, Ms. Annie Tobias, Ms. Melissa Kate Wheeler

Alternate Governor: Ms. Melanie Hotchkiss

Also attending: Dr. Benoit-Antoine Bacon, Mr. Philippe Beauregard, Dr. Graham Carr, Ms. Rose Bloom, Mr. William Cheaib, Mr. Roger Côté, Me Bram Freedman, Mr. Marc Gauthier, Mr. Patrick Kelley, Dr. Lisa Ostiguy, Mr. Daniel Therrien

ABSENT

Governors: Mr. Jeff Bicher, Mr. Tim Brodhead, Mr. Michael Novak, Ms. Suzanne Sauvage

Non-voting Observer: Mr. L. Jacques Ménard, *Chancellor*

1. **Call to Order**

Mr. Hébert called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

Mr. Hébert informed Governors that the Board evaluation questionnaire will be forwarded to Governors on April 22. He urged all Governors to participate in the process which constitutes an essential part of his evaluation of how the Board is functioning by flagging areas which need improvement.

1.1 Approval of the Agenda

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2014-2-4 *That the Agenda be approved.*

CONSENT

2. Adoption of February 12, 2014 Minutes

R-2014-2-5 *That the Minutes of the meeting of the Open Session of February 12, 2014 be approved.*

3. Governance and Ethics Committee report (Document BG-2014-2-D3)

This report was provided for information purposes.

4. Request for use of the Concordia name (Document BG-2014-2-D4)

R-2014-2-6 *That the request to use the Concordia name by the Concordia Vietnamese Creative Generation, subject to the conditions set out in the Policy on the use of Concordia University's Name, Logo and Related Insignia, and the Governance of its Visual Character (Policy SG-4), be approved.*

5. Revisions to the Fine Arts Faculty Council membership (Document BG-2014-2-D5)

R-2014-2-7 *That, on recommendation of the Governance and Ethics Committee, the Board of Governors approve the revisions to the Fine Arts Faculty Council membership, as outlined in Document BG-2014-2-D5.*

REGULAR

6. Business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda

There was no business arising from the Minutes not included on the Agenda.

7. President's report (Document BG-2014-2-D6)

In addition to his written report, Dr. Shepard underscored several prizes and awards received by members of the Concordia community.

With respect to the results of applications for funding to the Tri-Council, he was pleased to report a 100% success rate in the NSERC Engage award program, with all 28 applications having been accepted for a total of \$690,674 in funding.

The President also spoke of the change to the admission process whereby the University is actively cultivating English and French CEGEPs and of the streamlined admission process which allows for more rapid decisions. The overall entrance GPA is up as well as acceptances.

Dr. Shepard concluded his remarks by conveying his deepest sympathy to the family, friends and colleagues of Jolly Sandhu, a Concordia bookstore employee who passed away on April 3 following an accident.

8. Annual report from the Ombuds Office (Document BG-2014-2-D7)

Ms. Kristen Robillard, Ombudsperson, presented the highlights of the 2012/2013 annual report and updated the Board on the resolution of last year's recommendations.

9. Finance Committee report

Finance Committee Chair Paulez underlined the extensive projects linked to the preparation of the budget, noting that he was pleased with the quality of the work and documentation. The operating budget, cash budget and international tuition fee modifications were reviewed by the Finance Committee which is recommending their approval by the Board.

The Chair of the Board noted that Concordia is the only Quebec university which presents its budget in Open Session.

9.1 2014/2015 operating budget (Document BG-2014-2-D8)

Mr. Kelley began his presentation by apprising Governors of the budget process, which included significant work done by the Budget Review Working Group and several meetings with sector heads to discuss their budget issues. Given the change of government, the final budget direction will only be known in May at the earliest. Also unknown are any changes to the University's budget which could stem from the *Chantier sur la politique de financement des universités*.

Mr. Kelley presented the 2014/2015 operating budget and forecasts for 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 which take into account the annual cuts of \$13.2 million to the University's operating grant which were announced in 2012 and made permanent last year. He underlined the assumptions on which the budget was prepared, including taking advantage of reinvestment funding announced by the previous government last year for strategic reinvestment in specific funding envelopes and financial debt repayment as well continued cost reductions and rising pension costs. Based on the foregoing, the projected total revenues are \$394.8 million and the total expenditures are \$397.6 million, resulting in a deficit of \$2.8 million.

A discussion ensued, during which it was specified that, in light of the budget cut of \$13.2 million being made permanent, the government has allowed universities to have a deficit budget for 2014/2015.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2014-2-8 *That, on recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Board of Governors approve the 2014/2015 Operating budget outlined in Document BG-2014-2-D8.*

9.2 2014/2015 short-term cash budget (Document BG-2014-2-D9)

Mr. Kelley explained that the approval of the short-term cash budget is required by the government to ensure that the University has the capacity to fulfill its liquidity needs.

The University Treasurer, Marc Gauthier, made a presentation outlining the historical evolution of the cash budget as well as the projections of maximum borrowings expected in 2014/2015 in the three categories which make up the cash budget - operating fund, restricted fund and capital investments fund - which shows a potential maximum usage of \$174.6 million, representing 85% of the University's \$205 million borrowing capacity.

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2014-2-9 *That, on recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Board of Governors approve the 2014/2015 short-term cash budget outlined in Document BG-2014-2-D9.*

9.3 Per-credit tuition fees for international students in certain programs (Document BG-2014-2-D10)

Mr. Kelley reviewed the previous tuition fee structure applicable to the undergraduate international students in JMSB and ENCS. Following the full government deregulation of tuition fees for international students in certain programs in 2014/2015, the Finance Committee is proposing a new fee structure for those students, whereby they will be charged a single rate.

Mr. Kelley specified that the new fee structure includes a 2.67% increase which is equal to the increase imposed by the government in regulated programs. He also reassured Governors that the University is aiming to increase, not decrease, student aid, and that a fixed budgetary envelope will be created for continued international student support at similar or higher levels than in past years.

A discussion ensued, during which Mr. Chevrier, while commending the University for the continued student support, made the point that any tuition increase, albeit small, was not appropriate. Dr. Lynch also indicated that he could not support the motions since students who are charged these higher fees have a much smaller portion of the money they pay directed to their education than students in other disciplines. Moreover, he wondered why Concordia does not also charge extra fees to international students from other disciplines which the government allows, for example, in mathematics and sciences. He suggested that these be looked into.

Resolution concerning the per-credit tuition fees for undergraduate international students in Engineering and Computer Science Cycle I programs

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was RESOLVED (*Chevrier, Lynch and Wheeler voting against*):

R-2014-2-10 *Whereas effective for the 2014/2015 year, tuition fees will be deregulated for undergraduate international students in Cycle I programs;*

Whereas the University will continue to reinvest a portion of the funds charged for international student support;

Be it resolved:

That, effective the Fall 2014 term (2014/2), undergraduate international students in Engineering and Computer Science Cycle I programs be charged a fixed rate of \$631 per credit, subject to approval of the Board of Governors;

That the reinvestments provided for in Resolution R-2009-5-19 be replaced by the creation of a fixed budgetary envelope to be used for the purposes supporting international students;

That Resolutions R-2009-5-D19 and R-2012-8-D31, adopted by the Board on June 18, 2009 and June 21, 2012 respectively, cease having effect as of the Fall 2014 term (2014/2).

Resolution concerning the per-credit tuition fees for undergraduate international students in John Molson School of Business Cycle I programs

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was RESOLVED (*Chevrier, Lynch and Wheeler voting against*):

R-2014-2-11 *Whereas effective for the 2014/2015 year, tuition fees will be deregulated for undergraduate international students in Cycle I programs;*

Whereas the University will continue to reinvest a portion of the funds charged for international student support;

Be it resolved:

That, effective the Fall 2014 term (2014/2), undergraduate international students in John Molson School of Business Cycle I programs be charged a fixed rate of \$690 per credit, subject to approval of the Board of Governors;

That the reinvestments provided for in Resolution R-2009-5-20 be replaced by the creation of a fixed budgetary envelope to be used for the purposes supporting international students;

That Resolutions R-2009-5-D20 and R-2012-8-D32, adopted by the Board on June 18, 2009 and June 21, 2012 respectively, cease having effect as of the Fall 2014 term (2014/2).

Resolution concerning the per-credit tuition fees for graduate international students in John Molson School of Business Cycle II programs

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was RESOLVED (*Chevrier, Lynch and Wheeler voting against*):

R-2014-2-12 *Whereas the University wishes to propose modifications to the per-credit tuition fees charged to graduate international students in JMSB Cycle II programs;*

Whereas the University will continue to reinvest a portion of the funds charged for international student support;

Be it resolved:

That, effective the Fall 2014 term (2014/2), the total per-credit fee charged to graduate international students in John Molson School of Business Cycle II programs be increased on an annual basis to reflect the percentage of increase as set by the MESRST to the per-credit base tuition, the base forfaitaire and the additional 10% forfaitaire;

That the total per-credit fee premium be increased by the same percentage as applied to the forfaitaire and the additional 10% forfaitaire as set by the MESRST;

That these amounts be subject to annual increase as set by the MESRST to the per-credit base tuition, the base forfaitaire and the additional 10% forfaitaire;

That the total per-credit fee premium be increased on an annual basis, subject to approval of the Board of Governors;

That the reinvestments provided for in Resolution R-2009-5-21 be replaced by the creation of a fixed budgetary envelope to be used for the purposes supporting international students;

That Resolutions R-2009-5-D21 and R-2012-8-D33, adopted by the Board on June 18, 2009 and June 21, 2012 respectively, cease having effect as of the Fall 2014 term (2014/2).

10. Undergraduate student fee levies

In response to a query, Ms. Wheeler specified that although abstentions do not affect the outcome of the vote, the CSU feels it is important to provide students the option to abstain in writing. With respect to the voter turnout, she added that student engagement is a priority for the CSU and it will be looking into ways to increase voter participation.

10.1 People's Potato Collective fee levy adjustment (Document BG-2014-2-D11)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2014-2-13 *Whereas the original question put to and approved by undergraduate students in March 2009 with respect to the People's Potato Collective called for an increased fee to \$0.37 per credit, annually adjusted to the C.P. I. of Montreal;*

Whereas the Board resolution approving the collection of the increased fee levy of \$0.37 per credit failed to specify the annual C.P.I. adjustment;

Be it resolved that the Board of Governors authorize the University to collect a revised fee levy of \$0.39 per credit to reflect all annual adjustments of Consumer Price Index of Montreal since 2010 from all undergraduate students in support of the People's Potato Collective, adjusted annually to the Consumer Price Index of Montreal, to be implemented with registration for the Summer 2014 term (2014/1), in accordance with the University billing, refund and withdrawal policy.

10.2 Increase to the Centre for Gender Advocacy fee levy (Document BG-2014-2-D12)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2014-2-14 *That the Board of Governors authorize the University to collect an increased fee of \$0.37 (increase of \$0.08 per credit from \$0.29 per credit) from all undergraduate students to support the Centre for Gender Advocacy (formerly known as the 2110 Centre), to be implemented with registration for the Summer 2014 term (2014/1), in accordance with the University billing, refund and withdrawal policy.*

10.3 Community University Television Concordia (CUTV) fee levy transfer (Document BG-2014-2-D13)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2014-2-15 *That the management and control of the \$0.34 per credit fee levy currently being collected by the University from all undergraduate students to support the Concordia Student Broadcasting Corporation (CSBC) be transferred to the Community University Television Concordia (CUTV).*

10.4 New fee levy for l' Association pour une solidarité syndicale étudiante (ASSÉ) (Document BG-2014-2-D14)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2014-2-16 *That the Board of Governors authorize the University to collect a fee levy of \$1.50 per term from all undergraduate students registered in the Faculty of Fine Arts to support the Association pour une solidarité syndicale (ASSÉ), to be implemented with registration for the Fall 2014 term (2014/2), in accordance with the University billing, refund and withdrawal policy.*

11. Discontinuance of the graduate student fee levy for the Concordia Student Broadcasting Corporation (CSBC) (Document BG-2014-2-D15)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R-2014-2-17 *That the Board of Governors authorize the University to discontinue the collection of a fee levy of \$0.54 per semester from all graduate students to support the Concordia Student Broadcasting Corporation (CSBC), effective as of the Fall 2014 term (2014/2).*

12. Other business

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

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.



Danielle Tessier
Secretary of the Board of Governors