Minutes of the Meeting of the **Academic Policy and Planning Committee** which took place on 17 May in Room 609 of the James Administration Building.

Present: P. Bélanger, J. Bilec, M. Crago, H. Goad, V. Hayward, W. Hendershot, N. Kasirer, A. Masi, J. Paquette, L. Vinet, K. Young, C. Lefort (Secretary)

Regrets: E. Cooper, D. Crowley, M. Graham, F. Groen, A. Lau, L. McAlpine, D. McLean

Guests: V. Pasztor, G. Chmura, N. de Takacsy

12.1 The Agenda was approved.

12.2 The Minutes of the meeting of 3 May 2001 were approved.

12.3 Business Arising

11.5 Task Force on the Restructuring of the Council and Committee Structure of Graduate Studies

Prof. Crago reported that the document on the Restructuring of the Council and Committee Structure of Graduate Studies was presented to Senate on May 9. After some discussion, it was tabled to Senate's October 10, 2001 meeting to allow time for review and discussion at faculty level.

12.4 Student Exchanges – Prof. V. Pasztor

1. Instituto Technologica y Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM) Mexico

Prof. Pasztor said there was already a very successful exchange with ITESM under CREPUQ.

The student exchange program with ITESM was approved on motion by Prof. Crago, seconded by Prof. Kasiser.

2. Tampere University of Technology, Finland

VP Bélanger asked whether there were enough courses in English to make this exchange workable. Prof. Pasztor replied that there were.

The student exchange program with Tampere University of Technology was approved on motion by Prof. Young, seconded by Prof. Crago.

3. University of Southern California (USC)

Prof. Pasztor noted that McGill does not have many exchanges with American universities. There was some discussion about whether the school's location in a poor neighbourhood of Los Angeles poses any risk to students' safety. Prof. Pasztor said the campus itself is secure and safe.

Approved on motion by VP Bélanger, seconded by Prof. Crago.

12.5 Sub-committee on Courses and Programs

Membership

The motion by Prof. Crago, seconded by VP Bélanger, to appoint Prof. James Brawer to the Sub-committee on Courses and Teaching Programs was approved. Prof. Brawer replaces Prof. Radan Capek.

Composition

The motion to modify the terms of reference of the APPC Sub-Committee on Courses and Teaching Programs to include the Director of the Graduate Studies Office as an ex-officio member, was amended to read:, " the Director of the Graduate Studies Office, ex-officio, non-voting". Approved on motion by Prof. Crago, seconded by Mr. Sim.

12.6 Report from the Sub-committee on Courses and Teaching Programs

Faculty of Science

Bay of Fundy Field Study Semester

Prof. Chmura presented the proposal for a Bay of Fundy Field Study Semester.

The Bay of Fundy Field Study Semester was approved on motion by Prof. Crago, seconded by VP Bélanger.

B.A.; Honours in International Development Studies

Approved on motion by Prof. Crago, seconded by Prof. Hendershot

B.A.; Joint Honours in International Development Studies

Approved on motion by Prof. Crago, seconded by Ms. Bilec.

Faculty of Science/Faculty of Education

Minor in Kinesiology for Science Students

Approved on motion by VP Bélanger, seconded by Prof. Hendershot.

12.7 Program Nomenclature: "Major" and "Major Concentration"

Prof. Crago said the question of whether it was necessary to retain both "Major" and "Major Concentration" program titles was being raised in the context of changes that would need to be made to the Banner SIS system to allow for use of both terms. She reminded APPC that the term "Major Concentration" was introduced at the same time as the Arts Multi-Track system as a way of differentiating between pre-multi-track Arts "Majors" of 54 credits and post-multi-track Arts majors (Major Concentration) of 36 credits. The understanding at the time was that the word "concentration" in the title would be dropped once the last cohort of those taking the old 54 credit Arts majors had completed their programs of study. Prof. Crago reminded APPC that Majors in Science are still 54 credits. She added that representatives of the Faculty of Science had expressed some

reservations about allowing program titles with substantially different credit weights (54 vs 36) to be know by the same term.

There was some discussion about the Faculty of Science's position. Prof. Paquette noted that the real differentiation between Arts and Science programs was in the name of the degree i.e. B.A. vs B.Sc.. VP Bélanger said it was inappropriate for one faculty to define terms for another.

APPC agreed that it was unnecessary to retain both "Major" and "Major Concentration". It recommended that the term "Major" be retained in the new Student Information System and that "Major Concentration" be dropped.

12.8 Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

Motion by GSPC and the Executive Committee re amendments to the Failure Policy

Prof. Crago said the proposed amendments to the failure policy were necessary to differentiate between failure in courses the department has asked/required a student to take for a degree and those courses which might be taken as optional.

Mr. Sim said the wording clarified matters somewhat. He noted however that there were still some gray areas between required courses and optional courses and stressed that departments needed to be very clear to students about whether a course was required or not. Mr. Sim mentioned also this raises the issue of whether students may "audit" courses. VP Bélanger recommended that the "required"/"non-required" status of courses be recorded on graduate registration forms.

12.9 Follow-up to the CUP Reports

Prof. de Takacsy said the *Commission des universités sur les programmes* (CUP) completed its review of university programs in Quebec and submitted its report to the MEQ in Spring 2000.

The final report called for a follow-up committee, the *Comité de suivi sur les programmes* (CSP), with a mandate to:

- ensure that the information gathered in the original CUP surveys remains current
- monitor the effect of CUP's recommendations
- organize meetings between university representatives of the CUP disciplinary sectors

Prof. de Takacsy directed APPC's attention to the documents attached to his memo of May 10, 2001 i.e., the draft guidelines for CSP; the composition of the oversight committee; and the membership of first four disciplinary committees. He reminded APPC

that while McGill had not been very pro-active in responding to CUP's original recommendations, it would need to develop a mechanism for tracking the follow-up committee's recommendations and coordinating McGill's responses.

Prof. Crago suggested that this item be brought back to APPC for action once it was known what was required of McGill under the follow-up CSP program.

12.10 The meeting adjourned at 4:45.