

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, February 15, 2011
Leacock Council Room - L232**

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-10-16 to S-10-23

In the absence of Dean Grant, Prof. David Zuroff, Chair of the Department of Psychology, called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Prof. Hynes **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gyakum, that the Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTS FUND

602.1 Mr. Chuck Adler from the Campus and Space Planning Office introduced himself, and said that the Office of Sustainability reports to his office. He said that the Dean of Science had kindly agreed to allow him to present to the Faculty of Science a new initiative, the Sustainability Projects Fund, that had been introduced at McGill in the last year. The Sustainability Projects Fund was a joint venture between the students and the university, and would generate money for sustainability initiatives at McGill. While participation by the administration and by students was already occurring, he wished to encourage academic staff to submit ideas related to sustainability to the SPF. He introduced Ms. Lilith Wyatt, the Sustainability Projects Fund Administrator.

602.2 Ms. Wyatt gave a presentation on the Sustainability Projects Fund. Further information is available at

www.mcgill.ca/sustainability

602.3 Ms. Wyatt said that sustainability at McGill was being defined extremely broadly to encourage wide participation and a wide range of ideas. The Office of Sustainability had been created three years previously as a hub to unite the McGill community in building a culture of sustainability across the campus.

602.4 Ms. Wyatt said that the McGill Food Systems Project was a good example of a successful initiative. Significant provincial funding had been obtained for the project, a proposal on food security was being submitted to SSHRC, a Maxbell foundation grant had been received, and external partnerships were being created.

602.5 She showed a slide listing 30 SPF Projects, among which were apartment gardens, a bike collective, bike racks, meatless Mondays, a water collection system, a campus composter, minimization of hazardous waste, a bottle refill station, a recycling program, a farmer's market, and a fluorescent lamp disposal.

- 602.6** Ms. Wyatt emphasized that SPF was a partnership aimed at changing the campus culture towards sustainability. Such a change in campus culture would ideally spread into broader societal change.
- 602.7** A \$.50/credit/student levy was approved overwhelmingly by the SSMU, PGSS and MCSS. The Provost was committed to matching the student levy. This would raise about \$800,000 per year for three years for projects aimed at building a culture of sustainability.
- 602.8** The Office of Sustainability was available to assist in all phases involved in the preparation of a proposal, as well as in proposal implementation.
- 602.9** Ms. Wyatt briefly described the SPF review process for projects, and the criteria by which projects were examined. So far, there had been three application deadlines, for which 78 applications had been received. 31 projects had been approved, with \$580,000 of the current year's \$800,000 committed. The next deadline was March 25, 2011.
- 602.10** As several examples of projects, Ms. Wyatt mentioned "McGill Feeding McGill" — Macdonald Horticultural Centre was the largest supplier of in-season fruits and vegetables to McGill's downtown residences; "Sustainability Research Symposium" — a showcase for research posters from undergraduate and graduate students, and which enabled networking and the sharing of ideas; "Water is Life!" — an exhibit on using water wisely, which would rotate among McGill buildings.
- 602.11** Ms. Wyatt thanked members for the opportunity to spread the word about the Sustainability Projects Fund, and encouraged them to submit projects. She can be reached at lilith.wyatt@mcgill.ca, local 8826.
- 602.12** Prof. Zuroff thanked Ms. Wyatt for a most informative presentation.

(3) CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

a) Bachelor of Arts and Science S-10-17

Director Allard said that there were 17 students graduating compared with 15 students in February 2010.

Director Allard **moved**, seconded by Mr. Barry, that the above degree list be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Bachelor of Arts and Science degree.

The motion carried.

b) Bachelor of Science S-10-18

There were 132 students approved for graduation compared with 120 in February 2010.

Director Allard **moved**, seconded by Mr. Barry, that the above degree list be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Bachelor of Science degree.

The motion carried.

- c) Diploma in Environment S-10-19**
d) Diploma in Meteorology S-10-20

There were no candidates for the Diploma in Environment or the Diploma in Meteorology.

Ms. Allard further **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dudek, that the Dean be given discretionary power to make such changes in the degree list as would be necessary to prevent injustice.

The motion carried.

(4) MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2011 S-10-16

Prof. Hurtubise **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gyakum, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

(5) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

(6) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a) Academic Committee S-10-21

The Academic Committee approved the following on Tuesday, January 18 (electronic) and Tuesday, February 8, 2011:

SECTION A: NEW COURSES

Computer Science

COMP 189

Computers and Society
3 credits

AC-10-54

606.1 Prof. Dudek introduced a new general interest course, COMP 189. COMP 189 involved bringing social and political issues related to computing to a wider audience.

Prof. Dudek **moved**, seconded by Prof. Verbrugge, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

SECTION B: MAJOR COURSE CHANGES

1) Psychiatry
PSYT 455

Neurochemistry
Changes in teaching department (from BIOC 455)
& restrictions
3 credits

AC-10-52A

2) Computer Science
COMP 554

Approximation Algorithms
Renumbered from COMP 692
4 credits

AC-10-52B

606.2 Prof. de Takacsy said that the Department of Psychiatry would take over the teaching of BIOC 455 from the Department of Biochemistry; hence the change to PSYT 455.

606.3 Prof. de Takacsy said that COMP 554 had been renumbered (from COMP 692) in order to allow undergraduate honours students as well as graduate students to register for the course.

Prof. Dudek **moved**, seconded by Prof. Hurtubise, that the above changes be approved.

The motion carried.

SECTION C: MINOR COURSE CHANGES (For Information Only)

- Report on Minor Course Changes

AC-10-53

SECTION D: OTHER (For Information Only)

**1) McGill School of Environment
B.A. Program - Joint Honours Environment Component**

606.4 Prof. de Takacsy said that the program was being brought to Faculty (for information only) in order to keep the Faculty of Science informed of non-Science programs in the McGill School of Environment.

**2) Transfer of English Courses from English and French Writing
Centre, Faculty of Arts, to Centre for Continuing Education**

AC-10-55

606.5 Prof. de Takacsy said that the English as a Second Language (ESL) unit was one part of the English and French Writing Centre of the Faculty of Arts. The ESL unit was moving its courses and transferring its staff to the McGill Writing Centre under the Centre for Continuing Education. The ESL courses will continue to be offered to students in the B.Sc. and B.A. & Sc. degrees, and as per the criteria in Document AC-10-55, these courses will be monitored by SOUSA and the Associate Dean. The Faculty of Arts approved the recommendations in Document AC-10-55. In 2012, the Faculty of Arts will conduct a review of these courses.

3) B.A. & Sc.: Proposed Changes to the Administrative Structure

AC-10-56

606.6 Prof. de Takacsy said that the B.A. & Sc. Program Administration Committee had recommended to the Deans of Arts and of Science (Document AC-10-56) that the administrative structure be put on a more solid basis. Rather than the current yearly rotation of the chair of the PAC between the associate deans of Arts and of Science, operational responsibility for the PAC would be assigned by the deans to either Arts or Science for three to five years, and the deans would as well appoint a chair of the PAC. Additionally, the deans would consider appointing, in due course, a B.A. & Sc. program director for a term of three to five years.

b) Committee on Student Standing (CSS)

S-10-22

Director Allard said that the CSS meeting had been cancelled due to lack of business.

(7) DEAN'S BUSINESS

a) Dean's Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research List

S-10-23

607.1 Director Allard explained the criteria for the DMURL — undergraduate students undertaking multidisciplinary research outside their principal area of study. There were three students on the DMURL.

b) Budget Issues

- 607.2** Since the Dean of Science was not present at the meeting, a motion was called to decide whether or not to hold the Committee of the Whole discussion at the current meeting. In the absence of a seconder to the motion, the Committee of the Whole discussion was postponed to a future Faculty meeting.

(8) REPORT ON ACTIONS OF SENATE

Please note that the entire Minutes of Senate are available on the Web at <http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/minutes/>.

Senate Meeting of January 19, 2011 – Prof. G. Dudek

The Report on the Senate Meeting of January 19, 2011 will be tabled.

(9) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

There were no members' questions.

(10) OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.