

Minutes of the meeting of the **Academic Policy and Planning Committee** held on Thursday 12th October 2006 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Room 310, James Building

Present: A.C. Masi (Chair), A. Angus, G. Brown, W. Caplin, V. Errunza, J. Feine, D. Fraser, P. Holland, D. Jutras, S. McDougall, M.J. Mendelson, M. Nahon, J. Nemes, C. Newlove, D. Niven, N. Perumal, J. Schmidt,

S. Stroud, H.M.C. Richard (Secretary to the Committee)

Regrets: L. Butler-Kisber, M. Szyf, D. Thérien, H.F. Upham

Guest: Ph. Smith (item 4), K. Kruczowyj (item 7)

Document circulated at the meeting:

06-APPC-10-21 Flowchart for Academic Program Review Dossier at APPC

03.01 Proposed agenda

The agenda was adopted as circulated. Items 5, 6 and 7 were considered ahead of item 4.

03.02 Minutes of meeting held on 14th September 2006

The minutes were adopted with one correction: student Nandita Perumal's name should be moved from Regrets to members present at the meeting.

03.03 Business arising

None.

03.04 Academic Program Reviews

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03.05 Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

- Universitas 21 Visiting Postgraduate Research Student Protocol (06-APPC-10-16)

Dean (Interim) James Nemes A. Nemes presented the recommendation by CGPS that APPC approve the Universitas 21 Visiting Postgraduate Research Student Protocol that would encourage graduate student mobility by allowing students from U21 member institutions to go to other member institutions without having to pay the full fees that apply if no bilateral agreement is in place. This will also allow the University to know how many students are going to and coming from U21 member institutions.

APPC approved the Universitas 21 Visiting Postgraduate Research Student Protocol. This will be reported to Senate as having been approved by APPC (in APPC's 384th Report to Senate, D96-16, for the meeting of Senate on 15th November 2006).

03.06 Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs (SCTP)

a) membership (06-APPC-10-15)

APPC approved SCTP's recommendation that Professor Stuart J. Price (Engineering) and Professor Shanling Li (Management) be appointed to the Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs (their three-year terms commencing immediately and ending August 31, 2009) to replace Professors Subhasis Ghoshal (Engineering) and Robert Hebdon (Management).

b) Second report on the SCTP meeting held on 18th May 2006 (06-APPC-10-17)
- Minor in Marketing (Desautels Faculty of Management)

The proposed 18-credit Minor in Marketing for non-Management students was approved for submission to Senate (384th APPC report to Senate, D06-16, for the meeting of Senate on 15th November 2006).

The Chair suggested that proposals should include a record of revisions made: date sent back, nature of the revisions and by whom, in order for submission delays to be accounted for.

03.07 Proposed student exchange agreement
- University of Leiden (06-APPC-10-18)

A proposal for a Bilateral Student Exchange Program Agreement with Leiden University was presented. Leiden accepted McGill's standard agreement except that it reserved faculties the right to approve the participants selected by the other party (this is highlighted at the top of the second page of the Agreement). This exchange program proposal originated with a request from Leiden.

The proposed exchange agreement with Leiden University was approved. It will be reported to Senate as having been approved (384th APPC Report to Senate, D06-16, 15th November 2006 meeting of Senate).

03.08 Comité de suivi sur les programmes (CSP)

a) CSP Report #21 **Law** (06-APPC-08-04)

Professor Jean-Guy Belley, who represented McGill on the CSP Working Group on programs in Law, presented the report of which a translation of Chapter 2 was circulated to APPC members. The report presents an overview of the recent evolution of Law programs in Quebec and the main challenges for the near future and sheds light on McGill's specificity. Interest in Law has grown since the CUP report of 2000. The overall tendency over the past five years has been to focus on adding new programs to attract new student clienteles and meet new societal needs. McGill opted to concentrate on transforming its core curriculum into a more diversified entity by adding new majors, driven by a back-to-basics philosophy and the wish to develop a capacity to offer a more diversified degree orientation. This more demanding approach has been highly successful: the trans-systemic program has been in high demand in Quebec and elsewhere. The decrease in LLM enrolments, due to a temporary decrease in Air & Space Law numbers, has now ended. McGill Law degree completion rates at both the undergraduate and master's levels are the highest in Quebec.

Of the four recommendations affecting McGill (1, 2, 3, and 5), most are no longer relevant. The large decrease in applications across Quebec referred to in Recommendations 1, 2 and 5 has now been reversed. The new fourth-year program given by the Quebec Bar (Recommendation 3) is focused on professional skills rather than on substantive content; there is less overlap than was feared; tension has subsided. Recommendation 4 on the training of notaries does not apply to McGill. Concern about decrease in the number of applicants and placement of law graduates (Recommendation 5) and the general fear that Law may be unattractive no longer prevail. Professor Belley noted the remarkable increase in the number of applicants to all law faculties. Noting a strong tendency at other universities to offer programs with an international dimension, Professor Belley commented that McGill may be less officially international but is certainly more basically international in the fabric of its faculty and its teaching: that strong tradition is obvious in the trans-systemic approach to the teaching of Law: it is not something new that we need to make visible but rather something intrinsic that has been practiced for some time.

The Working Group also examined research activity. All faculty representatives on the CSP Working Group pointed to challenges. Given a smaller proportion of lecturers teaching undergraduates and given professors' significant investment in teaching, funded-research productivity at McGill's Faculty of Law may appear low in relation to that at Université de Montréal which has a centre dedicated to research where professors work exclusively on research and graduate student training. Professor Belley emphasized McGill's distinctive commitment to building a strong link between undergraduate teaching and graduate teaching, between what is taught at the undergraduate level and what is being investigated at the research level. Transforming the undergraduate program and having professors deeply interested in undergraduate teaching have contributed to shaping the best legal education that could be afforded.

The Provost thanked Professor Belley for an enlightening presentation and stressed the pedagogically transformative nature of the trans-systemic Law program, adding that the teaching activity at the Faculty of Law is a good reflection of what McGill wishes to be.

b) CSP Report #20 Administration, Economics and Industrial Relations (06-APPC-08-03)

The Report was circulated for information as the person who represented McGill on the working group dealing with programs in Management, Economics and Industrial Relations is now retired.

For complete French texts of the reports: <http://www.crepuq.qc.ca/> click on: *Publications / Suivi de la CUP*

03.09 Other business

None.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

*Helen M.C. Richard 2006-10-16
HMCR/APPCdocs/minutes/2006-10-12*