

From: Kama Hutchence <KamaHutchence@cunet.carleton.ca>

Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 8:37 AM

To: Carleton University Senators

Subject: Senate: Message from the Chair

Dear Members of Senate,

At the request of academic colleagues, Senate's honorary degree committee approved a motion to offer an honorary degree. This motion was then voted by members of Senate with the electronic poll ending on Monday at 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Gorelick has raised a point of order:

“due process was not adhered to insofar as there was never discussion nor debate on the motion (per the Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure) prior to a vote being called regarding the nominee for an honorary degree. Given that I have already raised this matter with the chair and clerk of Senate on Friday 22 January 2016, but they took no action and provided no response, I hereby request that this point of order be appealed to the entire Senate post haste. This would provide time to rescind the honorary degree that was never properly approved by Senate or provide Senate with opportunity to legitimately approve the honorary degree prior to Friday 29 January 2106.”

According to the Senate's Rules of Order a point of order may be raised by “a member who believes the Rules are being violated or that action is needed to handle an emergency, or who wishes a count on a vote...Action to be taken in response to a point of order is decided by the Chair without debate”.

There is no rule in any of the documents governing Senate that states that there *must* be debate prior to a vote. Senate has previously approved matters arising by email. Motions are often passed at Senate without debate.

In this case, 48 members of Senate voted on the motion. 47 voted in favor and one opposed.

The Chair rules that the will of Senate is to award the degree and, since there is no rule requiring debate, the vote will stand.

President R. Runte, Chair of Senate