

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

Held on Friday, April 23, 2021,
immediately following the meeting of the Closed Session
via Zoom Video Conferencing

PRESENT

Voting members: Graham Carr (*Chair*); Md Foysal Ahmed; Ali Akgunduz; Shimon Amir; Nicholas Bailey; Matthew Barker; Guylaine Beaudry; Elizabeth Bloodgood; Catherine Bolton; Christopher Brett; Sally Cooke; Frank Crooks; Anne-Marie Croteau; Selvadurai Dayanandan; Mourad Debbabi; Effrosyni Diamantoudi; Linda Dyer; Mary Esteve; Ariela Freedman; Annie Gérin; Vince Graziano; James Hanna; Fiona Harrison-Roberts; Safwan Hye; Debra Irabor; Hannah Jamet-Lange; Isaiah Joyner; Samantha Leger; Colin Long; Christopher Moore; Catherine Mulligan; Helena Osana; Gilles Peslherbe; Duraichelvan Raju; Pascale Sicotte; Reza Soleymani; Robert Soroka; Ron Stern; Alexander Stojda; Kelly Thompson; Guylaine Vaillancourt; Anne Whitelaw; Paula Wood-Adams; Radu Zmeureanu

Non-voting members: Philippe Beauregard; Paul Chesser; Denis Cossette; Stéphanie de Celles; Michael Di Grappa; Isabel Dunnigan; Nadia Hardy; Candace Jacobs

Also attending: Shelina Houssenaly

ABSENT

Voting members: Adewunmi Ajike; Leslie Barker; Alex De Visscher; Sri Divya Doppalapudi; Mehdi Farashahi; Elizabeth Fast; Sarah Mazhero; Virginia Penhune; Praneetha Reddy

Non-voting members: Tom Hughes; Frederica Jacobs; Émilie Martel

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

1.1 Adoption of the Agenda

R-2021-3-5 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Agenda of the Open Session be approved.*

1.2 Adoption of March 19, 2021 Minutes

R-2021-3-6 *Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of March 19, 2021.*

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

Noting that the end of term was nearing, the President thanked everyone for the efforts to draw the semester successfully to a close and wished the best of success to students in their last push of assignments and exams.

He reassured Senators that the focus is on planning for the fall. The University remains in close contact with the Ministry of Higher Education and public health officials to seek clarity on which measures will be required – particularly around social distancing – for fall, since these could materially affect how many in-person courses and activities can be held. The intention is to announce the schedule before the end of May to allow students to plan. Concordia is working, as are other universities, with the government to address these issues, sensitive both to the desire to welcome international students but also to prioritize health and safety. It is expected that these issues will continue to evolve through spring and summer.

He congratulated the Space Concordia team, Rocketry Division, competing in the NASA sponsored Base 11 Space Challenge, a multi-phase competition against leading US aerospace schools. They won that phase of the competition and are now preparing for a launch 'to the edge of space' this December.

Dr. Carr concluded by apprising Senators that the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings were released early this week, which measure the performance of universities against the 17 United Nations Sustainability Development Goals. Last year Concordia ranked in the top 200 among 766 universities. He was thrilled that this year Concordia ranked 62nd overall among 1,115 universities worldwide. He was proud of the efforts of the whole community, since these rankings measure not only research and teaching but also community engagement and how institutions, as organizations, embody the goals.

4. Academic update (US-2021-3-D3)

Dr. Whitelaw has no additional information to her written report.

CONSENT

5. Committee appointments (US-2021-4-D4)

R-2021-3-7 *That the committee appointments be approved.*

6. Academic Programs Committee – Report and recommendations (US-2021-3-D5)

6.1 Undergraduate curriculum proposals – Faculty of Fine Arts

6.1.1 Department of Design and Computation Arts (US-2021-3-D6)

6.1.2 Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema (US-2021-3-D7)

R-2021-3-8 *That the undergraduate curriculum proposals in the Faculty of Fine Arts be approved.*

6.2 Undergraduate curriculum proposals – Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science – Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering (US-2021-3-D8 and D9)

R-2021-3-9 *That the undergraduate curriculum proposals in the Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science be approved.*

6.3 Graduate curriculum proposals – Faculty of Arts and Science

6.3.1 Department of Mathematics and Statistics (US-2021-3-D10)

6.3.2 Department of Psychology (US-2021-3-D11)

R-2021-3-10 *That the graduate curriculum proposals in the Faculty of Arts and Science be approved.*

6.4 Graduate curriculum proposal – Faculty of Fine Arts – Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema (US-2021-3-D12)

R-2021-3-11 *That the graduate curriculum proposal in the Faculty of Fine Arts be approved.*

6.5 Graduate curriculum proposals – Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science

6.5.1 Requirements for PhD (Doctorate in Philosophy) program (US-2021-3-D13)

6.5.2 Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering (US-2021-3-D14)

6.5.3 Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering (US-2021-3-D15)

R-2021-3-12 *That the graduate curriculum proposals in the Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science be approved.*

REGULAR**7. Question period**

Mr. Joyner wondered if access to campus will be feasible in the summer. Dr. Carr responded that the goal is to have some units back on campus and make the campus as accessible as possible. Mr. Di Grappa added that the University continues to plan for a pilot project for the summer and a fall return.

Prof. Dyer asked if the results of the equity survey would be circulated. Dr. Whitelaw answered that the data is currently being looked into and that an in-depth analysis will be done by the Equity Office.

Prof. Thompson noted that the delay in hiring part-time hiring members is putting a strain on departments for forward planning. Dr. Whitelaw explained that a decision was made in conjunction with CUPFA to postpone the hiring until such time that part-time faculty members will know whether if their course will be offered online or in-person. Prof. Soroka emphasized that this decision was made in a spirit of collaboration.

Ms. Jamet-Lange asked if there are any plans to make accommodations for students who cannot attend in-person classes in the fall. Dr. Whitelaw replied that the key to publishing a schedule that indicated which courses would be in person and which would be online was to help students make decisions if they were concerned about returning to campus. Ms. Jamet-Lange asked if accommodations could be made for students who were graduating. Dr. Whitelaw said that students can ask for accommodations from their professor under such extenuating circumstances especially if the course was a program requirement. Dr. Carr made the point that the principle is to minimize the number of exceptions.

8. Other business

There was no other business to bring before the meeting.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.



Danielle Tessier
Secretary of Senate