

**Minutes**

Wednesday, September 12, 2018 18-19:01

Minutes of the meeting of Senate held on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. in the Robert Vogel Council Room (Room 232, Leacock Building)

**PRESENT**

Abdul-Rahman, Ommu-Kulsoom	Gold, Richard	Oxhorn, Philip
Amon, Danny	Gonnerman, Laura	Patzer, Annalise
Animesh, Animesh	Grütter, Peter	Quitoriano, Nathaniel
Arseneault, Louis	Gyakum, John	Ravenscroft, Brenda
Bajeux-Besnainou, Isabelle	Harpp, David	Richard, Marc
Bayen, Stephane	Hastings, Kenneth	Robaire, Bernard
Beauchamp, Yves	Hébert, Terence	Salmasi, Kamal
Bede, Jacqueline	Hickman, Miranda	Saroyan, Alenoush
Bedjanian, Tatiana	Huang, Zi Jun	Scholtz, Christa
Belzile, Bruno	Kamen, Amine	Shapiro, Jacob
Bernard, Daniel	Komarova, Svetlana	Sladek, Robert
Buddle, Christopher	Labeau, Fabrice	Snider, Laurie
Buraga, Bryan	Labonté, Réginal	Starr, Lisa
Campbell, Angela	Lametti, Andre	Stephens, David
Cook, Colleen	Larson, Erik	Stifani, Stefano
Crago, Martha	Larsson, Hans	Theodore, David
Damha, Masad	Leckey, Robert	Tippler, Maria
Dhir, Sabine	Lennox, Bruce	Tremblay, Michel
Donahoe, Colin	Maciasz, Eva	Vallée, Jean-Sébastien
Dorval Courchesne,	Madokoro, Laura	van den Berg, Axel
Noémie-Manuelle	Maioni, Antonia	Voudouris, Nellie
Drouin, Susan	Malik, Sarim	Walsh, Anna
Dunn, Nicholas	Manfredi, Christopher	Waters, Natalie
Eakin, Gael	Mansdoerfer, Richard	Weil, Carola
Eidelman, David	McCulloch, Mary Jo	Weinstein, Marc
Elstein, Eleanor	McKenzie, Jeffrey	Wilson, Madeline
Emami, Elham	Mikkelson, Gregory	Winer, Laura
Fortier, Suzanne	Morin, Monique	Yalovsky, Morty
Fussmann, Gregor	Nalbantoglu, Josephine	Zakrzewski, Helena
Gadbois, Sofia	Ndao, Momar	Zorychta, Edith
Geitmann, Anja	Nicell, Jim	Zuberi, Sameer
	Nichol, Jarrod	

**REGRETS:**

Julie Cumming, Jim Engle-Warnick, Lawrence Goodridge, Tina Hobday, Alex Kalil, Odile Liboiron-Ladouceur, Rod Louisa, Michael Meighen, Ronald Niezen, Ram Panda, Dilson Rassier, Nigel Roulet, Alvin Shrier, Eran Shor, Ada Sinacore.

## SECTION I

### 1. Welcoming Remarks

The Chair began by welcoming returning, re-elected and new Senators to the first Senate meeting of the 2018-2019 governance year. On behalf of Senate and the Faculty of Science, Senator Lennox extended his congratulations to the Chair on her appointment to the Order of Canada. Principal Fortier was recognized for her rich contributions to scientific advancements and innovation in Canada, and for her governance in academia. The Chair then welcomed Mr. Kevin Dobie, new Associate Director of the Secretariat, who will be working with the Secretary-General and the team in support of governance functions. She reminded Senators of the University's Mission Statement and Principles as well as the Senate Rules of Procedure. Finally, she reminded Senators that a recording of the livestream of Senate would be accessible until the meeting minutes are approved at the subsequent meeting.

### 2. Memorial Tributes for Professor Emerita Virginia Douglas and Librarian Emerita Anastassia Khouri-Frankman

Senator Lennox read the following memorial tribute for Professor Emerita Douglas, which Senate subsequently unanimously approved:

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Virginia Isabel Douglas, an internationally renowned researcher and one of Canada's most influential child psychologists. Dr. Douglas passed away on December 8, 2017 at the age of 90.

Dr. Douglas received her PhD from University of Michigan in 1958, and came to McGill the same year. At McGill, she convinced the Chair, D.O. Hebb, that to advance our understanding of Clinical disorders, clinical training had to be provided within a rigorous experimentally-based PhD program. In 1965, as the McGill representative, she presented this "scientist-practitioner" model at a national conference that was convened to determine the direction of professional training in psychology in Canada. This view was widely accepted and was adopted as a model. Dr. Douglas became the First Director of Clinical Psychology at McGill, and led the program to become the first American Psychological Association -accredited clinical psychology training program in Canada. In 1971, Dr. Douglas was elected President of the Canadian Psychological Association.

Dr. Douglas was one of one of the first researchers to employ standardized neurological test batteries and formal cognitive testing to characterize hyperactive children and to assess treatment effects. Her research showed that the central deficits in hyperactive children were poor attention and impulse control. She presented this view in a seminal paper "*Stop! Look! Listen!*" which became a citation classic. In 1980, the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders* changed the diagnosis name from *Childhood Hyperactivity* to *Attention Deficit Disorder* based on her work.

Dr. Douglas' research has been cited over 8,500 times. For her work, she received the Distinguished Contribution to Child Clinical Psychology Award from the American Psychological Association and the Gold Medal for Lifetime Contributions to Psychology from the Canadian Psychological Association. She was the first female Chair of the Department of Psychology and held a clinical appointment at the Montreal Children's Hospital for many years.

Virginia Douglas was pre-deceased by her husband of 40 years, Prof. John Lewis of the Department of Biology. We wish to extend our heartfelt sympathies to her son Donald, her grandchildren, Heather and Robertson, and her stepchildren, Deborah and Michael.

Senator Cook then read the following memorial tribute for Librarian Emerita Khouri-Frankman, which Senate subsequently unanimously approved:

When Anastassia Khouri emigrated with her family from Egypt to Canada in 1962 at the age of 17, she set her sights on taking advantage of the educational opportunities open to her. She completed a BA at the Université de Montréal in 1970 and then a Bachelor in Library Science at the University of Ottawa in 1971. A 1972 summer job at the Canada Department of Energy, Mines & Resources, Earth Physics Library allowed her to work with newly purchased electronic equipment. She took advantage of the free reign she was given to design and produce the first automated serial lists for her unit using Fortran and punched cards. At the end of the summer her supervisor secured her a last minute admission and full funding to undertake a Masters in Library Science at the University of Western Ontario which she completed in 1973.

Her work with the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec from 1973 to 1984 provided her with the skills and experience which she brought to the McGill University Libraries in 1984 when she was hired as our first Systems Librarian. Her strong mandate was to bring automation to the McGill Libraries, at that time a highly decentralized system of 22 libraries. Fulfilling her mandate successfully required major changes in the McGill Libraries which she worked diligently and sensitively to implement. In transforming the library system, she quickly gained the support of University leaders, in particular of Dr. Sam Freedman, the Academic Vice Principal. She reported as well to the Vice Principal Planning and to the Director of Libraries.

It was her mastery of the emerging library technologies and her dedication to her mandate that those both inside and outside the library found impressive. She was determined to prepare McGill and its Libraries for the 21st century. She was particularly proud of enlisting the support across campus from all units necessary to the initiative of the McGill Libraries, most especially the Computing Centre and the Planning Office. Her careful direction resulted in the highly successful implementation of the Notis automated library system in all McGill Libraries by 1987, a project which required the conversion of some one million bibliographical records and the barcoding of collections. A necessary complement of the library automation project was the introduction of the single multi-use ID card essential to all our campus activities.

Anastassia's second major mandate was to create the infrastructure and the service-model for the Library to be the hub for managing digital-numeric databases for teaching and research. It was a novel type of service for the Libraries. In the newly created position of Coordinator of Electronic Data Resources Services, she restructured Government Information Services and Collections and the Walter Hirschfeld Geographic Information Centre to focus their services on the techniques for handling digital resources.

The biggest challenge was to create a completely new unit which would make numeric databases accessible to all McGill network users, establishing a service- model which could empower beginners, as well as provide value-added services for experts. The result was the establishment of EDRS, the Electronic Data Resources Service. She was proud of this work and due recognition was given to it in theses and publications benefitting from EDRS assistance. A former student who worked with Anastassia to build the EDRS website praised her leadership style. “[Anastassia] was a loving and caring teacher/leader who knew how to fight for her team.”

Throughout her entire career, Anastassia was devoted to her profession and to assuring the highest possible standards. She served as President of the Association Pour L'avancement Des Sciences Et Techniques De La Documentation (ASTED) and was invited on numerous international consultancies. She bid farewell to McGill in 2008 as a full librarian.

In her retirement, Anastassia dedicated herself to painting. She gave many of her paintings to friends and family, while others of these adorn the walls of her home. In April 2018, two months prior to her death, 14 paintings that she donated were put on permanent display at the Peri-Operative Programme Clinic of the McGill University Hospital Centre, located on the 10th floor of the Montreal General Hospital.

Our deepest sympathies are with her husband Myron Frankman, her step-son Daniel Frankman, her daughter Annick St.-Pierre and her family.

**3. Report of the Steering Committee: Part I** (18:19-01)

Senate received the Report of the Steering Committee: Part I (18-19:01).

*Item 1. Approval of Minutes of Senate – May 16, 2018.*

*Item 2. Approval of Confidential Minutes of Senate – May 16, 2018.*

*Item 3. Speaking Rights.* Upon approval of the report, speaking rights were granted to Ms. Sinead Hunt, Senior Equity and Inclusion Advisor, for item IIB2 (Annual Report on the Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law) and Ms. Martine Gauthier, Senior Director, Student Services, for item IIB3 (Annual Report of the Committee on Student Services).

*Item 4. Open Discussions.* The Committee selected to focus the first open discussion (which is taking place on November 21, 2018) on the Report of the Principal’s Task Force on Respect and Inclusion in Campus Life. Following the open discussion, the Committee will decide if further discussions on this topic are necessary.

*Item 5. Approval of the Agenda.*

*Item 6. Approval of Degrees, Certificates and Diplomas for Spring 2018 Convocation.*

*On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved Part I of the Report of the Steering Committee.*

#### **4. Business Arising from the May 16, 2018 Senate Minutes**

There was none.

#### **5. Chair’s Remarks**

The Chair began her remarks by discussing orientation week and enrolment numbers. She reported that collaboration among the University, student groups, police and Milton Park Community was exemplary, noting that no major incidents involving students took place during Frosh. She indicated that enrolment figures were not final until mid-October but so far, enrolment in undergraduate degree programs is stable while that of graduate programs has increased by 4-5%. She stated that the geographic mix of the student body and gender ratio are the same as in previous years. She also noted that this year, China surpassed the United States as the top country of origin for international students at McGill.

The Chair then spoke about the diplomatic incident over the summer that led to students from Saudi Arabia being forced to return to their country. She mentioned that the biggest impact was on residents and fellows in the Faculty of Medicine and affiliated hospitals, noting that they are now allowed to stay. She stated that the Saudi Arabian Cultural Bureau has submitted a request to the Saudi Ministry of Education to allow similar exemptions for Saudi academic students who are close to finishing their programs.

The Chair then reported on rankings, noting that in the Shanghai Academic Ranking of World University Rankings, McGill’s position dropped from 70<sup>th</sup> to 67<sup>th</sup>. She explained that while rankings were an imperfect measurement of university performance, they provided indicators that were valuable for all universities.

The Chair then spoke about government relations. At the provincial level, she noted that the 2018 general election will take place on October 1<sup>st</sup>. She stated that McGill and representatives of the *Bureau de coopération interuniversitaire* have met with all four party leaders and are advocating the importance of higher education. At the federal level, she shared that McGill made a submission in the context of the consultations for the 2019 budget. She noted that McGill continues to emphasize the implementation of the recommendations of the Advisory Panel on Federal Support for Fundamental Science, especially by increasing investment for graduate student fellowships and

scholarships and expanding NSERC's Undergraduate Student Research Awards program to other granting councils. She mentioned that McGill is also encouraging the government to raise the floor of the Research Support Fund to a minimum of 25% and create a program to enhance the international mobility of Canadian students. At the municipal level, she reported that members of the senior administration met with representatives from the City of Montreal to increase the relationship between institutions of higher education and the City.

Regarding external relations, the Chair reported that the Mohawk community of Kahnawà:ke and McGill launched a Bachelor of Education (B. Ed.) First Nations and Inuit Education program to be given in the community of Kahnawà:ke, noting that approximately 30 Mohawk students have registered.

Regarding community relations, the Chair reminded Senators that the Report of the Task Force on Respect and Inclusion was submitted after the May 2018 Senate meeting. She mentioned that members of the senior administration have been reflecting on the report's recommendations and are preparing an action plan. She also noted that consultations are being organized to discuss the recommendations with students as well as members of the academic staff and the administrative and support staff. The Chair then mentioned that Homecoming 2018 is taking place October 11 to 13. She noted that one of the signature events will be the annual Beatty Memorial Lecture. The lecture, entitled "Difficult Women, Bad Feminists and Unruly Bodies," will be delivered by bestselling author, professor, editor and cultural commentator, Roxane Gay.

The Chair concluded her remarks by giving highlights of the kudos circulated prior to the meeting. She congratulated McGill students Miasya Bulger (Bioengineering) and Raphael Hotter (Joint Honours Mathematics and Computer Science) on receiving Schulich Leader Scholarships. She shared that 53 teams of researchers from McGill and its affiliated hospitals and institutes were awarded grants totaling almost \$50 million from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in support of health-related projects. She congratulated the 13 McGill graduate students who won Vanier Scholarships and the six postdoctoral fellows who received Banting Fellowships. She shared that the Governor General of Canada appointed 17 McGillians to the Order of Canada, including former Dean of Medicine Abe Fuks; Professor of Family Medicine Yvonne Steinert; Professor of Social Work Cindy Blackstock; and alumna and former Auditor General of Canada Sheila Fraser.

Finally, the Chair mentioned that every fall, the McGill community raises funds for Centraide of Greater Montreal, which supports more than 360 community groups, projects, and organizations across the Island of Montreal, Laval, and the South Shore. She noted that Senator Rassier agreed to return as co-chair of the 2018 campaign and will be joined by Secretary-General Edyta Rogowska and student leaders. The Secretary-General added that the campaign begins on October 4<sup>th</sup> and ends in December. She spoke about the importance of increasing the participation rate and encouraged all members of the McGill community to take part in the events and activities.

**6. Report of the Steering Committee: Part II**

(18:19-01)

The Chair reminded Senate of the Steering Committee's discussions on the suitability of the "Motion Regarding Divestment from Fossil Fuel" (D17-68) for submission to Senate. She stated that since the Steering Committee was unable to arrive to a consensus, it agreed to let Senate decide whether the motion on divestment was in order. She explained that the McGill Statutes describe the jurisdiction of the Board and Senate and noted that divestment is a matter that falls under the purview of the Board and has already been thoroughly considered by the Board. However, section 6.3.8 of the Statutes allows Senate to make representations, through the Principal, to the Board as may from time to time become necessary or desirable, touching any claims and needs of the University. A motion was then moved and seconded to determine whether, in light of the division of responsibility set for the Board of Governors and Senate by the Statutes, the Senate think it necessary or desirable to express an opinion on a matter that has been considered by the Board in line with its authority and based on processes and mechanisms that it has established.

Senator Gold asked for clarifications regarding the motion, as it did not expressly refer to the motion on divestment (D17-68). He stated that if Senate were to approve the motion as is, it could be prevented from discussing all matters considered by the Board. It was indicated that the intention was not to limit future debates, but to determine whether it was necessary or desirable for Senate to consider the motion on divestment submitted to the Steering Committee for the current meeting (document D17-68). An amendment to the motion to that effect was approved and the revised motion presented for debate as follows:

*Be it resolved that Senate think it necessary or desirable to express an opinion on the motion submitted to the Steering Committee for consideration (D17-68).*

Senator Manfredi expressed that it was neither necessary nor desirable for Senate to make representations through the Principal on the matter of divestment. He explained that the Board's procedures provide for a process for members of the McGill community to bring such matters directly to the Board's attention and stressed that section 6.3.8 of the Statutes should not be used to circumvent those procedures. He then explained that action by Senate would be undesirable, as it would violate a fundamental aspect of the division of authority on which the bicameral system depends on. He stated that divestment is outside the authority and competence of Senate as it concerns investment policies and practices and cautioned that institutional overreach by one governance body could invite institutional overreach from the other.

Many Senators spoke in favour of discussing the motion on divestment, noting that the Senate should be able to inform the Board of its views at all times in a collegial and respectful manner. Senators expressed that discussions should not end just because the Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility (CAMSR) submitted its report. It was noted that many members of the community took issue with the report as well as the fact that the report was submitted to the Board the day before it was to be considered, that the Board considered the report in closed session and announced its decision right before the start of the March 2016 Senate meeting. Senator Buraga stressed that difficult conversations should not prevent debate and Senate should not shy away from expressing its views on important issues, especially since it is expressly permitted to do so

by the Statutes. He stated that the best decisions are made when intense discussion, debate and compromise take place.

Senator Hickman inquired as to the other channels that could be used to make recommendations to the Board. The Chair explained that Senate has representatives on the Board and vice versa. She indicated that the Board holds community sessions and mentioned that Board members were present at the open forums on sustainability. She also mentioned that several open forums were held when the Board reviewed CAMSR's terms of reference and many consultations took place with the McGill community when the Board considered the petition from Divest McGill. Senator Wilson commented that none of the mechanisms in place would be as impactful as a decision from Senate.

*On a motion duly proposed and seconded, it was resolved that Senate think it necessary or desirable to express an opinion the motion submitted to the Steering Committee for consideration (D17-68).*

## SECTION II

### Part "A" – Questions and Motions by Members

#### 1. Motion Regarding Divestment from Fossil Fuel (D17-68)

Since it was deemed necessary or desirable to do so, Senate considered the following motion, which was deferred from the May 2018 Senate meeting:

Section 6.3.8 of the McGill Statutes authorizes the Senate to "make such representations, through the Principal, to the Board of Governors as may from time to time become necessary or desirable, touching any claims and needs of the University or any part thereof."

This motion calls for a change in the university's current policy of investing endowment funds in fossil fuel corporations. McGill has divested for moral and political (as opposed to purely financial) reasons at least three times in the recent past: in the 1980's, from companies – including fossil fuel corporations – doing business in South Africa; and in the first decade of the 21st Century, from corporations doing business in Myanmar and tobacco firms. Such divestment campaigns nearly always result in stronger government action effectively reducing the harms caused by offending companies.

([www.smithschool.ox.ac.uk/publications/reports/SAP-divestment-report-final.pdf](http://www.smithschool.ox.ac.uk/publications/reports/SAP-divestment-report-final.pdf))

McGill's mission is "the advancement of learning and the creation and dissemination of knowledge, by offering the best possible education, by carrying out research and scholarly activities judged to be excellent by the highest international standards, and by providing service to society." (<https://www.mcgill.ca/secretariat/mission>) By adopting the Climate and Sustainability Action Plan, the university has begun acting upon the best research, and fulfilling its obligation to society, in this area. This plan commits the university to substantial reduction in the consumption of fossil fuel. Meanwhile however, the

university's investment policy contradicts this goal by promoting expansion of the fossil fuel industry. Divesting the endowment from fossil fuel would resolve this contradiction, and help promote the necessary rapid transition to a low-carbon economy. The students we have educated so well have consistently, over a multi-year period, demanded such divestment.

WHEREAS all 196 nations in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have agreed on a target of limiting emissions to a level that would prevent global temperature increase beyond 2°C above pre-industrial levels, based on research from the Nobel-Prize winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in order to "prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system";

WHEREAS the major fossil fuel companies severely impair the global community's ability to adhere to the UNFCCC's protocols, by continuing exploration and extraction of fossil-fuel reserves beyond sustainable limits, and by actively undermining the transition toward renewable and sustainable energy sources;

WHEREAS divestment campaigns have historically been a successful means by which public institutions can apply pressure on and change the practices of regimes and industries engaged in documented social injury;

WHEREAS McGill University has a proud history of socially responsible investment, divesting from companies doing business in South Africa's apartheid regime in 1985, and divesting from tobacco companies in 2007;

WHEREAS Cambridge, Oxford, and more than 60 other institutions of higher education in the UK; Stanford, Columbia, and more than 40 others in the US; the University of Laval in Canada; and many others around the world have already committed to partial or full divestment from fossil fuel companies; and

WHEREAS organizations that together represent all students, professors, and librarians at McGill have passed resolutions with strong majorities, calling for divestment of the endowment from fossil fuel – i.e., the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU), Post-Graduate Students' Society (PGSS), and McGill Association of University Teachers (MAUT) – as have the faculties of Arts and Law and the McGill School of Environment;

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate, through the Principal, advises the Board of Governors to divest the endowment from all companies whose primary business is the extraction, distribution, and/or sale of fossil fuels; and from all mutual funds that invest in such companies.*

Senator Mikkelson informed Senators that in February 2018, the University of Edinburgh decided to divest its endowment from all coal, oil and gas companies within three years. He stated Edinburgh's announcement cited its own research on global warming, investments in green alternatives and its prior commitment to achieve carbon neutrality. He noted that, as of this summer, 140 other institutions of higher learning have committed to fully or partially divest and

asked Senate for its support in joining McGill to this growing list. He then provided a brief history of the divestment movement. He explained that climate scientists established that in order to limit global warming to under 2°C, the vast majority of fossil fuel reserves must remain in the ground. He stated that in 2010, historians from Harvard and CalTech published the book *Merchants of Doubt*, which demonstrated that fossil fuel companies were using the same techniques to prevent government action against global warming as tobacco companies had used to thwart anti-smoking legislation. He mentioned that the first institutions of higher education began selling off fossil fuel stocks in 2012, which is also the year Divest McGill was established. He stated that in 2013, Divest McGill submitted their first expression of concern to CAMSR and Oxford researchers published a review of previous divestment campaigns, concluding that nearly all such campaigns have succeeded in prompting stronger government action. He noted that CAMSR, in its response to the Divest McGill petition, did not recommend that funds be redirected away from fossil fuel despite these findings. He stated that in spring 2014, Stanford divested from coal (becoming the first university ranked by Times Higher Education to divest) and several other universities around the world soon followed. He noted that in winter 2015, Divest McGill submitted an expanded expression of concern to CAMSR and later received a Catalyst Award from the Office of Sustainability.

Senator Mikkelson then informed Senators that Corporate Knights released a study showing that had the Board divested and reinvested in greener stocks the University already owned, McGill would have ended up \$40M richer. He reminded Senators that on March 23, 2016, the Board endorsed the recommendations of the CAMSR Report. He stated that the CAMSR Report demonstrated no sign of serious inquiry about the questions emerging from CAMSR's Terms of Reference and emphasized that the Board considered the Report, in closed session, 24 hours after having received it. He stated that fossil fuel divestment has been considered thoroughly across the University and met with overwhelming support. As examples, he mentioned that MAUT, SSMU, PGSS, the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Law, the School of Environment, and the Department of Integrated Studies in Education have voted in favour of divestment. He also noted that the same day the Board endorsed the CAMSR report, the Rockefeller Family Fund announced that it would withdraw all of its investments from fossil fuel companies and since then, more universities have divested, including Columbia, Maryland and Université Laval.

The Chair stressed that the Board of Governors is concerned with sustainability and receives a report annually on this topic. She informed Senators that McGill does not invest directly in any companies but through managers and index funds. Senator Beauchamp added that McGill does not control the companies in which managers invest and certain investments are locked in for five or ten years. He noted that 80% of the managers have signed the environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles and the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI).

Senator Manfredi stated that it would be a governance error for Senate to assert an institutional view on a matter exclusively within the Board's control. He stated that members of the McGill community could express their views outside of Senate and even submit additional petitions to CAMSR. Regarding the actions of other universities, Senator Manfredi explained that there is a variety of approaches. For example, Oxford announced in 2015 that it would not make any future direct investments in coal and oil sands but did not have any holdings in those areas at the time of the announcement and exempted holdings in its mixed investment funds from the measures;

Cambridge announced in June 2018 that it would keep investing in funds that hold shares in fossil fuel companies but will not have any such direct investments and would try to minimize investments in coal and oil sands; Stanford divested from coal companies in 2014 but later invested in oil and gas companies and voted not to divest in 2016; Columbia divested from companies deriving more than 35% of their revenue from thermal coal production; finally, Yale's approach is predicated on the idea that consumption of fossil fuels, not production, is the root of climate change. It is based in the belief that targeting fossil fuel suppliers for divestment, while ignoring the damage caused by consumers, is misdirected. Senator Manfredi stated that the time devoted by other bodies and units to consider the issue of divestment does not compare with the time taken by the Board. He reminded Senators that consideration of divestment took over two years and involved nine meetings of CAMSR, and several Board meetings, including a meeting where the Board considered a motion to rescind its endorsement of the CAMSR Report. Senator Wilson expressed that it was counterproductive to bring up jurisdictional issues as Senators had already voted in favour of considering the motion. She then read from the minutes of the Faculty of Arts Council meeting where Ms. Boytinck from Divest McGill explained that the divestment movement is not about bankrupting fossil fuel companies but influencing public policy.

Senator Geitmann moved an amendment to the motion, which Senate subsequently approved. She suggested that instead of advising the Board to divest, Senate should inform the Board that it favours, in principle, a move to divest. Senator Shapiro expressed that a recommendation from Senate should be seen as a means of working collaboratively with the Board on this important issue, not as encroaching on the Board's jurisdiction. Senator Buraga asked for guarantees that the Board would begin formal conversations on divestment in the event of a positive vote as Senate's resolution should not simply be seen as a symbolic gesture that could be discarded. Senator Zakrzewski moved an amendment to change the word "favours" to "endorses," but the motion to amend was not approved. Senators then voted on the main motion, as amended, and the motion carried.

*On a motion duly proposed and seconded, it was resolved that Senate inform the Board of Governors, through the Principal, that it favours, in principle, a move to divest the endowment from all companies whose primary business is the extraction, distribution, and/or sale of fossil fuels; and from all mutual funds that invest in such companies.*

## **Part "B" – Motions and Reports from Organs of University Government**

### **1. Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D18-01)**

Senator Manfredi presented this report for Senate's consideration. He explained that it contained recommendations to fill vacancies on various Senate committees.

*On a motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the recommendations contained in the Report of the Senate Nominating Committee (D18-01).*

**2. Annual Report on the Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law (2017-18)** (D18-02)

Senator Campbell presented this report for Senate's information. She also took this opportunity to introduce Ms. Sinead Hunt, the new Senior Equity and Inclusion Advisor, who will be overseeing all aspects of the *Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law*. Senator Campbell thanked the outgoing Senior Equity and Inclusion Officer, Ms. Julie Lassonde, whose services are being retained by the University as a mediator and who is staying on as Chair of the Ad Hoc Senate Committee on Teaching Staff-Student Intimate Relationships until the committee completes its work this fall.

Senator Campbell highlighted that there was a significant increase in the number of cases arising under the Policy, which could be the result of efforts within McGill to raise awareness about the Policy, as well as the heightened social awareness about the ills of harassment and discrimination and a willingness to denounce and report misconduct. Senator Buddle expressed that the increase could be seen as positive step as it suggests increased trust in University policies. He added that the increase could also be explained by the fact that Disciplinary Officers are now routinely referring students to the process described in the Policy instead of the one in the *Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures*.

Senator Maciasz's asked when the next review of the Policy is taking place. Senator Campbell stated that the Policy will need to be reviewed after the *Policy against Sexual Violence* is amended to ensure alignment between the two policies.

**3. Annual Report of the Committee on Student Services (2017-18)** (D18-03)

Senator Labeau presented this report for Senate's information. He highlighted that the work of the Committee on Student Services (CSS) focused on the development of the McGill Health and Wellness Report and the establishment of The Rossy Student Wellness Hub. He noted that the CSS considered reports from Student Services and its various subunits. He also mentioned that the Innovation Fund, which began in May 2015 and funded 20 projects, is now closed.

**4. Annual Report of the Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity** (D18-04)

Senator Campbell presented this report for Senate's information. She highlighted that the Committee continued its work in fulfilment of McGill's commitment to equity and diversity. Key activities included consultations with the Committee for the Implementation of the Policy against Sexual Violence and the Ad Hoc Panel to Conduct a Campus Study of Sexual Violence. The Committee also provided support and input on many initiatives, including the McGill's Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Action Plan for the Canada Research Chairs Program; the launch of McGill's new employment equity survey; and special events such as the Lavender Graduation Celebration.

Senator Campbell mentioned that goals for 2018-19 include furthering the EDI aspects of the Provost's Strategic Academic Plan and providing support for realizing the recommendations pertaining to equity articulated in the Final Report of the Principal's Task Force on Respect and

Inclusion in Campus Life. Lastly, she noted that the Committee will be consulted with respect to policy changes, notably regarding the review of the *Policy against Sexual Violence* and the *Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law*.

**5. Other Business**

There being no other business to deal with, on a motion duly proposed and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

**END**

The complete documents, including presentations at Senate, are kept as part of the official minutes.