Vancouver Senate

THE SECOND SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
VANCOUVER SENATE
FOR THE 2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

WEDNESDAY, 17 AUGUST 2022
5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order and Territorial Acknowledgements** – Dr Santa J. Ono (information)

2. **Membership**
   New Members:
   - Dr Darrin Dahl, Dean, Faculty of Commerce & Business Administration, to replace Dr Robert Helsley (end of term)
   - Dr Janice Stewart, Dean *Pro Tem.* of the Faculty of Arts, to replace Dr Stefania Burk (end of term)
   - Dr Gerry Turcotte, Principal of St. Mark’s College, to replace Dr Michael Higgins (retired)
   - Kamil Kanji, Student At-Large, to replace Anisha Sandhu (resigned)

3. **Remarks from the Chair and Related Questions** – Dr Santa J. Ono

4. **Senate Tributes Committee** – Dr John Gilbert, OC
   Report on the Honorary Degree of John Fergus O’Grady (approval) (docket pages 2-16)

5. **Senate Agenda Committee** – Dr Paul G. Harrison
   Amendments to the Rules and Procedures of Senate Related to Meeting Format (approval) (docket page 17)

6. **Senate Nominating Committee** – Dr Paul G. Harrison
   Committee Adjustments (approval) (docket page 18)

7. **Other Business**
   Under the *Rules and Procedures of Senate*, a consideration of business other than that in the call for the special meeting is not permitted.
To: Senate  
From: Tributes Committee  
Date: 10 August 2022  
Re: Honorary Degree of John Fergus O’Grady

The Senate Tributes Committee has reviewed the report and recommendations of the Subcommittee established to review the honorary degree granted to John Fergus O’Grady as well as the responses to the call for public comments on the preliminary report which called for, inter alia, the rescinding of the approval of his honorary degree. The Committee has adopted those recommendations as its own, and respectfully recommends that Senate resolve as follows:

1. That the Senate rescind its approval of the Honorary Degree awarded to the late John Fergus O’Grady
2. That the Senate urges The University of British Columbia conduct a historic reflection on:
   - its role in the subjugation of Indigenous people and communities;
   - the role that its scholars played in producing some of the evidence that policy makers used to justify their practices with respect to Indigenous persons in this province and country; and
   - the collective disregard that most of the academic community demonstrated as to the atrocities that were being enacted in the name of the public of British Columbia; and
3. That the Senate calls on the University to further create conditions under which:
   - records of the existence and activities of residential schools can be preserved and studied;
   - students can be exposed to evidence of what has occurred; and
   - the University as a whole can embrace a commitment to learning, and to becoming part of solutions in a collective journey toward truth and reconciliation.

Respectfully Submitted,

John H.V. Gilbert, OC  
Chair, Senate Tributes Committee
Senate Tributes Sub-Committee Final Report to Senate Tributes Committee on the request to revoke the Honorary Degree awarded the late Bishop John Fergus O’Grady

1. Referral to the Sub-Committee Regarding the Late Bishop O’Grady

The tragedies of the Canadian Indian residential school system – including the death and disappearance of Indigenous children – have been known for many years; in the summer of 2021 the confirmations of specific places with the remains of children have drawn this system to the forefront of many in British Columbia, Canada and around the world.

The University of British Columbia, in particular, was reminded by many people that in 1986 the university granted an honorary Doctor of Laws to John Fergus O’Grady, who at that time was the Catholic Bishop of Prince George. Prior to his being appointed a bishop, the then Father O’Grady was a member of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate and, in that capacity, he was Principal at various Indian Residential Schools, including Kamloops Indian Residential School in the 1940s. There have been many calls from both within the University and from the broader community for the honorary degree to be revoked.

To address these calls, the Senate Tributes Committee formed a Sub-Committee to consider the matter and make recommendations, through the Committee, to Senate. A special process was viewed as necessary as University policy is presently silent on if, how and when an honorary degree may be revoked. While this report focuses solely on O’Grady as a timely matter, the Sub-Committee is acutely aware of the gap in University policy and the need for this to be addressed as soon as possible should other honorary degrees need to be reviewed.

2. Sub-Committee Process and Considerations

The Sub-Committee held early discussions with Chancellor Steven Lewis Point and Professor Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, Director of the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre, with respect to the conduct of work of the Sub-Committee. Following these discussions, the Sub-Committee articulated seven overarching questions concerning the revocation of Honorary Degrees (Appendix 1). From these, the Sub-Committee considered the following as relevant to the review of the honorary degree granted to Bishop O’Grady:

- What information would be needed to consider revoking a degree and who, either within or beyond the University, should be involved in making such a decision?
- What burden of proof, either for outside processes, or for processes within the University, should be required for UBC to revoke an honorary degree?
- What procedural fairness considerations should be applied when considering revoking an honorary degree?
- Would the procedural fairness considerations above necessitate someone being able to respond to allegations made against them?
Unfortunately, there was not sufficient extant material to directly answer all of these questions. The Sub-Committee conducted a survey of the Okanagan Senate Learning and Research Committee and the Vancouver Senate Tributes Committee, both of which make honorary degree recommendations to the respective Senates, to gauge the reaction of members of both committees to the seven questions.

The Sub-Committee held a series of meetings to consider the seven overarching questions – a synthesis of those discussions is presented in this report. The Sub-Committee noted the University received a number of emails reflecting opposite sides of the argument to revoke O’Grady’s honorary degree and took those into consideration.

In arriving at its recommendation, the Sub-Committee:
- considered various reports in the media,
- reviewed documents relevant to its work, and
- considered a confidential report which summarized a review of files obtained from the appropriate Oblate authorities in Ottawa and by their archivist in Richelieu. That information was only made available to the Sub-Committee on the understanding that it would not be made retained or public as part of this process. The Sub-Committee understands that processes to make that documentation available to the public more broadly are underway and that some of these records may already be with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.

**Part 3. Findings**

The decisions of the Sub-Committee are based on the following findings derived from the work of others. The Sub-Committee recognizes that there will not be 100% certainty with respect to its findings. In making its determinations, the Sub-Committee used the “balance of probabilities” standard of proof which means the Committee found certain things to be “more likely than not” to have occurred.

UBC awarded Bishop O’Grady an honorary degree in 1986. The basis for the award is noted in the citation as recognition for these long years of service among the communities in the Interior of British Columbia and because of his appreciation for the role of education within those communities.

Given the confirmation in the summer of 2021 of the remains of 215 children on the grounds of the Kamloops Indian Residential School, on the historical and unceded territory of the Tk’emlúps te Secwépemc peoples, the Sub-Committee considered in what ways may John Fergus O’Grady be seen as a party to neglect, harm to, or death of children during his tenure as Principal.

O’Grady was Principal at the Kamloops Indian Residential School for thirteen years from 1939-1952, during the time it held Canada’s highest residential school population. With regards to his time there, the Sub-Committee found an article by the Curator of the Prince George Exploration Place Museum & Science centre, Alyssa Leier, particularly helpful. She notes
“It is known that there were at least six recorded ‘pupil deaths’ between the years 1945-1950 when he was principal. Records of other years could not be found. Five of the six of these recorded deaths were blamed on disease, and one from a lack of due care and supervision signed off on by O’Grady himself. As for the other five, it is documented by staff working at Kamloops Indian Residential School that due to overcrowding, it was impossible to isolate the sick children from the healthy ones, leaving many healthy children to get sick during their time there.”

In her review of O’Grady’s legacy, Leier concludes:

“During his contentious career, O’Grady headed three different residential schools (all of which have documented physical and verbal abuse), and as the Bishop of the Prince George Diocese, O’Grady continued to supervise over residential schools where children continued to receive verbal and physical abuse. After his retirement in 1986, O’Grady remarked that he had relatively few disappointments or regrets during his career. After listing those few disappointments, none of them included the untimely deaths of pupils during his time in Kamloops or the alleged cases of physical and sexual abuse of students he presided over.”

Following his review of the confidential archival information provided in confidence by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate related to O’Grady’s tenure as Principal of the Kamloops Indian Residential School, Professor Higgins concluded:

“In conclusion: It is not unreasonable to surmise that matters referring to problems arising in the schools –Kamloops specifically—regarding instances of violence, disciplining, any form of abuse, student illness and death, may have been kept as a separate file, i.e. Personnel, and maintained consequently under the canonical rubric of sub secreto. These files may have already been submitted by the Oblates, as per their signed agreement, to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, or they may be still pending prior to settling any outstanding legal matter. If such files exist, they were not included in the materials sent to me.”

Finally, Sub-Committee considered whether it is possible to believe that O’Grady did not know about these deaths or that he did not acquiesce in their burial in what by that time was most probably recognized/designated as a cemetery. Notably, there appears to be no evidence in the materials provided by the Oblates to indicate that O’Grady contacted the parents of children who had died during his tenure as Principal to inform them of the death of their child.

Part 4. Recommendation to Senate

Although direct evidence of O’Grady’s role in neglect, harm or death of children is not available, the Sub-Committee adopted a balance of probabilities as its burden of proof, which led the Sub-Committee to conclude that it is more likely than not that O’Grady was aware of the deaths of some of those children and failed in his duty to protect them or to treat their deaths with dignity as the chief administrator of the residential school. Based on its deliberations and consultations, the Sub-Committee recommends:
1. That the Senate rescind its approval of the Honorary Degree awarded to the late John Fergus O’Grady

2. That the Senate urges The University of British Columbia conduct a historic reflection on:
   - its role in the subjugation of Indigenous people and communities;
   - the role that its scholars played in producing some of the evidence that policy makers used to justify their practices with respect to Indigenous persons in this province and country; and
   - the collective disregard that most of the academic community demonstrated as to the atrocities that were being enacted in the name of the public of British Columbia; and

3. That the Senate calls on the University to further create conditions under which:
   - records of the existence and activities of residential schools can be preserved and studied;
   - students can be exposed to evidence of what has occurred; and
   - the University as a whole can embrace a commitment to learning, and to becoming part of solutions in a collective journey toward truth and reconciliation.

While the Sub-Committee is aware that the first recommendations largely symbolic in that Bishop O’Grady is no longer alive, the Sub-Committee make this recommendation both in reflection of O’Grady’s administration of this residential school, but also as a statement of UBC’s complicity in overlooking the systemic injustices that were occurring over that period of time with respect to Indigenous children.

Respectfully submitted,

Vancouver Senate Tributes Committee Sub-Committee to Consider the Honorary Degree of John Fergus O’Grady

Dr John H.V. Gilbert, Chair
Dr Lawrence Burr
Dr Michael Higgins
Dr Sally Thorne
Dr Sally Stewart
Laia Shpeller
Dr Richard Vedan
Appendix 1. The Seven Questions Posed to the Sub-Committee

In considering the revocation of honorary degrees, the committees addressed the following questions:

1) In principle, can UBC honorary degrees be revoked?

2) Under what criteria would the UBC revoke an honorary degree?

3) What information would be needed to consider revoking a degree and who, either within or beyond the University, should be involved in making such a decision?

4) What burden of proof, either for outside processes, or for processes within the University, should be required for UBC to revoke an honorary degree?

5) What procedural fairness considerations should be applied when considering revoking an honorary degree?

6) Would the procedural fairness considerations above necessitate someone being able to respond to allegations made against them?

7) What other actions, either in addition to, or instead of revoking an honorary degree should UBC consider when concerns are raised or substantiated regarding a past honoree?
Appendix 2.

1.0 Father O’Grady with HD and his 1948 letter to parents

Dear Parents,

It will be your privilege this year to have your children spend Christmas at home with you. The holidays will last from December 1st to January 1st. This is a privilege which is being granted only to those who observe the following regulations at the Indian Department.

1. THE TRANSPORTATION TO THE HOUSE AND BACK TO THE SCHOOL MUST BE PAID FOR IN ADVANCE by the parents.

2. Parents must come themselves to get their own children. If they are unable to do this they must send a letter to the principal at the school stating that the parents of other children from the same reserve may bring them home. The children will not be allowed to go home alone on the train or bus.

A. THE PARENTS MUST BRING THEIR CHILDREN BACK TO THE SCHOOL STRICTLY ON TIME.

If the children are not returned to school on time they will not be allowed to go home for Christmas next year.

I ask you to observe the above regulations in order that this privilege of going home for Christmas may be continued from year to year. It will be a joy for you to have your children with you for Christmas. It will be a joy also for our children and it will bring much closer the Dyapshin.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. F. O’Grady, O.M.I.
Principal.
2.0 Professor Michael Higgins Report to Tributes Sub-Committee
RE: Bishop O’Grady review

In an exercise of due diligence, I have undertaken to review the O’Grady files submitted to me for reading and scrutiny by the appropriate Oblate authorities in Ottawa and by their archivist in Richelieu. I was provided with files that cover the period when O’Grady was a principal at the residential schools (more than one), with specific emphasis on his term at the Kamloops Indian Residential School, as well as for the period when he was Provincial of the St. Peter’s Province, just prior to his being named a bishop in 1956. In summary:

- Mission City, 1936-1939
- Kamloops, 1939-1952
- Williams Lake, 1952-1953
- Provincial, 1953-1956

In addition, this collection consists of:
- 7 folders
- 50 files per folder
- 350 files in all

The content of these files is preponderantly managerial dealing mostly with the following:
- Raising money for new buildings for Oblate lay and scholastic brothers
- Assigning Oblate personnel to various parishes in the West and in Nova Scotia
- The purchasing of farm equipment for the residential school communities
- The requisitioning of additional funds to purchase heifers for the adjacent farms in order to provide sustenance for the residential children
- Coping with priest personnel disputes
- Complaints over the annual Cathedraticum (annual payment to the local Ordinary or bishop)

In addition, there are no letters, memos, notes, etc. that refer specifically, or even generally, to problems arising between the residential staff and the residential children. In addition, there are no reports or even mention regarding student illness, death or burial, nor of disciplining the behaviour of staff.

There are periodic references to the Indian Act, the need to get more money from the Government for the charges under their supervision, and occasional disturbances “on the neighbouring Reservation”

Although the language of exchange among O’Grady’s correspondents is cordial, polite, and strangely formal, the periodic references to the Indigenous communities that are pejorative, condescending, culturally biased, infantilizing, or simply dismissive are very few. O’Grady’s voice is consistently steady, professional, and pastoral. And he can be quite compassionate when dealing with problem cases around priest appointments in their parishes, intractable intra-clergy dynamics, etc. But when it comes to the residential students and their school guardians, he is silent

In conclusion: It is not unreasonable to surmise that matters referring to problems arising in the schools —Kamloops specifically—regarding instances of violence, disciplining, any
form of abuse, student illness and death, may have been kept as a separate file, i.e. Personnel, and maintained consequently under the canonical rubric of *sub secreto*.

These files may have already been submitted by the Oblates, as per their signed agreement, to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, or they may be still pending prior to settling any outstanding legal matter. If such files exist, they were not included in the materials sent to me.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael W. Higgins
3.0 Letter of Nomination for Honorary Degree

22 September 1983,

Professor Peter Larkin,
Chairman, Tributes Committee,
Senate of the University of British Columbia.

Dear Peter,

Thank you for the invitation which you extended at the September meeting of Senate inviting suggestions for candidates for honorary degrees from the University of British Columbia. I would like to nominate Bishop Fergus O'Grady again and ask you to bring forth the material from the file which I submitted to you last year. This year Fergus O'Grady reaches 75 years of age and in the normal course of events he is required to offer his resignation. It may or may not be accepted immediately, but this is a significant year for him and an appropriate time for the University to acknowledge his contribution to education, Native life and religious service in this Province.

Sincerely,

Paul Burns, C.S.B., B. Litt., Ph.D.
To the Tributes Committee of the Senate of the University of British Columbia

Re Nomination of a candidate for an Honorary Degree

J. Fergus O'Grady

J. Fergus O'Grady has made a significant contribution to the quality of life for citizens of British Columbia. His years of service among the Indian peoples and other races in the Province have been distinguished by dedication and innovation as a builder and an educator.

He was born in 1908 in Fergus Ontario. After completing his secondary education, he joined the Oblates of Mary Immaculate, a Roman Catholic religious community. Since 1845 this community has been working throughout the West particularly among the Indian peoples, preaching the Gospel and supporting the culture and languages of these people as well as finding the practical means to provide health care and education. Fergus O'Grady was ordained a priest in 1934 and began his work in the West shortly after that. He was the Administrator of the Indian Residential School in Mission. In 1952 he became the Administrator of the Indian Student Residence in Kamloops. In this position he developed the first High School for Indians. He also developed a practical training program in housing construction for Indians to alleviate poor housing conditions on the reserves.

In 1956 J. Fergus O'Grady was appointed to be the first Bishop of Prince George, a position he still holds. He has developed a system of education to integrate Indian children effectively within established patterns of education. Since 1956 he has built 14 elementary and secondary schools in Prince Rupert, Kitimat, Terrace, New Hazelton, Smithers, Burns Lake, Prince George, Dawson Creek, Fort St. James and Fort St. John. To build these schools he established a construction company which includes a glass factory, a sash and door factory, a cement block factory, a trucking and bulldozing firm. To staff all of these schools he developed a very original system of volunteers. For twenty-five years he has been able to attract men and women of all ages from Canada and countries around the world. He has successfully challenged their skills and generosity to provide a remarkable educational service to the Indians and other people in the Interior of the Province.

J. Fergus O'Grady has also stimulated interest in the history of the Province by promoting the restoration of the Oblate Shrine at Mission and the Pandosy Mission at Kelowna, the site of the first fruit grown in the Okanagan.
The real tribute to the work of J. Fergus O'Grady is to be heard in the words of respect and friendship uttered by several generations of Indians and the 2,500 volunteers who have accepted the challenge to come and serve with him. Many students and graduates of this University have been served by and have served with Fergus O'Grady.

Nominated by Paul C. Burns, O.S.B., M.A., B. Litt., Ph.D., member of Senate; Lecturer in the Faculty of Arts, Vice-Principal of St. Mark's College.
July 14, 2022

From: Vancouver Senate Tributes Committee

To: Senate

Re: Public Consultations on the Revocation of the Honorary Degree Granted to John Fergus O’Grady

Set out below are summaries of the eleven comments received in response to the contents and recommendations made in the Vancouver Senate Tributes Subcommittee’s report (senate.ubc.ca/vancouver/honorary) to the Vancouver Senate Tributes Committee. These comments were sent by the community, both within and beyond the University, prior to 1 July 2022.

Responses in Support of Revocation

1. The respondent did not provide any information about their affiliations with UBC or the broader community. They noted that Indigenous children were taken away from their families through “legislated abduction” and then were put in the care of John Fergus O’Grady as principal of the Kamloops Indian Residential School. The respondent also noted that Indigenous children suffered abuse, neglect and some even death while under his care. The respondent further stated that “If [John Fergus O’Grady] were still alive, it would be reasonable to expect that he [would] voluntarily g[i]ve up the honorary degree…”

2. The respondent identified as an alum of UBC. They noted that the complicity of Canadian universities both supported and normalized the Indian Residential School system. Further, that revoking John Fergus O’Grady’s honorary degree should be a first step for UBC in acknowledging how UBC honored those who were complicit in “Indigenous colonization.”

3. The respondent identified as an alumna, former UBC employee, and parent of a future UBC student. She recommended that UBC preserve Indian Residential School records, engage in a historical review of the University’s complicity in the subjugation of Indigenous peoples, and to commit to learning from this situation. No arguments were provided to support these recommendations.

4. The respondent identified as an alumnus and parent of a future UBC student. He recommended that UBC preserve Indian Residential Schools records, engage in a historical review of the University’s complicity in the subjugation of Indigenous people,
and to commit to learning from this situation. No arguments were provided to support these recommendations.

5. The respondent identified as an advocate for survivors. She noted that John Fergus O’Grady should not have been granted an honorary degree. She went on to explain that the Catholic Church of Canada is known for covering-up abuse, including in Indian Residential Schools. She pointed to this ongoing effort to cover-up abuse as being grounds to expect the cover-up of deaths at the Kamloops Indian Residential School during O’Grady’s 13 years as principal. She noted that the “Bulldozer Bishop” was known for his advocacy of colonial systems, particularly those in education. She admonished UBC to revoke O’Grady’s honorary degree as a step towards establishing UBC as an institutional leader on safety and reconciliation. She concluded by stating that “the path to truths is challenging and full of obstacle[s] including criticism and opposition from all those who are resisting real change. The loudest voices generally come from those with connections to institutions that are themselves strongly resisting making needed changes or acknowledging any harm they have caused.”

Responses Against Revocation

1. The respondent identified as a member of the broader academic community. He noted that the alleged deaths of children at the Kamloops Indian Residential School, as well as other residential schools, are coming under “renewed scrutiny.” In support of this statement, he referenced a May 26, 2022 article in the Calgary Herald entitled “The year of the graves: How the world’s media got it wrong on residential school graves.” He noted that it is a “dubious practice” to revoke honorary degrees based on fluctuating trends in public opinion and that in the future, our present-day beliefs and practices might be called into question.

2. The respondent identified as an alumna of UBC. Speaking on behalf of herself, her three children who are also alumni and two grandchildren who are current students, she noted that “rescinding” John Fergus O’Grady’s honorary degree would be akin to anti-Catholicism attitudes at UBC that she noted as being evident in the 1950s. She encouraged UBC to protect O’Grady’s name and to remember O’Grady’s “great contribution” to education in BC.

3. The respondent identified as a former, non-Indigenous student at an Indian Residential School. He noted that the more than 200 bodies buried at the Kamloops Indian Residential School have not been exhumed, so they amount to an “unproven claim.” He further stated that until the graves show proven evidence of “illicit action,” that UBC should not “denigrate” John Fergus O’Grady.

4. The respondent did not provide any information about their affiliations with UBC or the broader community. She noted that fifteen “named and known children” who attended
the Kamloops Indian Residential School died during John Fergus O’Grady’s time as principal. She noted that O’Grady had “nothing” to do with the deaths of these fifteen former students. She noted that “six of the children were taken from the school to two different hospitals where they succumbed to their ailments, TB or childhood diseases, including one case of food poisoning from food eaten on the reserve before arriving at the school. Two deaths were accidental at the school, a drowning in 1944 and an asphyxiation in 1959. Three children died in a train derailment, another was hit by a train. Two girls died on their reserves, nothing to do with the school. Most, if not all, of these children were buried in cemeteries on their home reserves.” She provided the list of the children’s names, and the years that they died. She noted that the Senate assessed O’Grady using incomplete and incorrect information. She further noted that until the graves are exhumed and forensic analysis takes place, that no one can positively say “what is buried under the surface of the soil.”

5. The respondent did not provide any information about their affiliations with UBC or the broader community. She noted that it is wrong to consider revoking John Fergus O’Grady’s honorary degree because he is not alive to defend himself. She stated that he “did a lot of good work.” She also noted that those who are “complaining” are the children and grandchildren of former Indian Residential School students. She stated that her friends who attended Indian Residential Schools “have nothing but positive things to say about their experiences [at Indian Residential Schools].”

6. The respondent did not provide any information about their affiliations with UBC or the broader community. She noted that there was a mandatory reporting requirement for all student deaths at Indian Residential Schools to the Department of Indian Affairs. She noted that there were fifteen “named and known” children who attended the Kamloops Indian Residential School and subsequently died during John Fergus O’Grady’s time as principal. She noted that “almost all” of the remains of these fifteen students were buried on their home reserves at the expense of the Indian Residential School. She also referenced a UBC thesis relating to John Fergus O’Grady which stated that representatives of the Secwépemc Nation attended O’Grady’s funeral in 1998, where they “paid him special respect with prayers and songs and honoured his casket with a laying on of hands and sweet grass incense” which she related as “it seems the Kamloops Band thought highly of Bishop O’Grady in 1998.”
To: Senate
From: Senate Agenda Committee
Re: Amendment to the Rules and Procedures of Senate Related to Meeting Format
Date: 17 August 2022

As senators will recall, the suspension of the *Rules and Procedures of Senate* to allow for remote attendance at full Senate meetings expires at the end of this month. The Senate Agenda Committee has considered possible changes to Senate meeting formats and thanks the many senators who have responded to surveys on their preferences. The Committee notes that a plurality of senators indicated a preference for a multi-access format for meetings, with senators able to attend either online or in-person at their preference for each meeting. The Committee also notes that a small number of senators indicated that they would not be able to attend, either at all or regularly, if in person attendance was required. Of the three options presented, “in-person only” was the least preferred by senators.

The Agenda Committee has resolved to recommend that the multi-access format be adopted. The Committee is aware that this will take some learning by the Senate and its staff to be done as well as possible, and in particular that the theatre used by the Senate prior to the COVID-19 pandemic is not optimal for such a format. To that end, the Clerk has been asked to find a new home for the Senate should the Senate agree to allow multi-access attendance at Senate. The Committee is also committed to reviewing the format both for January and at the end of this academic year to ensure the Senate meetings are functioning well. The Committee is also aware that the Senate staff will need to use new methods to concatenate speakers lists and voting in a multi-access format, and widespread network difficulties may require the Senate to recess or adjourn so as to not preference either the on-line or in person attendees.

The Committee would note that committees of Senate already have the ability to set their own formats and this proposal is only addressing meetings of the full Senate.

The Senate Agenda Committee is pleased to recommend that Senate resolve as follows:

*That Rule 10 of the Rules and Procedures of Senate be amended with the following text in substitution:*

“*Members of the Senate may attend meetings of Senate in person or via such electronic means acceptable to the Secretary. Members so attending will be considered present for all purposes.*”

NB: The current rule 10 prohibits online attendance except for workplace accommodation reasons.
To: Senate
From: Nominating Committee
Re: Committee Adjustments

Date: 10 August 2022

The Nominating Committee is pleased to recommend the following to Senate

That George Tsiakos be appointed to the President’s Advisory Committee for the Extension of Appointment of the University Librarian;

That Dr Savvas Nicolaou be appointed to the Senate Admissions Committee until 31 August 2023 and thereafter until replaced, to fill a vacancy;

That Dana Turdy and Georgia Yee be appointed to the Senate Teaching & Learning Committee until 31 March 2023 and thereafter until replaced, to replace Ryan Sessions and Emmanuel Cantiller