Senate met on November 21 and December 5, 2018. This report contains items that are presented to the Board of Governors for its consideration.

I. FOR ACTION BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1. 488th Report of the Academic Policy Committee  [D18-13]

Senate reviewed a recommendation of the Academic Policy Committee for the renaming of the Department of Ophthalmology to the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and recommended that it be approved by the Board.

The name change will help recognize the strong research component of the unit alongside its clinical activities and foster increased collaborations between researchers and scientists. It will also allow the Department to align with peer institutions in North America, many of whom already use a similar name, and help with student recruitment, hiring and funding.

*Be it resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the renaming of the Department of Ophthalmology to Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.*

2. Consolidation of Sustainability Policy and Environmental Policy  [D18-27]

Senate, on the recommendation of the Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance), approved revisions to the *Sustainability Policy* and the repeal of the *Environmental Policy*.

The *Environmental Policy* and *Sustainability Policy* have not been reviewed since approved by the Board of Governors in 2002 and 2010 respectively. The revised *Sustainability Policy* consolidates the two policies, embedding and revitalizing within it, the principles underlying the *Environmental Policy*. It adopts a broader and more ambitious position on climate action and sustainability to better reflect the University’s current institutional commitment, and also represents a more holistic and complete concept of sustainability, which reconciles environmental, social and economic dimensions.

The proposed revisions to the *Sustainability Policy* are included as Appendix A. The *Environmental Policy* is included for reference as Appendix B.

*Be it resolved that the Board of Governors, on the recommendation of Senate, approve the revised Sustainability Policy, as presented in Appendix A, and the repeal of the Environmental Policy.*
II. **FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

1. **Report of the Ad Hoc Senate Committee on Teaching Staff-Student Intimate Relationships** [D18-28]

   Senate received this report for information in accordance with the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Senate Committee on Teaching Staff-Student Intimate Relationships. The Ad Hoc Committee was established in May 2018 and mandated to explore and make recommendations to Senate on how McGill University ought to address, from a policy perspective, teaching staff-student relationships. Senate engaged in a thorough discussion on the recommendations of the Report, during which a number of viewpoints were raised. The recommendations of the Report will inform the review of relevant policies, notably the Policy against Sexual Violence, to be reviewed in the winter of 2019.

2. **Open Discussion on the Recommendations of the Report of the Principal’s Task Force on Respect and Inclusion in Campus Life (Mission, Trust and Governance)** [D18-12]

   An open discussion is an opportunity for Senators to consider and debate an issue of academic significance facing the University. Following a review of potential topics, the Senate Steering Committee selected to focus the open discussion on the recommendations in the report of the Principal’s Task Force on Respect and Inclusion in Campus Life. The recommendations in the report are set out around five themes: Mission, Trust, Governance, Communications, and Space.

   The discussion focused on the themes of Mission, Trust and Governance as these themes were more closely connected to Senate’s mandate. Senators discussed how certain action items identified by the Task Force could be implemented at the University.

3. **488th Report of the Academic Policy Committee** [D18-13]

   On the recommendation of the Academic Policy Committee, Senate approved Guidelines for Developing a Service Portfolio for Librarians, which will be appended to the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Librarian Staff.

   Senate was also informed of new course and revisions to existing courses and teaching programs approved by the Academic Policy Committee in the name of Senate.

4. **Strategic Research Plan 2019** [D18-16]

   Senate received this item for information. The Strategic Research Plan (SRP) is a requirement for the nominations of Canada Research Chairs and Canada Excellence Research Chairs, as well as for applications to the Canada Foundation for Innovation. The final version of the SRP will be presented to Senate and the Board for endorsement in January and February 2019 respectively.
5. **Proposed Revisions to the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures**

Senate received this item for information. Substantive changes included consideration of jurisdiction of the Code (the “University Context”), the connections between McGill’s Policy Against Sexual Violence and the Code, and the use of Interim Orders (e.g. cease and desist communications, temporary exclusions). Senators provided input on the revisions and the final version of the Code will be presented to Senate for approval in January 2019.

6. **Appointment of Assessors under the Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law**

In accordance with the requirements of the *Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law*, Senate approved the appointments of Dr. Chidinma Offoh-Robert (Director of Administration for the Faculty of Engineering) and Professor Erica Moodie (Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health, Faculty of Medicine), each for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021, as assessors under the Policy. The mandate of assessors is to investigate a complaint and submit a report of the results of their investigation to the Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic).

7. **Reports of the Senate Nominating Committee**

Senate approved the Nominating Committee’s recommendations with respect to appointments to Senate Standing Committees, Committees arising from University Regulations, and advisory committees. Senate also approved recommendations for the appointment of representatives appointed by Senate to participate in the consultation process of the Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility.

For the Board’s information, the following individuals have been named by Senate to serve on the advisory committees:

**Advisory Committee for the Selection of a Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning):**

- Ms. Nellie Voudouris (Faculty Adviser, Faculty of Arts, OASIS; Manager Arts Student Advising Program)
- Professor Jim Fyles (Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences)
- Professor Rosalie Jukier (Faculty of Law)
- Professor Julie Côté (Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education, Faculty of Education)
- Professor David Lowther (Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Faculty of Engineering) – Alternate
- Ms. Nicole Allard (Director, Advising Services, Faculty of Science) – Alternate
Advisory Committee for the Selection of an Ombudsperson

- Professor Ken Ragan (Department of Physics, Faculty of Science)
- Professor Erik Kuhonta (Department of Political Science, Faculty of Arts)
- Professor Jean-François Trempe (Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Faculty of Medicine – Alternate


Senate received an update regarding the University budget for fiscal year 2019 and received the first presentation on the budget for fiscal year 2020 for information. The Board of Governors will receive this report on December 13, 2018.

9. **Annual Report on the Financial State of the University** [D18-23]

Senate received a report on the current financial state of the University for information. The report also contained an overview of expectations for future developments relating to McGill’s financial state. The Board of Governors received this report on October 4, 2018.


In accordance with the terms of reference of the Academic Policy Committee, Senate received this annual report for information. The report provided an overview of the Committee’s activities undertaken in 2017-2018 and its plans and priorities for 2018-2019.


In accordance with the terms of reference of the Committee on Student Discipline, Senate received this annual report for information. The report provided a statistical overview of disciplinary cases the Committee addressed during the 2017-2018 academic year. The Board of Governors will receive this report on February 14, 2019.


In accordance with the terms of reference of the Committee on Physical Development, Senate received this annual report for information. The report provided an overview of the Committee’s activities undertaken in 2017-2018. The Building and Property Committee of the Board of Governors will receive this report on January 29, 2019.
13. **Annual Report of the Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs**  
(2017-2018)

In accordance with the terms of reference of the Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs, Senate received this annual report for information. The report provided an overview of the Committee’s activities undertaken in 2017-2018. More specifically, the report listed the new awards and revisions to existing awards and admission standards approved by the Committee in the name of Senate.


In accordance with the terms of reference of the Committee on Libraries, Senate received this annual report for information. The report provided an overview of the Committee’s activities undertaken in 2017-2018.

15. **Report of the Joint Board-Senate Meeting: “How could McGill transform itself for a world of lifelong learning?”**

Senate received this report for information. It provided an overview of the November 14, 2018 joint Board of Governors and Senate meeting. The Board of Governors will receive this report on December 13, 2018.

16. **Report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee**

Senate approved a report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee in confidential session. The report contained recommendations for the conferral of honorary degrees for Spring 2019 and beyond.

END

December 2018
**PART I – PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

### 1.1 PURPOSE

1.1.1. As institutions committed to the advancement of knowledge and solutions-based inquiry, universities have a unique role to play in the face of complex environmental, social and economic issues. Through research, education, daily operations and interactions with the broader community, universities can be effective contributors to policy and attitudinal change needed to create a sustainable future.

McGill University is committed to achieve the highest possible standards of sustainability. We strive to be a leader in research and education, creating and communicating the knowledge required for humans to live sustainably at the local, regional and global scales. In our operations, we will meet or exceed governmental standards of sustainability for educational institutions and the norms of sustainability achieved by our comparator universities. Our goal is to become an institutional model of sustainability for society as we pursue our academic mission. In order to achieve this, the University will leverage the talent and ingenuity of its students, faculty and staff to transition towards a more sustainable, low carbon future.

### 1.2. SCOPE

1.2.1. This Policy applies to all students, faculty and staff across academic practices, facilities and operations.

**PART II – POLICY STATEMENT, ACTION PLANNING & REPORTING**

### 2.1 POLICY STATEMENT

2.1.1. The objectives of the Policy are as follows:

   a) Undertake the activities and operations of the University in a manner that strikes an appropriate balance between the needs and aspirations of current and future generations of the McGill and broader communities;
b) Foster inquiry into sustainability through teaching, learning, research and the university experience;

c) Share knowledge to stimulate innovation, raise awareness and ensure effective participation of the McGill community in the implementation of sustainable practices;

d) Encourage economic efficiencies in the University’s operations that are consistent with social equity and respect for the environment;

e) Promote a healthy, safe and productive work and learning environment for the McGill community;

f) Advance individual and collective efforts and accountabilities throughout the McGill community to make sustainability a priority in the life of the University;

g) Identify and conserve the cultural and natural heritage of McGill University, including properties, buildings, landscapes, traditions and knowledge, taking their intrinsic rarity and fragility into account;

h) Minimize the use and consumption of energy, water and material resources in recognition of the finite capacity of the biosphere to accommodate human activities;

i) Consider the economic, environmental and social impacts of the activities carried out by or on behalf of the University in order to guide decision-making.

j) Comply with regional, national and international declarations and accords of which McGill is a signatory, notably the Talloires Declaration and the Halifax Declaration.

2.2. ACTION PLANNING

2.2.1 To ensure a structured and collaborative approach in support of this Policy, the University will produce action plans in support of the University’s climate and sustainability initiatives that involve all relevant university stakeholders. These action plans will outline programs and initiatives that will move the University closer to its sustainability goals.

2.3. REPORTING

2.3.1 The University will report annually to its community on progress toward achieving its sustainability goals.

PART III – AUTHORITY TO APPROVE PROCEDURES

3.1 The Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance) has the authority to establish, approve, amend and repeal procedures which are secondary to and comply with this Policy.
PART IV – REVIEW

4.1. A review of this Policy shall be conducted by the Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance) every five (5) years, or may be initiated sooner by the Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance) or Board of Governors when necessary to ensure legislative or statutory compliance, or when deemed necessary to do so in the best interests of the University.
Preamble
The mission of McGill University will be attained responsibly by carrying out its activities in a manner that achieves a balance between the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability:

The Mission of McGill University is the advancement of learning through teaching, scholarship and service to society by offering to outstanding undergraduate and graduate students the best education available, by carrying out scholarly activities judged to be excellent when measured against the highest international standards, and by providing service to society in those ways for which we are well-suited by virtue of our academic strengths.

PART I – PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1.1 PURPOSE

1.1.1. As institutions committed to the advancement of knowledge and solutions-based inquiry, universities have a unique role to play in the face of complex environmental, social and economic issues. Through research, education, daily operations and interactions with the broader community, universities can be effective contributors to policy and attitudinal change needed to create a sustainable future.

Policy
McGill University aspires is committed to achieve the highest possible standards of sustainability on its campuses and in its day-to-day activities through its academic practices, in its facilities and operations, and by its outreach to the broader community. We strive to be a leader in research and education, creating and communicating the knowledge required for humans to live sustainably at the local, regional and global scales. In our operations, we will meet or exceed governmental standards of sustainability for educational institutions and the norms of sustainability achieved by our comparator universities. Our goal is to become an institutional model of sustainability for society as we pursue our academic mission and play a positive and proactive role in communicating the rationale and need to develop and implement sustainable practices in the broader community. In order to achieve this, the University will leverage the talent and ingenuity of its students, faculty and staff to transition towards a more sustainable, low carbon future.
1.2. SCOPE

1.2.1 This Policy applies to all students, faculty and staff across academic practices, facilities and operations.

PART II – POLICY STATEMENT, ACTION PLANNING & REPORTING

2.1 POLICY STATEMENT

To this end, McGill University will:

2.1.1 The objectives of the Policy are as follows:

a) Undertake the activities and operations of the University in a manner that strikes an appropriate balance between the needs and aspirations of current and future generations of the McGill and broader communities;

b) Foster inquiry into sustainability through teaching, learning, research and the university experience;

c) Share knowledge to stimulate innovation, raise awareness and ensure effective participation of the McGill community in the implementation of sustainable practices;

d) Encourage economic efficiencies in the University’s operations that are consistent with social equity and respect for the environment;

e) Promote a healthy, safe and productive work and learning environment for the McGill community;

f) Advance individual and collective efforts and accountabilities throughout the McGill community to make sustainability a priority in the life of the University;

g) Identify and conserve the cultural and natural heritage of McGill University, including properties, buildings, landscapes, traditions and knowledge, taking their intrinsic rarity and fragility into account; and

h) Minimize the use and consumption of energy, water and material resources in recognition of the finite capacity of the biosphere to accommodate human activities;

i) Among other initiatives undertaken in support of this Policy, the University will consider activities carried out by or on behalf of the University in light of their life cycle, including their economic, environmental and social footprints;

j) Comply with regional, national and international declarations and accords of which McGill is a signatory, notably the Talloires Declaration and the Halifax Declaration.
2.2. ACTION PLANNING

- Establish sustainability indicators to enable accountability, to communicate specific goals, and to monitor and report on progress;
- Prepare and regularly update a sustainability plan with specific goals and objectives; and

2.2.1 To ensure a structured and collaborative approach in support of this Policy, the University will produce action plans in support of the University’s climate and sustainability initiatives that involve all relevant university stakeholders. These action plans will outline programs and initiatives that will move the University closer to its sustainability goals.

2.3. REPORTING

- Report annually on progress to the McGill community.

2.3.1 The University will report annually to its community on progress toward achieving its sustainability goals.

PART III – AUTHORITY TO APPROVE PROCEDURES

3.1 The Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance) has the authority to establish, approve, amend and repeal procedures which are secondary to and comply with this Policy.

PART IV – REVIEW

4.1 A review of this Policy shall be conducted by the Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance) every five (5) years, or may be initiated sooner by the Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance) or Board of Governors when necessary to ensure legislative or statutory compliance, or when deemed necessary to do so in the best interests of the University.
Environmental Policy for McGill University

Preamble
McGill University shall strive to be recognized as an environmentally safe and responsible institution of learning, and as a model of environmentally responsible living.

To this end, the McGill University community shall make every reasonable effort to:

1. Prevent the over-consumption of energy and other resources and reduce the production of waste and the release of substances harmful to the biosphere;
2. Maintain purchasing policies which favour environmentally benign, post-consumer, bio-degradable, and non-toxic products wherever possible;
3. Encourage all members of the McGill community to be environmentally aware and the University’s Environmental Policy to be well publicized;
4. Encourage all members of the McGill community to Re-think/Reduce/Re-use/Recycle. Given the costs that recycling entails, reduce and re-use options shall always be considered first; and
5. Seek additional ways of achieving our goal of being environmentally safe and responsible.

[Executive: October 7, 2002, minute 3]

We at McGill University are committed to fulfilling our academic mission and managing all resources in harmony with our natural environment. We are committed to meeting our social, scientific, ethical and educational leadership responsibility in actively promoting the restoration and preservation of a healthy environment for the future, and in contributing to building an equitable world.

Our commitment to raising environmental awareness and acting on it is manifested in our teaching and research activities, in other services which we provide to the McGill community and society at large, and in the individual and collective decisions which we take to offset the negative impact of the University’s operation and activities on the Environment.

We are committed to increasing the University community’s awareness of environmental issues, by fostering the appropriate values, knowledge, and skills to enable us to work towards the restoration and preservation of the Environment.
Accompanying principles

The University shall abide by the following principles:

1. McGill University shall have the goal of being recognized as an environmentally safe and responsible institution of learning and a model of environmentally responsible living.

2. McGill University shall be in conformity with the principles of the 1990 Talloires Declaration and 1991 Halifax Declaration (Appendices I and II), and respect all municipal, provincial, and national legislation, and the spirit of the various international accords that Canada has signed. Should these obligations conflict, the University shall select the standards most compatible with the four principles listed below, in keeping with its leadership role and its goal of excellence.

3. The McGill University community shall minimize the overconsumption of energy and other resources, the production of waste, and the release of substances harmful to the biosphere.

4. The University shall maintain purchasing policies which favour environmentally-benign, post-consumer, bio-degradable, and non-toxic products wherever possible.

5. The University shall encourage all members of the McGill community to be environmentally aware and the University’s Environmental Policy to be well publicized.

6. All members of the McGill community shall be encouraged to Re-think/Reduce/Re-use/Recycle. Given the costs that recycling entails, reduce and re-use options shall always be considered first.

[Board of Governors: May 30, 2001]

Appendices:

I. The Talloires Declaration, October 1990

II. The Halifax Declaration, December 1991
TALLOIRES DECLARATION

McGill is one of the 270 signatories of the Talloires Declaration of the Association of University Leaders for a Sustainable Future, a process initiated at the Tutts University European Centre in Talloires (Haute-Savoie, France) in October 1990 and coordinated by the Tutts University-based Secretariat of University Presidents for a Sustainable Future. As such, McGill University has committed itself to taking a number of actions, in particular "to encourage that all university graduates are environmentally conscious, and have the awareness and understanding to be ecologically responsible citizens", and "to set as an example of environmental responsibility". In order to "set an example of environmental responsibility" as required by the Talloires Declaration, the McGill community is expected to commit itself seriously and to act sincerely to minimize negative environmental impact. The Talloires Declaration reads as follows:

We, the presidents, rectors, and vice chancellors of universities from all regions of the world are deeply concerned about the unprecedented scale and speed of environmental pollution and degradation, and the depletion of natural resources.

Local, regional, and global air and water pollution; accumulation and distribution of toxic wastes; destruction and depletion of forests, soil, and water; depletion of the ozone layer and emission of "green house gases" threaten the survival of humans and thousands of other living species, the integrity of the earth and its biodiversity, the security of nations, and the heritage of future generations. These environmental changes are caused by inexcusable and unsustainable production and consumption patterns that aggravate poverty in many regions of the world.

We believe that urgent actions are needed to address these fundamental problems and reverse the trends. Stabilization of human population, adoption of environmentally sound industrial and agricultural technologies, reforestation, and ecological restoration are crucial elements in creating an equitable and sustainable future for all humankind in harmony with nature.

Universities have a major role in the education, research, policy formation, and information exchange necessary to make these goals possible. Thus, university leaders must initiate and support mobilization of internal and external resources so that their institutions respond to this urgent challenge.

We, therefore, agree to take the following actions:

1. Use every opportunity to raise public, government, industry, foundation, and university awareness by openly addressing the urgent need to move toward an environmentally sustainable future.

2. Encourage all universities to engage in education, research, policy formation, and information exchange on population, environment, and development to move toward global sustainability.

3. Establish programs to produce expertise in environmental management, sustainable economic development, population, and related fields to ensure that all university graduates are environmentally literate, and have the awareness and understanding to be ecologically responsible citizens.
4. Create programs to develop the capability of university faculty to teach environmental literacy to all undergraduate, graduate, and professional students.

5. Set an example of environmental responsibility by establishing institutional ecology policies and practices of resource conservation, recycling, waste reduction, and environmentally sound operations.

6. Encourage involvement of government, foundations, and industry in supporting interdisciplinary research, education, policy formation, and information exchange in environmentally sustainable development. Expand work with community and non-governmental organizations to assist in finding solutions to environmental problems.

7. Convene university faculty and administrators with environmental practitioners to develop curricula, research initiatives, operations systems, and outreach activities to support an environmentally sustainable future.

8. Establish partnerships with primary and secondary schools to help develop the capacity for interdisciplinary teaching about population, environment, and sustainable development.

9. Work with national and international organizations to promote a worldwide university effort toward a sustainable future.

10. Establish a Secretariat and a steering committee to continue this momentum, and to inform and support each other's efforts in carrying out this declaration.
APPENDIX II

HALIFAX DECLARATION

McGill University is one of the sixteen Canadian signatories of the Halifax Declaration (December 1991). The University Senate, on March 25, 1992 and on motion by former Vice-Principals Slaug and Prystaw, voted in favour of supporting the Halifax Declaration and of asking "that all academic units within the University be informed of this Declaration". The Halifax Declaration called for the University's dedication to a number of actions to be taken within the University and at the local, national and global levels. The Halifax Declaration reads as follows:

Human demands upon the planet are now of a volume and kind that, unless changed substantially, threaten the future well-being of all living species. Universities are entrusted with a major responsibility to help societies shape their present and future development policies and actions into the sustainable and equitable forms necessary for an environmentally secure and civilized world...

The Halifax meeting (held in December 1991) added its voice to those many others world-wide that are deeply concerned about the continuing widespread degradation of the Earth's environment, about the pervasive influence of poverty on the process, and about the unsustainable environmental practices now so widespread. The meeting expressed the belief that solutions to these problems can only be effective to the extent that the mutual vulnerability of all societies, in the South and in the North, is recognized, and that the skills and energies of people everywhere are used to achieve a positive, co-operative fashion. Because the educational, research and public service roles of universities enable them to be competent, effective contributors to the major attitudinal and policy changes necessary for a sustainable future, the Halifax meeting invited the dedication of all universities to the following actions:

1. To ensure the voice of the university be clear and uncompromising in its ongoing commitment to the principle and practice of sustainable development within the university, and at the local, national and global levels.

2. To utilize the intellectual resources of the university to encourage a better understanding of the part of society of the inter-related physical, biological and social danger facing the planet Earth.

3. To emphasize the ethical obligation of the present generation to overcome those current malpractices of resource utilization and those widespread circumstances of irreversible human disparity which lie at the root of environment unsustainability.

4. To enhance the capacity of the university to teach and practice sustainable development principles, to increase environmental literacy, and to enhance the understanding of environmental ethics among faculty, students and the public at large.

5. To cooperate with one another and with all segments of society in the pursuit of practical capacity-building and policy measures to achieve the effective revision and reversal of those current practices which contribute to environmental degradation, to South-North disparities and the inter-generational inequity.

6. To employ all channels open to the university to communicate these undertakings to UNCED (the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Brazil in 1992), to governments and to the public at large.