

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

Friday, November 11, 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 (attended remotely), Beverley Best (attended remotely), Sandra Betton (attended on behalf of Anne-Marie Croteau), Catherine Bolton, Adam Bouguila, Sally Cooke, Fabienne Cyrius, Selvadurai Dayanandan, Mourad Debbabi, Larry Deck, Effrosyni Diamantoudi, Mary Esteve (attended remotely), Mehdi Farashahi, Annie Gérin, Marina Ghali, Fawaz Halloum, Steve Henle, Asli Isaaq, Jordan Jerome-Pitre, Samreet Kaur, Michael Lecchino, Sofia Lipari-Couture, Christopher Moore, Peter Morden (attended remotely), Catherine Mulligan (attended remotely), Fuzhan Nasiri (attended remotely), Xavier Ottenwaelder, Thenmozhi Rajan, Ian Rakita, Nachiketh R. Ravindra, Rosemary Reilly (attended remotely), Pat Riva, Ahmadou Sakho, Pascale Sicotte, Kelly Thompson, Craig Townsend, Anne Whitelaw, Radu Grigore Zmeureanu

Non-voting members: Philippe Beauregard, Denis Cossette (attended remotely), Stéphanie de Celles, Tom Hughes, Frederica Jacobs, Emilie Martel, Stefana Nita

Also attending: Richard Courtemanche (attended remotely), Michael Di Grappa, Jooseop Lim, Lisa Ostiguy, Melodie Sullivan (attended remotely), Aisha Topskal

ABSENT

Voting members: Matthew Barker, Alexandra Dawson, William Dickson, Moshe Lander, David Morris, Mireille Paquet, Emilie Rosenthal-Bustamante, Sofiene Tahar, Guylaine Vaillancourt, Deeva Wazir

Non-voting members: Paul Chesser, Isabel Dunnigan, Nadia Hardy

## 1. Call to order

The President called the meeting to order at 2:46 p.m.

### 1.1 Approval of the Agenda

The Chair noted that item 10 of the agenda will be removed, as the Centraide Campaign had been extended by a week and thus would be presented to Senate at the December meeting.

*R-2022-6-6 Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the revised Agenda of the Open Session be approved.*

### 1.2 Adoption of October 7, 2022 Minutes

*R-2022-6-7 Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Minutes of the Open Session meeting of October 7, 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 began by thanking the President's Task Force on Anti-Black Racism, which released its report on October 28<sup>th</sup>. The Task Force was established in the fall of 2020 with a mandate to generate recommendations to combat anti-Black racism. The Task Force held more than a hundred meetings and was comprised of six committees made up of faculty, staff, students and alumni. G. Carr noted that this was a landmark report in Concordia's history and thanked all members of the Task Force, particularly Task Force Chair Angélique Willkie, for their service to the University.
- He congratulated Connor Church, a Métis student from Manitoba who is a first-year marketing student at the John Molson School of Business and a member of Concordia's varsity wrestling team. Church received the Tom Longboat Award which honors the top Indigenous athletes in Canada. He also congratulated design students Kamila Nina Andersen, Mélodie Ah-Waye and Quentin Meilhon who won the Student Award at the inaugural CASES sustainable design competition in September. Organized by the *Conseil régional de l'environnement de Montréal*, CASES calls on participants to reimagine existing on-and off-street parking areas in Montréal to better respond to community needs. The team proposed a transformation of two existing parking lots near the Frontenac metro station.
- He shared with Senate that three community members from the Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science received the new Gina Cody School EDI Award, which recognizes those who foster equitable, diverse and inclusive environments

through outreach, research and teaching activities. The first recipients were Riya Dutta, graduate student in software engineering; Mirjam Fines-Neuschild, Horizon postdoctoral fellow; and Carole El Ayoubi, senior lecturer in the Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering.

- Simon Bacon from the Department of Health, Kinesiology and Applied Physiology was awarded a clinical trials Training Grant from the Canadian Institutes for Health Research for his application “The Canadian Behavioural Trials and Interventions Training Platform.” G. Carr noted that CIHR grants were difficult to win at the best of times, but the Training Grant was particularly competitive and would benefit future graduate students working in the area of behavioral health.
- With return to in person activities, various conferences and events were now being organized on campus. Concordia and McGill co-hosted the two-day World 100 Reputation Network Meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Participants from top-ranked universities from around the world attended to discuss the future of reputation in higher education. Concordia also hosted the Global Bio Foundries Alliance Meeting from October 14<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> at the Loyola Jesuit Hall and Conference Centre and virtually. This was led by Vincent Martin, the Concordia University Research Chair in Microbial Engineering and Synthetic Biology. This meeting came ten years after Concordia hosted Canada’s first-ever symposium on synthetic biology, and the attendees represented more than 30 leading synthetic biology bio-foundries from around the world
- The fall convocation on October 24<sup>th</sup>, saw more than 1000 students graduate from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Gina Cody School and the John Molson School of Business. The University also conferred three honorary doctorates during the ceremonies to Fibbie Tatti, a journalist, educator and a leader of the Dene Nation, for preserving and promoting Indigenous languages and culture; Reshma Shetty, founder and CEO of Ginkgo Bio works, for expanding the role of synthetic biology in the world and modeling the important role of women and racialized communities in STEM disciplines; and David Fung, a technology integrator, serial entrepreneur and decorated Canadian for developing sustainable industries around the globe.
- The in-person Open House was held on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, which was the first one since the pre-pandemic held a couple of years ago. It was a great success, with 2,379 students checking in, surpassing the 2,210 students who took part in the last in-person event pre-pandemic. Factoring guests who accompanied students, there were at least 5,000 visitors on both campuses. G. Carr thanked S. de Celles and the team for organizing the Open House and to all faculty, staff and students who volunteered to make it a success.
- He thanked J. Sebastian van Berkomp for the \$1.2 million gift in support of the Van Berkomp Investment Management Program and Van Berkomp John Molson Small-Cap Case Competition. This gift brings the total amount that J. Sebastian van Berkomp has donated to his alma mater up to nearly \$4 million.

- Concordia has created a street-level location on Sir George Williams Campus for the SHIFT Centre for Social Transformation and the Office of Community Engagement. This was made possible with a \$10 million gift from the Amelia & Lino Saputo Jr. Foundation and the Mirella & Lino Saputo Foundation. SHIFT is a space for both planned and spontaneous collaboration. The hybrid launch event took place on October 31st.
- Concordia's Centraide Campaign 2022 began on October 11<sup>th</sup> and has included a number of successful in-person and online activities. The campaign ends on November 18<sup>th</sup> and the community can continue to make donations until December 31<sup>st</sup>. This year's goal is to raise \$205,000. To date, \$175,000 has been raised.
- He shared with Senators that there were two upcoming fundraising events: Comedy for a Cause at the Comedy Nest at 8 p.m. the same day and a screening of the movie C.R.A.Z.Y., directed by the late Québec filmmaker Jean-Marc Vallée, at the York Amphitheatre EV-1.615, on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. He encouraged community members to attend. The closing event for the campaign would be at the SHIFT Centre, LB 145, on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m., where the final total raised and prizes would be announced.

#### **4. Academic update** (Document US-2022-6-D4)

A. Whitelaw didn't have anything to add to the written report. She echoed G. Carr's recommendation that Senators and community members catch the screening of the film C.R.A.Z.Y, which was to be screened on November 17<sup>th</sup>, in the York Amphitheatre at 5.30 pm.

#### **CONSENT**

#### **5. Tribunal Pool/Committee nominations** (Document US-2022-6-D5)

*R-2022-6-8 Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Tribunal Pool and Committee appointments be approved.*

#### **6. Academic Programs Committee - Report and recommendations** (Document US-2022-6-D6)

*R-2022-6-9 Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the Academic Programs Committee - Report and recommendations (Document US-2022-6-D6) be approved.*

## REGULAR

### 7. Academic Programs Committee – Report and recommendation – JMSB-JMSB-704 (Document US-2022-6-D7)

S. Betton presented the item which includes major revisions to the JMSB-JMSB-704 curriculum. This curriculum has not been revised for 20 years and the revisions have sought to make the program multi-disciplinary. J. Lim was granted speaking privileges and spoke to the resource implications from the change.

*R-2022-6-10 Upon motion duly moved and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that Senate approve changes to the program JMSB-JMSB-704, as detailed in Document US-2022-6-D7.*

### 8. Revisions to the Policy on Tribunal Hearing Pools (BD-6) (Document US-2022-6-D8)

F. Jacobs spoke about this item, noting that the changes to the policy were to document what has already been happening with regard to the trainings offered to Tribunal Pool members. The policy had been approved by the Governance and Ethics Committee of the Board at their meeting of November 10<sup>th</sup> and would be presented to the Board for approval on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

This item was presented for information only.

### 9. Annual Report of the Office of Rights and Responsibilities (Document US-2022-6-D9)

A. Topsakal began by noting that since August 2021, the Office of Rights and Responsibilities has been offering in-person services, but more people have preferred remote meetings. With 357 e-requests, and 37 files carried forward from the previous year, they had 394 active files. She noted that bulk of the files were consultations related to students and staff, with 17% being informal cases dealing with difficult situations, 8% being formal cases involving Human Resources or student tribunals and 11% of cases relating to Students of Concern. A. Topsakal explained that a Student of Concern is identified when a student's behavior presents a potential threat to themselves and others. She went on to share some examples of the complexity of files that her office deals with. The information in the examples was changed to protect confidentiality.

Senators had a few questions, which included when a Wellness Check was triggered and if the mandatory sexual violence training had any impact on the number of cases received by the office. A. Topsakal explained the Wellness Check process, which includes campus security working with the police to assess the relevant situation.

She noted that SARC was looking into the impact of trainings, but as there were many influencing factors, it would be difficult to determine the extent of the impact of the mandatory trainings. She hoped that the training was giving people the tools to report more and seek necessary resources.

In response to a question of why student complaints go through the Tribunal process, while faculty complaints are managed through Human Resources, A. Topsakal explained that in cases of faculty, given their status as employees of the University, the University is bound by employment laws and regulations and thus a formal process must be followed by Human Resources. On a question related to the evaluation of Concordia's policies by the Canada-wide National Action Plan, A. Topsakal noted that the University was constantly reviewing and revising its policies and the necessary mechanisms were in place to address legislative and other changes that mandate policy review and revision.

G. Carr thanked A. Topsakal and her office for their work.

#### **10. Question period**

There were no questions asked during the question period.

#### **11. Other business**

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

#### **12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

*K. Singh*  
Karan Singh  
Secretary of Senate