

# FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> 2021 MINUTES VIDEOCONFERENCE

Chair:

Robert Hall

Present:

Jane Brydges, Pierre Cossette, Enzo Evangelisti, Michael Goldbloom, Daniel Fournier, Brian Levitt, Michel Marleau, Heather McKeen-Edwards, Cathy McLean, Jessica Riddell, Scott

Stoddard, Calin Valsan, Tova White

Regrets:

Abel Bosum, Kent Carson

Senior Administration:

Nick Andrews, Reena Atanasiadis, Isabelle Goyette, Claire Grogan, Corinne Haigh, Kerry Hull, Denise Lauzière, Stine Linden-Andersen, Michele Murray, Jacqueline Scott, Miles

Turnbull

Secretary:

Trygve Ugland

ITEM 1: CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

Moved by:

Jane Brydges

Seconded by: Cathy McLean

Motion carried.

#### ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the December 18, 2020 meeting were approved as presented.

Moved by:

Michel Marleau

Seconded by: Jane Brydges

Motion carried.

#### ITEM 4: BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising from prior meetings.

#### ITEM 5: PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal Goldbloom reported that on February 4<sup>th</sup> the Quebec Government recommended that CEGEPs and universities offer students the opportunity of at least one day of in-person academic activities per week starting on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Principal Goldbloom said that the University's priority remains the health and safety of our community and that it was waiting for further clarification from the Ministry of Higher Education and from Public Health before making decisions on which Winter 2021 courses could be made available for in-person learning.

The University will be holding discussions with the Ministry of Higher Education on several topics, namely the funding of small universities as well as the transformation of Norton Hall into a teaching and research facility. The Board will be informed about these talks at the next meeting.

The Williams School of Business (WSB) has won several prizes at regional and international case competitions and Principal Goldbloom congratulated Dean Reena Atanasiadis, the case competition coaches, the students and the WSB administration for their accomplishments.

Governor Charlene Marion has stepped down from the Board of Governors as she has taken a leave of absence in order to accept a position outside the University. Principal Goldbloom said that it would be difficult to replace Ms. Marion who has made an outstanding contribution as Experiential Learning Coordinator for the Williams School of Business, and that he wished her well in her new endeavour.

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Jane Goodall will deliver the second Donald Lecture of 2020-21 which will be held at 1:00 p.m., rather than the more usual 7:00 p.m. start time, as she will be connecting live from England. Principal Goldbloom invited Governors to sign up for the event which already has received over 500 registrations.

Dr. Daniel Miller has developed a pedagogical method for delivering courses that he has called 'Augmented Lecturing Methodology' which was featured in the *Cascade Journal of Knowledge*.

Principal Goldbloom thanked the Dean of Science, Dr. Kerry Hull, and the Coordinator of Centennial Theatre, Ms. Sonia Patenaude, for their leadership of the Centraide fundraising campaign which raised \$17,645.

Principal Goldbloom reported that 84 student-athletes earned Academic All-Canadian or All-Star status in the 2019-20 academic year by maintaining an average of at least 80% and passing at least 18 credits. He said that the athletes, coaching staff and Athletics administration, led by Director of Athletics and Recreation Mr. Matt McBrine, are committed to ensuring that students achieve in the classroom as well as in sports.

The Maple League continues to grow with eight courses offered for students across the Maple League this semester, and joint collaborative activities like the Business + Higher Education Roundtable's Canada Comeback Challenge and 'Connections', a digital theatre experience, for example.

#### ITEM 6: COVID-19 UPDATE

Principal Goldbloom reported that the University has not had a positive case on campus since December 2020. Beginning in January 2021, the University has deployed a preventative testing strategy in the residences using pooled saliva samples whereby students who share a 'pod' contribute a saliva sample and test results are communicated to the University within 24 hours. If any virus were to be found in a sample, all students in the 'pod' would be requested to get tested individually and the University's COVID-19 protocols would be enacted. He said that the pooled saliva testing does not replace individual testing or other measures already in place to limit the spread of the virus, but it can be an early warning system. Principal Goldbloom said that in November 2020, the delay between a student's COVID-19 test and the University receiving notification from Public Health of a positive test result was too long and the University hopes that the pooled saliva test will enable the University to act more quickly.

The Chair of the COVID-19 Task Force, Dr. Stine Linden-Andersen, said that the University is continuously monitoring the changing Public Health regulations and guidelines to make adjustments when necessary.

#### ITEM 7: REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, Mr. Michel Marleau, reported that the Committee met on January 18, 2021 to discuss an update on financial risks. Mr. Marleau said the University was monitoring international student enrolment in Winter 2021 which could impact tuition revenue and the impact of the prolonged confinement measures on the Ancillary budget, in particular food services and residences.

#### ITEM 8: ACADEMIC REPORT

Vice-Principal Academic and Research Miles Turnbull reported that the Winter 2021 enrolment was showing positive preliminary results and he invited Governors to review the research highlights included in his report.

The Dean of the School of Education, Dr. Corinne Haigh, reported on the progress her department has made towards the following Strategic Goals:

- 1. Elevate the quality of our academic programs and our liberal education model by promoting innovation and interdisciplinary collaboration;
- 2. Expand experiential learning;
- 3. Enhance the quality, quantity, stature and reputation of research;
- 4. Enhance the student experience; and
- 5. Enhance the strength, vibrancy, diversity and inclusivity of the Bishop's community.

For each goal, Dr. Haigh described the current situation, the actions in progress and the next steps.

#### ITEM 9: CAMPUS LANDSCAPE AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Campus Landscape and Built Environment Development Committee, Ms. Cathy McLean, reported that the Committee met on January 12, 2021 to discuss a construction contract for the new residence and the installation of new generators, a strategy for managing off-campus student housing, and an update on projects planned for 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Ms. McLean said that the results of the bidding process for the contract for the construction of the new residence and the installation of the generators would be sent to the Board for approval by email as the next Board meeting on April 30, 2021 would be too late.

Ms. McLean said that two projects (the renovation of the swimming pool in the Sports Centre and the replacement of windows for the Johnson building) have been moved forward to start work this year instead of in 2021-22 as indicated in the 2020-25 Capital Plan in order to take advantage of a new federal infrastructure grant program.

Principal Goldbloom asked Vice-Principal Finance and Administration Isabelle Goyette to present design images of the renovated swimming pool.

#### ITEM 10: RESURFACING COULTER FIELD

Vice-Principal Finance and Administration Isabelle Goyette reported that the replacement of Coulter Field's synthetic surface had been included in the 2020-25 Capital Plan and that a call for tenders for the project had been launched. Ms. Goyette said that the bids would be opened on March 4, 2021. She said that the Board of Governors meeting on April 30, 2021 would be too late for contractors to order the supplies in time for the anticipated start date of work in June 2021.

Ms. Goyette said information concerning the bids would be sent to Governors and that an email vote would follow if there were no concerns or questions raised at that time.

## ITEM 11: SOCIÉTÉ DE VALORISATION ET DE TRANSFERT DU QUÉBEC

Vice-Principal Finance and Administration Isabelle Goyette explained that MSBi had been founded by McGill University, the Université de Sherbrooke and Bishop's, as a small venture

capital company, with a focus on innovations in the areas of life sciences, physical sciences, energy, and information and communication technologies. Ms. Goyette said that the University owns one unit of the MSBi Investment Fund and is being asked to approve the new administrative structure of the *Société de valorisation et de transfert du Québec* (SVTQ) and the naming of SVTQ Inc. as new general partner of Aligo Innovation.

# RESOLUTION 2020-06-01 FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE CHANGE IN GENERAL PARTNERSHIP OF THE SOCIÉTÉ DE VALORISATION ET DE TRANSFERT DU QUÉBEC AND DELEGATION OF SIGNING AUTHORITY

WHEREAS the University's Signing Authority Policy states any contract, agreement or obligation that, in the opinion of the Principal and Vice-Chancellor or responsible Officer, should be approved by the Board of Governors, regardless of value;

AND WHEREAS by virtue of its partnership in MSBi Valorisation Inc., the University is also a shareholder in Corporation Aligo Inc. and is therefore being asked for its approval to proceed with the replacement of Corporation Aligo Inc. as the general partner of Aligo Innovation and to name Gestion SVTQ Inc as the new general partner;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Governors approves the change in general partnership of the *Société de valorisation et de transfert du Québec* (STVQ) as detailed in Document 2020-06-11 appendix A;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Governors authorizes two of the following signing officers (Michael Goldbloom, Principal and Vice Chancellor, Miles Turnbull, Vice-Principal Academic & Research and Isabelle Goyette, Vice-Principal Finance and Administration), to co-sign the resolution in Document 2020-06-11 Appendix A.

Moved by:

Michel Marleau

Seconded by:

Cathy McLean

Motion carried.

#### ITEM 12: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Chair of the Sustainable Development Committee, Mr. Robert Hall, reported that the Committee met on January 15, 2021 and discussed its new mandate, the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee on Sustainability and Responsible Investment, and the 2020-24 Sustainable Development Plan which will be shared with the Board at its April 30, 2021 meeting.

### ITEM 13: REPORT OF THE STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

The President of the Students' Representative Council (SRC), Mr. Enzo Evangelisti, reported on the results of a referendum on whether students wanted the SRC to pursue the addition of a Fall reading week to the academic calendar. Mr. Evangelisti said that 1270 students participated and that 1058 students, or 83.3%, voted in favour of the proposition.

Mr. Evangelisti said that the SRC had sent documentation to students, staff and faculty about its proposal and prepared two videos, one video describing the impact of adding the Fall reading week on the Fall 2021 sessional dates and a second video explaining the referendum process and Senate's decisional role in approving any changes to the sessional dates.

Principal Goldbloom congratulated Mr. Evangelisti and the SRC Executive for the quality and completeness of the referendum documentation provided to students. He said that he felt they had raised the bar for future student referenda.

ITEM 14: AD HOC COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABILITY AND RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT The Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Sustainability and Responsible Investment, Mr. Robert Hall, reported that due to the pandemic, the Committee had not met since its creation by the Board of Governors on March 27, 2020. Mr. Hall said that the Ad Hoc Committee on Sustainability and Responsible Development would discuss its mandate at its first meeting, which Mr. Hall intends to convene in the near future.

The open session ended at 4:29 p.m.

The meeting ended at 4:40 p.m.

Robert Hall, Chair

Trygve Ugland, Secretary