
Minutes of the meeting of the **Academic Policy and Planning Committee** held on Thursday 28th April 2005 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Room 310, James (Administration) Building

Present: M. Crago (chairing), A. Bryan, L. Butler-Kisber, W. Caplin, V. Errunza, D. Fraser, J. Galbraith, W. Hendershot, P. Holland, J.C. Hurtubise, K. Joffres (for A. Kenjeev), M. Mendelson, J. Zucchi, H.M.C. Richard (Secretary to the Committee)
Regrets: B. Arciero, J. Beheshti, J. Feine, A. Husain, A. Kenjeev, A. Masi, S. McDougall, M. Nahon, J. Schmidt
Guests: S. Boudreau (item 4.a), H. Perrault (item 4.b), N. de Takacsy (item 7), R. Provost (item 9)

Document circulated at the meeting:

- 04-APPC-04-63 SCTP Report on meeting held on February 10, 2005
- Addendum to 04-APPC-04-61 Kinesiology and Physical Education at McGill in the context of CUP/CSP report # 18, November 2003, Hélène Perrault, April 28, 2005

11.01 Proposed agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of one item: a proposal for the creation of a “Human Rights and Social Diversity Centre” submitted by the Faculty of Law (04-APPC-04-66) and circulated electronically to APPC members prior to the meeting.

11.02. Minutes of meeting held on 14th April 2005

The minutes were approved as circulated.

11.03 Business arising from minutes of previous meeting

- Workgroup on McGill’s Grading Policies (04-APPC-03-59)

Although it was suggested at the previous meeting that a membership list should be presented to APPC for approval at the meeting on April 28th, it was reported that the necessary consultations required additional time. The membership list will be presented to APPC for approval in September 2005.

- Proposed change of name for the Centre for Applied Family Studies to Centre for Research on Children and Families (04-APPC-04-57).

A letter has been prepared and will be sent together with the relevant excerpt from the approved minutes of the April 14th meeting of APPC.

11.04 Comité du suivi sur les programmes (CSP) – CUP follow-up

Associate Provost Martha Crago mentioned that the translations into English were prepared by one of the three translation firms selected by the University.

a) CSP Report #17 Programs in Education – unrevised translation (04-APPC-04-60)
(Dr Spencer Boudreau, Associate Dean, Teaching, Learning and Students, Faculty of Education)

Dr. Spencer Boudreau commented on the recommendations contained in the report. He stated that comments under Recommendation 3, ie. that disciplinary departments assume more control (“maîtrise d’oeuvre”) over specialized teaching programs than education departments, do not apply to the situation at McGill. Re. Recommendation 4, he mentioned the quotas based on school requirements and the difficulty in meeting those quotas, especially for mathematics and science teachers. At McGill and for an extra 15 credits, students can obtain a double B.Sc.-B.Ed. degree. Quebec is also in dire need of English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) teachers, as the teaching of English has been expanded to Grade 1; the poor training in English which francophone students have received may partly explain the insufficient number of candidates. Recommendation 5 calls for colleges to require a mathematics course for students in the social sciences and for universities to offer remedial mathematics courses. The idea of allocating bursaries for studying Maths and Science Education (recommendation 7) is controversial. McGill has been offering an accelerated process called for in Recommendation 8 for some time, while other universities are struggling with the idea because they do not have the “maîtrise d’oeuvre” they need. Comments under Recommendation 11 regarding shared offer of courses or programs, do not mention the French Second

Language Education program shared by McGill and Université de Montréal. Re. Recommendation 12 on certificates, McGill is considering offering a certificate for elementary school teachers to switch disciplines to teach English as a Second Language, given the shortage that exists in that area. Re. Recommendation 13, the costs of student supervision in the field are less for McGill (other universities deal with unionized staff).

In response to questions, Professor Boudreau stated that a conservative estimate of needs is that the Quebec school system will need more than 800 ESL teachers for September 2006 (more accurate figures will be available at the end of May); this is the subject where the need is most acutely felt at present. Professor Boudreau also mentioned a major decrease in school population reaching up to 20% in certain parts of Quebec for children entering kindergarten. Asked why McGill could not take Maths and Science university graduates into a one-year teacher training program, Professor Boudreau said that the addition by the Government of Quebec of a compulsory 700 hours of student teacher training could not be managed in one year and that a B.Ed. was specified as the only teaching degree a few years ago. Students with a master's degree in Maths would get a maximum of two years' advanced standing. Attempts to re-instate the one-year post-bachelor's teaching certification program ("1G Program" were not well received by the Ministry. This one-year program used to attract highly qualified students with highly diversified professional background, interested in a career-change. Asked about the female-male ratio among teachers, Professor Boudreau stated that the profession in primary school education is still viewed as a caring one and hence female, while the ratio is better balanced in secondary school education.

b) **CSP Report # 18 Programs in Physical Education and Kinesiology** – unrevised transl. (04-APPC-04-61)
(Dr. Hélène Perrault, Dept of Physical Education and Kinesiology)

Dr Hélène Perrault, Chair of the Department of Physical Education and Kinesiology, circulated a document in which she summarized the situation relating to Kinesiology and Physical Education at McGill in the context of the CUP/CSP Report and the most recent evolution (*addition to 04-APPC-04-61*).

11.05 Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS) (04-APPC-04-62)

- a) Graduate Certificate in Bioresource Engineering: Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)
- b) M.Sc. in Bioresource Engineering; Non-Thesis – Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

Professor Hendershot presented the two proposals submitted by the Department of Bioresource Engineering. McGill is exceptionally well positioned to offer those programs, given an excellent learning environment on the Macdonald Campus and the expertise provided by several McGill units, including the Brace Centre for Water Resource Management. The proposed Graduate Certificate will meet the needs of a variety of professionals who require inter-disciplinary training in water resources management in a short time while the non-thesis Master's will meet the needs of professionals from within and outside Canada who have to upgrade their knowledge and require a master's degree. It will be possible for students to start work on the Graduate Certificate and, before finishing it, move on to the master's program. Three course streams have been developed, a Water Resources Engineering Stream, an Ecosystems Stream, and a Water and Sanitation Stream. Students may select 27 credits from one stream or a mix that will be approved by the Program Director. Along with McGill cross-Faculty courses, courses taught at Université de Montréal, Ecole Polytechnique and Université de Sherbrooke have been included. Since courses selected by students will be checked by the Program director, a student for example will not be able to take the same course in three different universities. Asked about the monitoring of quality regarding courses taught elsewhere, Professor Hendershot replied that there may be a certain quality variation within McGill as well, and that the instructors of the listed courses are known to McGill and course outlines have been checked. Asked about the capacity of the proposed programs, Professor Hendershot responded that between ten and fifteen students would be admitted in both programs.

On motion by Professor Hendershot, seconded by Mr Bryan, the two program proposals were approved for submission to Senate (in APPC's 372nd Report, for Senate meeting on May 25th, 2005).

11.06 Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs (SCTP)
- Report on the meeting held on 10th March 2005 (04-APPC-04-63)

The program did not include any item requiring APPC's approval.

11.07 Proposed exchange agreements

(Associate Provost, Academic Services, Nicholas de Takacsy)

- a) Faculty of Management undergraduate student exchanges with:
- 1) The University of Economics, Prague, Czech Republic
 - 2) ESADE Business School, Barcelona, Spain
 - 3) Corvinus University of Budapest (CUB), Hungary
 - 4) Plekhanov Russian Academy of Economics, Moscow (04-APPC-04-64)

Dr. de Takacsy presented the proposed undergraduate student exchanges negotiated by the Faculty of Management and its partners. The Faculty of Management is already exchanging MBA students with the University of Economics, Prague, Corvinus University of Budapest, and the ESADE Business School in Barcelona through its membership in the Partnership in International Management (PIM) network.

On motion by Associate Dean Morton Mendelson, seconded by Professor Vihang Errunza, the proposed student exchange agreements were approved by APPC (they will be reported to Senate as having been approved, in APPC's 372nd Report, May 25th meeting of Senate).

- b) General University exchange agreement with the University of Wales at Aberystwyth (04-APPC-04-65)

Dr. de Takacsy explained that this proposal for a general University exchange agreement stems from a 1999-2002 partnership in a Canada - European Union Program in Higher Education funded by HRDC, involving McGill's Department of Political Science. Partnerships were expected to continue after the grant terminated. Founded in 1872 the University of Wales at Aberystwyth was the first university institution to be established in Wales. The partnership has been a successful program and the proposed general university exchange agreement would be building on a solid foundation.

On motion by Associate Dean Morton Mendelson, seconded by Mr Andrew Bryan, the proposed general University agreement with the University of Wales at Aberystwyth was approved (it will be reported to Senate as having been approved, in APPC's 372nd Report, May 25th meeting of Senate).

11.08 Proposed list of meeting dates for 2005-06

Thursdays, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., in Room 310, James Bldg unless otherwise indicated:

September 1st, 15, 29	January 19
October 13, 27	February 2, 16
November 10, 24*	March 2, 16*, 30
December 8	April 13, 27
	May 11, 25

* Arts Council Room 160, Arts Building

The proposed schedule of meeting dates was adopted.

11.09 Human Rights and Social Diversity Centre proposal, Faculty of Law (04-APPC-04-66)

The urgency on the part of the Faculty of Law in getting the new research centre approved was noted. The new centre proposal was the subject of initial discussion by the Research Policy Committee on March 30th, 2005 and was submitted to APPC for initial discussion as well, so as to deal with any difficulties before the document was to be submitted for official approval by the RPC on May 25, 2005 and by APPC on May 28, 2005. Interim Vice-Principal (Research) Jacques Hurtubise stressed that APPC's input at this point would be useful for strengthening the proposal and making it conform to the new research centre regulations. He mentioned a demarcation issue between the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Arts, as both touch on the Social Diversity element; clearer articulation of the way the proposed centre and existing centres might interact will be added; a workable scheme will be proposed; the name of the proposed centre might also be revised as a result.

Professor René Provost, Faculty of Law, presented the proposal, first noting that the time issue did not exist until late in the process. He stated that the proposed centre constitutes a central project for the Faculty of Law that has been envisaged for a decade in various forms. It has been felt that *Inter Amicus*, whose status is nebulous, should be complemented by a formal centre well anchored in the Faculty of Law. The focus on human rights has been one of the mainstays of the Faculty, including the acclaimed work of such Faculty members as John Peters Humphrey, Frank Scott, Paul Crépeau, Irwin Cotler and others. Professor Provost also mentioned the combined teaching of common law and civil law (both taught in the first year of the Law program, a unique feature in the teaching of Law worldwide) as contributing to the creation of a critical mass of interest. *Curricula vitae* will be added to the proposal when it is formally submitted to APPC for full consideration on May 26th. Turning to value added, Professor Provost stated

that it is hoped the creation of a Centre would help promote group research in the field and allow the Faculty to have institutional connections with researchers in other universities rather than individual ones. Inter-disciplinarity with the Faculty of Arts and other universities would benefit as well. The Centre would provide a focus point where researchers can meet. Students' interests in human rights would be met by an institutional structure that would be more clearly focused on the field than the Institute of Comparative Law. The Centre would also allow its members to take advantage of many research contract opportunities which could not be taken advantage of without a centre. The presence of that Centre would also be very useful in the recruitment of professors or for enticing professors to return to McGill. It will be a place where research interests can blossom. The creation of a Centre will provide real momentum in the area of human rights research at McGill.

In the discussion, a number of suggestions were made.

- The proposal should distinguish among membership categories (full, associate, etc.). Professor Provost stated that the researchers identified in the proposal would be full members.
- *Curricula-vitae* should be made available for consultation.
- A table showing members' grants and publications, as well as evidence of researchers having worked together should be provided, since centres typically are built out of groups of people who have been working together.
- While the Human Rights part of the name is a given, the Social Diversity element is not as obvious. It is a core object of study in Sociology; yet many researchers in this field are not mentioned. If it is an element of some magnitude in the Centre's activity, sociologists ought to be involved.
- The Human Rights concept should be clarified.
- The need for a "coordinator", with a law degree but without academic position, should be clarified.
- Since APPC will be receiving a number of new proposals for the creation of research centres, **a standardized form should be designed by the Office of the Vice-Principal (Research)** that would include such headings as "structure", "goals", "rationale", "value added" etc. and include specific space for the signatures of Deans of relevant Faculties, a table showing consultation/review/approval dates by relevant Faculty councils and University committees. This would greatly facilitate the reading, review and approval of centre proposals and help make sure that all items have been covered. **Such a form should be prepared for submission to APPC in May. The Research Policy Committee should be responsible for checking whether research centre regulations have been met before forwarding proposals to APPC.**
- The proposal should be presented in conformity with the new research centre regulations.

11.10 Other business

Associate Provost Martha Crago concluded the meeting by thanking student representatives on APPC whose terms are coming to an end on April 30th and expressed her appreciation to all committee members.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on May 12th, 2005.

Helen M.C. Richard 2005-05-05