

Minutes of the meeting of the **Academic Policy Committee** held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2012, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Room 302, James Building

Present: A.C. Masi (Chair), W. Adams, A. Bouchard, E. Chiang, E.Y. Clare, K. Dalkir, H. Hatch-Dinel, W. Hendershot (by telephone), I. Henderson, L. Hendren, M. Kreiswirth, C. Mandato, S. McDougall, M.J. Mendelson, A. Misra, P. Perez-Aleman, P. Smith, C. Urbain (for C.C. Cook), C. Weston, H.M.C. Richard (*Secretary to the Committee*)

Regrets: C.C. Cook, O. Gautheron, R. Goldstein, E. Laverdière, M. Luke, J. Potter, L. Stone, S. Stroud (for R. Goldstein), W. Thomson, M. Wanderley

Guests: R. Savage (item 5. b. vi), J. Archibald (items 7. a.b.), L. White (item 8)

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**Document circulated at the meeting:** *none*

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### 13.01 Proposed agenda

The proposed agenda was adopted.

### 13.02 Minutes of previous meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2012

The minutes were approved as circulated.

The proposed APC Assessment of the Review of the Department of Linguistics (posted on the restricted Documents section of the APC website) was also considered. It was agreed that the last sentence of the last paragraph on the Department's international standing should be revised to validate what has been achieved and to sound more positive.

The third paragraph was subsequently revised to read: "The Review highlights the Department's excellent performance, particularly in research, and its aspiration to be "among the premier Linguistics department worldwide". APC notes that the statement refers to worldwide excellence; ~~it therefore suggests that the Department's benchmarks should not be limited to peer departments in North America, but that the Department consider given the high standing that the Department enjoys in North America, APC would have liked to see reference made to world-class departments of Linguistics that may exist elsewhere.~~"

### 13.03 Business arising and Senate approvals 16<sup>th</sup> May 2012

The proposal for the creation of the Department of Bioengineering in the Faculty of Engineering was approved by Senate on 16<sup>th</sup> May and by the Board of Governors on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

Senate, on 16<sup>th</sup> May also approved the proposed B.A. in Liberal Arts that APC approved conditionally on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011. The revised program proposals are posted on the Senate website:  
[http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/d11-65\\_438th\\_report\\_appendix\\_a\\_b.a.\\_liberal\\_arts.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/sites/mcgill.ca.senate/files/d11-65_438th_report_appendix_a_b.a._liberal_arts.pdf)

### 13.04 International Education

- Proposed Student Exchange Agreement with the University of Zürich (12-APC-05-77)

**APC approved the proposed Student Exchange Agreement with the University of Zürich.**

This approval will be reported to Senate in APC's 439<sup>th</sup> Report (Senate meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012).

### 13.05 APC Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs (SCTP)

a) SCTP Report on meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2012 (12-APC-05-78)

No item required APC approval.

b) SCTP Report on meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2012 (12-APC-05-79)

i) New B.A.&Sc.; Honours in Sustainability, Science and Society (*Appendix A*)

Given the growing student interest in the Interfaculty program in Sustainability, Science and Society, approved 18 months earlier, the Faculty of Science is proposing an Honours equivalent. In response to

suggestions made regarding incorporating courses in Anthropology or Ethics, it was noted that the courses listed were selected for specific reasons and that course suggestions and minor revisions to the program could be considered later.

**APC approved the proposed B.A.&Sc.; Honours in Sustainability, Science and Society.** This approval will be reported for information to Senate in APC' 439<sup>th</sup> Report (Senate meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012).

ii) New B.Mus.; Minor in Early Music Performance (*Appendix B*)

**APC approved the proposed B.Mus.; Minor in early Music Performance.** This approval will be reported for information to Senate in APC' 439<sup>th</sup> Report (Senate meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012).

iii) Major revisions to Ph.D. in Anatomy and Cell Biology (*Appendix C*)

**APC approved the proposed name change of the Ph.D. in Anatomy and Cell Biology to Ph.D. in Cell Biology.** This approval will be reported for information to Senate in APC's 439<sup>th</sup> Report (Senate meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012).

iv) Major revisions to M.Sc. in Anatomy and Cell Biology (*Appendix D*)

**APC approved the proposed name change of the M.Sc. in Anatomy and Cell Biology to M.Sc. in Cell Biology.** This approval will be reported for information to Senate in APC' 439<sup>th</sup> Report (Senate meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012).

v) Revisions to the B.A.&Sc. degree requirements (*Appendix E*)

*- Interfaculty Program Requirements*

The Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science proposed to amend the rule regulating credit-counts (section 6.5.4 Interfaculty Program) to read: "...complete at least ~~30~~ **21 credits in the Faculty of Arts and at least 30** 21 in the Faculty of Science as part of your Interfaculty program and your Minor concentration or Minor program." Reducing the requirements from 30 to 21 credits provides more flexibility for the students, allows students to choose the most academically sound choice of minor, and reduces the burden on advisors. The effective date of implementation is September 2012.

*- Retiring the Double Minor Option*

The Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science propose to retire the Double-Minor Option from the B.A.&Sc. program as that option does not give students a strong foundation in a second discipline (i.e., either Science or Arts). The effective date of implementation is September 2013. The change does not apply to students currently in the program.

**APC approved the proposed revisions to the B.A.&Sc. degree requirements: changing the Interfaculty Program requirements from "at least 30" to "at least 21" credits in both the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science, and retiring the Double Minor option.** These approvals will be reported to Senate in APC's 439<sup>th</sup> Report (Senate meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012).

vi) Concentrations coding request for streams within three Educational Psychology programs (*Appendix F*)

Professor Robert Savage, Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology presented the proposal from the Faculty of Education for the following changes to be effective in September 2012:

- that six of the current "streams" within three graduate programs be identified as "concentrations", i.e., Health Professions Education, Human Development, Learning Sciences, General Education Psychology, family Life Education and Inclusive Education:

M.A.; Educational Psychology; Thesis  
 Health Professions Education (15 cr.)  
 Human Development (15 cr.)  
 Learning Sciences (15 cr.)

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M.Ed.; Educational Psychology; Non-Thesis  
 General Educational Psychology (27 cr.)  
 Family Life Education (27 cr.)  
 Inclusive Education (27 cr.)  
 Learning Sciences (27 cr.)  
 Ph.D.; Educational Psychology  
 Learning Sciences  
 Human Development

- that the current “stream” School/Applied Child Psychology (45 cr.) in the M.A.; Educational Psychology; Thesis be identified as a distinct “major”.

The motive for the first proposal is strictly practical: this move would allow the Department to track, plan and report more effectively and benefit the students. The second proposal aims to correct an error in reporting. The Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS) approved the proposals at its meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2012.

**APC approved the proposal to change six of the current streams in the M.A.; Educational Psychology; Thesis, the M.Ed.; Educational Psychology; Non-thesis and the Ph.D.; Educational Psychology, to “concentrations” and to identify the School/Applied Child Psychology in the M.A. degree program as a major.** This approval will be reported to Senate in APC’s 539<sup>th</sup> Report (D12----) Senate meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012).

### 13.06 APC Subcommittee on Continuing Education

- Proposed revisions to the terms of reference that were approved by APPC on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2008 (*I2-APC-05-80*)
- SCE Proposed membership (*I2-APC-05-81*)

Dr. James Archibald, Associate Dean, School of Continuing Studies presented the proposed revisions to the terms of reference and membership of the APC Subcommittee on Continuing Education.

#### a) Proposed revisions to the terms of reference (*I2-APC-05-80*)

Dr Archibald explained that the addition of the third item, i.e., “3. recommends and, where appropriate, implements mechanisms intended to ensure quality and visibility for the continuing education activities of McGill” relates to the continuing education activities in the School and other continuing education activities that take place elsewhere across the University. The intent was that all continuing education activities on campus should meet McGill quality standards. Other proposed changes were either editorial (“Continuing Studies”) or were to make sure that the committee reflected the ongoing continuing education activities of all faculties.

In the discussion, members were reminded that the Senate Committee on Continuing Education was retired in April 2008, but was replaced with a Subcommittee on Continuing Education reporting to APC. **APC approved the addition of item 3 to the Subcommittee’s mandate.**

With respect to the proposed composition of the Subcommittee, APC preferred that any of the faculties offering continuing education activities should be given the opportunity to be represented on the Subcommittee on a rotational basis. It therefore agreed not to select specific units, but rather to amend the original composition as follows: “Four faculty representatives, from three large faculties and one smaller faculty, among academic units that offer continuing education activities, on a rotational basis.”

#### b) Proposed SCE membership (*I2-APC-05-81*)

APC considered the proposed membership and revised it in keeping with the approved composition, as follows:  
 The Provost or delegate, Chair

Dr. Judith Potter	Dean of Continuing Studies
Effie Dracopoulos	Coordinator, Part-Time Programs, Language and Intercultural Communication, SCS
Inna Popova	Representative, SCS
Dr. Ali Fakhry	Faculty of Dentistry
Dr. Lawrence Chen	Faculty of Engineering

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T.B.A.	Faculty of...
T.B.A.	Faculty of ...
Dr. David Harpp	Board of Governors
T.B.A.	Alumni Association representative
T.B.A.	McGill Women's Alumnae Association
Mr. Eric Laverdière	MACES
T.B.A.	Continuing Education student at large

**The membership list will be resubmitted to APC for approval, when completed.**

### 13.07 Interdisciplinary programs

(background: minutes of meetings held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2011 and 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2012)

*11-APC-12-38* Workgroup on Interdisciplinary Programs – Summary report

*12-APC-01-47* Possible APC recommendations - interdisciplinary and multi-unit programs)

- Interdisciplinary Programs – Proposal, Professor Ian Henderson (*12-APC-05-82*)

Professor Lydia White, Associate Provost, Policies, Procedure & Equity, joined the meeting. Professor Ian Henderson, Chair of the APC Workgroup on Interdisciplinary Programs, presented the proposal, stating that APC has been engaged in discussions regarding the process by which interdisciplinary programs should be reviewed in the context of Academic Unit Reviews and in the absence of a definition of “interdisciplinary”. There is an urgent need for APC to clarify how the reviews of “interdisciplinary” programs should be conducted. In a previous conversation, it was APC’s view that academic units should identify the programs and that interdisciplinary programs should be treated as all other programs. Teaching programs that have a designated home unit should be reviewed within that unit. If they have no designated unit, then a separate process should apply.

It was agreed that all interdisciplinary programs with which the academic unit is involved should be listed, along with the name of the administering/home unit (under which the program will be reviewed). Should there be no home unit, as may be the case for programs such as Neuroscience, Cognitive Sciences, Earth System Sciences, the Program Committee would fill the function of administering unit. Given that there are various degrees of interdisciplinarity, it was suggested that the administering unit or committee should state that the program is intentionally interdisciplinary, how it is interdisciplinary, how advising is done, and how the courses making up the program fulfill its objective. Reviews will be an opportunity to collect information on such programs. The procedural guidelines will make the expectations clear so that adjustments may be made accordingly.

**The Academic Unit Review procedures will be revised accordingly and circulated to APC for information.** They do not require Senate approval.

### 13.08 Schedule of APC meeting dates for the academic year 2012-2013

The list of meeting dates was revised as follows:

Thursdays, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Room 302, James Administration Building

September: 13 ~~and 27~~

October: ~~11~~ 4 and 25

November: ~~7~~ 8 and 22

December: 13

January: 17 and 31

February: 14

March: 7 and 21

April: 11

May: 2 and 23

### 13.09 Other business

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

*Helen M.C. Richard - HMCR/APPCdocs/minutes/2012-05-24*