

Minutes of the meeting of the **Academic Policy Committee** held on Thursday 6th February 2014, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Room 302, James (Administration) Building

Present: A.C. Masi (Chair), W. Adams, D. Bader, K. Dalkir, A. Deguise, O. Dyens, W. Hendershot, I. Henderson, L. Hendren, S. Huebner, M. Kreiswirth, A. Kuate Defo, C. Mandato, S. McDougall, A. Misra, J. Potter, P. Smith, L. Stone, S. Stroud, F. Subhani, C. Urbain, L. White (Vice Chair), L. Winer, Julie Degans (*Secretary to APC*)

Regrets: J. Galbraith, E. Sarigöllü, J. Shea, S. Somasundaram, B. Xu

Guests: C. Stewart-Kanigan (item 3, iii); D. Boyer, A. Buckland, D. Koen (item 3, i); E. Aitken (item 4, iii); H. Mitri (item 4, iv, a); D. Boruchoff, H. Hatch-Dinel (item 4, iv, b)

07.01 Agenda

The agenda was approved with item 3, iii being moved up to accommodate our guest.

07.02 Minutes of meeting of 9th January 2014

The minutes were approved with one revision in paragraph 4, ii, a, relating to lecture recordings.

The paragraph should read as follow:

“There is also software available (~~Camtasia~~ Camtasia) to all lecturers...”

07.03 Business arising

i. Copibec – *Guests: Diane Koen, Daniel Boyer and Amy Buckland*

Reasons for withdrawing from Copibec were presented, and for replacing this agreement with an Office for Copyright Compliance, as well as an appropriate copyright policy; training and good practice across the University will be critical. The direct and indirect costs of operating a compliance office have to be compared to the cost of renewing the license. Possible consequences include lawsuits and bad press, especially if no other university in the Province opts out. It was agreed that a copyright policy will be drafted by the group working on copyright compliance, and that a training plan will be developed by this group, including carefully worded and positive messaging.

ii. Anonymous marking of examinations

It was agreed to explore the viability of separating student nominative information from the grading table on the first page of the exam booklets or using only student ID numbers rather than their names, including consulting with the Faculties to find out if this would be feasible for them.

iii. Revised proposal - Faculty of Arts

BA; minor concentration in Indigenous Studies (18 cr.)

The BA; minor concentration in Indigenous Studies was approved.

This approval will be reported for information to Senate in APC's 453rd report (for the meeting of Senate on 19th February 2014).

The Chair had to leave the meeting at this point; the rest of the meeting was chaired by the Vice-Chair.

07.04 New business:

i. **Proposal - McGill University Structural Biology Centre**

Postponed.

ii. **APC Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs (SCTP)**

SCTP Report # 7 from SCTP meeting on December 5th, 2013

a) Faculty of Arts

M.A; Economics; Non-Thesis; Population Dynamics (45 cr.)

M.A; Sociology; Non-Thesis; Population Dynamics (45 cr.)

PhD; Sociology; Population Dynamics

b) Faculty of Education

- M.A; School/Applied Child Psychology; Non-Thesis; project (60 cr.)
- c) Faculty of Medicine
Graduate Certificate; Driving Rehabilitation, (15 cr.)

These were approved.

These approvals will be reported for information to Senate in APC's 453rd report (for the meeting of Senate on 19th February 2014)

iii. Undergraduate Learning Outcomes Working Group

Guest: Ellen Aitken

Dean Aitken provided an update on the work of the **Undergraduate Learning Outcomes Working Group**, whose work had been put on hold during most of 2013. She expressed concerns at the term 'Learning Outcomes' and reported that the Working Group will be looking more generally at the purpose and value of a McGill education. The Working Group is consulting widely and listening to various groups. The Working Group would like to have open discussion with APC in the near future. The goal is to produce an interim report later in 2014, and after further feedback, a final report in 2015.

iv. APC Subcommittee on Academic Unit Reviews

The Vice Chair reminded the presenters of each review to focus only on about 3 issues that would be of particular interest to APC. The following Academic Unit Reviews were presented and discussed. In each case, APC had nothing to add to the recommendations of the Review Committees.

- a) Review of the Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences

Prof. Hani Mitri (Dept of Mining & Materials Engineering) highlighted three issues: the deteriorating state of the research labs, the lack of revisions to the undergraduate curriculum, and the status of the M.Sc (MinEx) program.

- b) Review of the Faculty of Dentistry

Prof. David Boruchoff (Dept of Languages, Literatures & Cultures) and Ms Haley Hatch-Dinel (undergraduate student) indicated that the main issue appears to be a lack of communication and collaboration between the three entities within the Faculty. As this is a Faculty without departments, APC indicated that the Provost should pay particular attention to the Review Committee's recommendations.

- c) Review of the Institute of Parasitology

Prof. Laurie Hendren (APC) highlighted the fact that this is a strong unit academically, with some space and infrastructure issues.

- d) Review of the Department of Chemistry

Prof. Arun Misra and Mr Alvin Kuate Defo (APC) presented the following points: the scholarly productivity of the Department is not particularly high in comparison to departments with whom they benchmark themselves, the teaching workload is high (especially relating to service courses) and there is a lack of adequate funding for graduate students.

07.05 Other business

None.