

### **BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

**DOCUMENT 2012-3-02**\_

## January $10^{\text{th}}$ , 2013 McGreer 100 and by teleconference 8:00 a.m.

### **A**GENDA

1.	Welcome		R. Gordon	5 mins
2.	Approval of Agenda	Document 2012-3-02	R. Gordon	2 mins
3.	Update on 2012-13 forecast	Documents 2012-3-03, 03i, attached For discussion	M. Goldbloom, H. St-Amand	

4. Other business



# BOARD OF GOVERNORS DOCUMENT 2012-5-031

# MEETING OF JANUARY $10^{TH}$ , 2013 McGreer 100 and by Teleconference, 8 a.m.

### **MINUTES**

Chair:

Robert Gordon (by telephone)

Present:

Claude Charpentier, Deborah Langford, Adam Peabody,

James Sweeny

By telephone:

Gesner Blenkhorn, Paul Gallina, Michael Goldbloom, Scott

Griffin, Stephen Lloyd, Royal Orr, Elaine Roper, Luce

Samoisette

Regrets:

Nadia Martel, Michele Murray, Kelly Murumets,

Senior Administration:

Benoit-Antoine Bacon (by telephone), Jackie Bailey, Catherine

Beauchamp, Michael Childs, Scott Duguay, Hélène St-Amand,

Calin Valsan

Secretary:

Victoria Meikle

#### ITEMS 1 AND 2: CHAIR'S WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair called the meeting to order, reminding Governors that they would meet in person on January 25<sup>th</sup>, and that the purpose of the teleconference was to discuss the Principal's recommendation for the position that the University should take in a meeting with Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology Christyne Tremblay scheduled for January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

#### ITEM3: BISHOP'S POSITION ON BUDGET CUTS AND REVISED FORECAST

He then reviewed the main developments in the University's financial context since the adoption of the 2012-13 budget by the Board of Governors in May of 2012:

• Ratification of changes to the Pension Plan for Full-Time Employees had occurred six months later than expected, affecting the savings that would be achieved by the University during the 2012-13 fiscal year.

- There had been a decline in part-time enrolment, affecting revenues.
- The Parti Québécois government had decided to roll back the tuition increases promised in the March 2011 Quebec budget.
- Just before the holidays, the Minister of Higher Education had confirmed that universities would be asked to cut their budgets by 5.2% in the 2012-13 fiscal year.

All universities had been asked to meet individually with Deputy Minister Christyne Tremblay, *Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieure, de la Recherche, de la Science et de la Technologie* (MESRST), to discuss challenges in absorbing the budget cuts, and to explore possible solutions.

Bishop's meeting with the Deputy would take place on Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. Victoria Meikle and Hélène St-Amand would attend as well as the Principal.

All universities had indicated that they could not absorb a cut of 5.2% to their operating budget eight months into a fiscal year.

Vice-Principal Finance and Administration Hélène St-Amand spoke to documents 2012-3-03 and 03i updating the 2012-13 forecast. She reported that there were outstanding risk factors for 2012-13, particularly on the revenue side, including winter registrations, which would not be finalised for several weeks.

During the course of discussion it was suggested that Bishop's had reached the point where cost-cutting was no longer a solution and that, for the long term, we needed to look at how to build revenue without necessarily increasing the number of students.

The Principal recommended that the University tell the Deputy Minister that we will not be able to cut spending by 5.2% in the current year, and that a significant portion, if not all, of the cut to our operating grant would have to be added to the accumulated deficit.

Gesner Blenkhorn moved that the Board endorse the Principal's recommendation; Scott Griffin seconded the motion.

The motion carried.

Robert Gordon, Chair

Victoria Meikle, Secretary