
Minutes of the meeting of the **Academic Policy and Planning Committee** held on Thursday 14th December 2006 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Room 310, James Building

Present: M.J. Mendelson (chairing), G. Brown, L. Butler-Kisber, W. Caplin., A. deGuise, V. Errunza, P. Holland, D. Jutras, A.C. Masi, S. McDougall, J. Nemes, D. Niven, J. Schmidt, S. Stroud, H.F. Upham, H.M.C. Richard (Secretary to the Committee)

Regrets: A. Angus, J. Feine, M. Nahon, C. Newlove, N. Perumal, M. Szyf, D. Thérien

Guests : Ph. Smith (item 4), F. Bouthillier, A. J. Large (item 5a), E. McDill, A. Pinsonneault, P. Todd, N. Wells (item 5b)

Documents circulated at the meeting: none.

07.01 Proposed agenda

The proposed agenda was adopted, with item 5 a) being considered at the beginning of the meeting.

07.02 Minutes of meeting 23rd November 2006

The minutes were approved as circulated.

07.03 Business arising

a) SCTP Report on meeting held on 2nd November 2006

1) B.Com.; Major Concentration in Mathematics for Management Students

2) B.Com.; Major Concentration in Statistics for Management Students

At its meeting on 23rd November APPC had agreed on the following:

Re. 2), the footnote at the bottom of section 9.0 that reads "Math 204 can be taken for credit after credit for MATH 324 has been obtained..." should be clarified;

Re. both 1) and 2), the proposers should be invited to think through the requirements of the two Major Concentrations in order to fit in 36 credits instead of 39.

In response to APPC's requests, Professor Stephen W. Drury submitted the following written clarifications:

- The footnote for 2) should read: "Math 204 cannot be taken for credit after credit for MATH 324 has been obtained. Students should consult the rules for credit for statistics courses in the course overlap section of the calendar (current calendar page 306)."

- "As regards the credit weight of the two programs, I would point out that both programs have MATH 324 (Statistics) as a required course. This course replaces MGCR 271 (Statistics 1) in the Management Core and MATH 324 then counts both towards the Management Core and towards the Major in Mathematics for Management Students (or the Major in Statistics for Management Students). So, although these programs are nominally 39 credits, the effective credit weight (i.e. the number of additional credits the student has to complete in order to satisfy the program requirements) is 36 credits.... 39 credits may be on the heavy side as far as Management majors are concerned. Please bear in mind however that the proposed Major in Mathematics for Management Students replaces a program that was substantially heavier (54 credits)... the Department of Mathematics and Statistics would not entertain offering a major concentration in either mathematics or statistics with an effective credit count of fewer than 36 credits."

With these clarifications, **both Major programs were approved for submission to Senate** (386th Report to Senate, D06-32, for consideration on 17th January 2007).

b) Academic Program Reviews:

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07.04 Academic Program Reviews

CONFIDENTIAL

07.05 Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs (SCTP)SCTP Report on Electronic Review held on 16th November 2006 (06-APPC-12-33)**a) PhD in Information Studies**

Guests: Professors France Bouthillier (GSLIS Director) and Andrew J. Large

On 24th October 2002, APPC considered and returned a proposal for a *Ph.D. in Library and Information Studies*. The document presents a new proposal, a new program bearing a new name, structured differently and supported by a new staff complement. "Information Studies" is a new way of referring to the discipline. While the School offers the possibility of *ad hoc* doctoral studies, it is losing student candidates for not having a fully approved program. The School has a vibrant research record and its students are competitive. The proposal is in line with McGill's strategic objectives to increase the number of graduate students. Letters of support originate from many units within and outside McGill. The program does not clash with that offered by Université de Montréal.

In the discussion the following were clarified:

- Ph.D. programs at McGill bear 0 credits;
- The four research areas identified are likely to remain current into the future (the School has hired four young professors); no other unit in North America has the same focus; this is most advantageous;
- The number of students in the program may seem very small but the total number of Ph.D.s in the discipline in the whole of Canada is small.
- A research intensive unit to which new staff members have been hired should have a formal Ph.D. program.

APPC approved the proposed Ph.D. in Information Studies program for submission to Senate (in APPC's 386th Report, D06-32, for consideration by Senate on 17th January 2007).

b) Joint EMBA with HEC Montréal

Guests: Dean Peter Todd, Professor Alain Pinsonneault, Ms. Ellen McDill, and Ms. Nancy Wells

Dean Todd presented the proposed joint EMBA with HEC Montréal, indication that there were two aspects to the proposal: 1) the EMBA program proposal and 2) the joint degree issue.

- 1) **the joint new program:** Executive MBA programs have become popular. "Executive" denotes a certain structure in the way the program is delivered: it accommodates students with significant business experience (ten or more years, depending on the School) who work full-time. The program is based on the strength of two top universities which already collaborate on the inter-university Ph.D. program in Administrations that involves the four Montreal universities. The EMBA uses a different approach to teaching as required by managers who in the classroom will total 500-600 years of experience; they will share and learn from each other and focus on major issues from different perspectives. The program is structured around different modules.

In the discussion, the following points, some of which were raised by CGPS, were clarified:

- at a fee of \$60,000 (all inclusive), the program is expected to break-even at 18 students; the fee is adapted to the Quebec market (Concordia charges \$52,000);
- add-on programs for family members have to be done extremely well for ultimate success;
- this is a 45-credit EMBA; the 60 credit weight of the Faculty's MBA is an anachronism stemming from strict accreditation board rules; the core MBA is currently in the midst of a revision;
- the program is open to exceptional candidates (who do not hold a university degree) on an exceptional basis, who usually are some of the best students;
- students should be passively bilingual; most professors will be able to handle teaching and grading in both English and French;

- the MBA and EMBA are different programs; the degree is still that of Master in Business Administrations; the distinction will appear on the transcript but the EMBA as an option will not show on the degree.

- 2) **the joint degree:** HEC Montréal and McGill have been attempting to put together a true partnership program. The trend is for EMBA programs to be given jointly by two institutions, for example Queens and Cornell, Schulich York and Northwestern. A strong partnership with international reputation will give an important signal to Montreal. Collaboration will be 50-50. In order to be prudent, an explicit timeline of five years will be included.

In the discussion it was noted that while McGill is engaged in a small number of joint programs, a joint degree such as is proposed is a novelty.

APPC approved the proposed joint Executive MBA with H.E.C./ Université de Montréal for five years, as per the agreement with H.E.C. Montréal, subject to a review after two-and-a-half years, for submission to Senate (386th APPC Report to Senate, D06-32, for consideration on 17th January 2007). It also will recommend approval of a joint degree and diploma to Senate.

07.06 Council on Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS)

- **McGill Supervisory Guidelines and Regulations for doctoral and master's thesis students (06-APPC-12-36)**

- Memo from Dean (interim) GPS James A. Nemes, 30th November 2006
- McGill Supervisory Guidelines and Regulations, November 2006

This item will be considered at the next meeting.

7.07 Student Exchange Agreement

– Nanyang Technological University (06-APPC-12-37)

While it was stated that no new agreement proposals would be brought forward until a review of university-level agreements had been completed, proposals that were already under consideration, such as this one, will be processed. Faculty-specific agreement proposals will also not be held up.

APPC approved the proposed student exchange agreement with Nanyang Technological University. It will be reported to Senate as having been approved by APPC (in APPC's 386th Report, D06-32 for Senate meeting on 17th January 2007)

07.08 Other business

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

*Helen M.C. Richard 2007-01-15
HMCR/APPCdocs/minutes/2006-12-14*