

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, May 22, 2012
Redpath Museum Auditorium**

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-11-22 to S-11-31

Dean Grant welcomed members to the last Faculty meeting of the academic year, and called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

The motion carried.

**(2) RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF EMERITUS PROFESSOR ROBERT E. LEMON,
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY**

902.1 Prof. Graham Bell, Chair of the Department of Biology, read the Resolution on the Death of Emeritus Professor Robert E. Lemon.

Robert E. Lemon 1933 – 2012

We learned with sadness of the death of Bob Lemon earlier this month, from complications arising from open heart surgery.

Bob was born in West Lorne, Ontario, and earned all of his degrees at the University of Western Ontario, graduating with a Ph.D. in 1964. He came to the Zoology Department, as it then was, as a Lecturer in 1965, and subsequently became an Assistant Professor. He moved to Psychiatry for several years before returning to Zoology and subsequently the Biology Department, where he spent the rest of his career. He was promoted to full Professor in 1979. He graduated five Ph.D. and nine M.Sc. students, and taught BIOL 206, the main second-year organismal lab course, as well as his specialty course on the Biology of Birds for many years.

Bob was a well-known researcher in ornithology, particularly in the field of bird song. He worked in particular on the song repertoires of birds such as starlings, warblers and redstarts. His papers on Markov chain models of song sequences were influential outside of ornithology and helped many people think about the rules that govern the organization of behaviour.

Once lectures were over in the spring, Bob would head out east with his current group of students to begin the season's fieldwork. Danny Weary, who was Bob's student in the late 1980s and early 1990s, remembers these field trips well, and writes as follows.

"His greatest love would be to arrive 'early' at the field site in St. Andrews, New Brunswick. Early meant about the 15th of May, just a few days before the singing males would descend upon the woods. We'd leave Montreal, full of sunshine and miniskirts, to arrive in desolate St. Andrews with trees still just in early bud. Bob loved the warblers most of all (with their frustrating diversity and endless song types), but as a true naturalist never tired of telling us about the diversity of life forms found in and around Passamquaddy Bay. Being in the field with Bob was an amazing experience - he would tramp endlessly around the mosquito infested alder swamps in the outskirts of St. Andrews, shouting out the band patterns formed by the colour rings we used to individually identify the redstarts and other warblers we followed. "Red over yellow on the right, black over white of the left" he'd bark out as I would clumsily try to focus my parabolic microphone on the singing male. Later I would be try (and usually fail) to see the bird with my binoculars, but Bob would have already surged ahead to find a cryptic nest or identify the neighbouring male."

Bob retired from the University in 2009 and was appointed as an Emeritus Professor. On retirement he moved to Peterborough Ontario where he made new friends playing bridge and bird watching. A small family ceremony was held in the garden he loved, and which attracted many local and migratory birds. He is survived by his wife Nancy, daughter Joanna, son Mark, daughter-in-law Tomoko, and two grandchildren, Kaede Grace and Mizuki Claire. He will be missed by all those who knew him.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Dean Grant thanked Prof. Bell for the resolution.

(3) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a) Faculty of Science Excellence Award

903.1 Prof. Doina Precup, Chair of the Faculty of Science Excellence Award Committee, introduced the award, and said that for the 2011-2012 academic year, the Award was being given to the Technician Category.

The Committee consisted of:

Doina Precup, School of Computer Science (Chair)
Chantale Bousquet, Department of Psychology (C)
Angela White, Department of Mathematics & Statistics (C)
Anne Kosowski, Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences (M)
Diane Koziol, Department of Physics (M)
Richard Rossi, Department of Chemistry (T)
Frank Scopelleti, Department of Biology (T)

Prof. Precup said that the Committee had had a very difficult choice among three outstanding nominees:

Anthony Howell, Redpath Museum
Lang Shi, Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences

Richard Talbot, Department of Physics

Prof. Precup read the following citation:

The recipient of this year's award is **Richard Talbot**, from the Department of Physics. Richard is an invaluable resource for faculty members, graduate and undergraduate research students in the department. According to his letter of nomination, he designs "everything", from small widgets to entire research labs. He designs optical and mechanical devices, low-temperature devices, an astonishing variety, requiring extraordinary creativity, scientific understanding and technical expertise. He is really prompt in his work. He is even able to correct mistakes and provide improvements to the initial rough sketches with which he is provided. Faculty members see Richard Talbot's expertise and dedication as a key ingredient in the scientific success of their experiments. For all these reasons, the committee is delighted to present Richard Talbot with this year's award, and we wish him continued success in his endeavours.

903.2 Dean Grant, on behalf of the Faculty of Science, congratulated **Richard Talbot** and presented him with a certificate.

903.3 Mr. Talbot thanked the Department of Physics and said that it was easy to work for such very intelligent people.

903.4 Dean Grant thanked the Chair, Prof. Precup, and the other members of the Faculty of Science Excellence Award Committee for all their hard work.

b) Leo Yaffe Award Committee

903.5 Prof. Edith Zorychta, Chair, Leo Yaffe Award and Principal's Prizes Committee, said that the Faculty was lucky to have such outstanding candidates, and read out the names of the nominees:

Laura Nilson, Department of Biology
Masad Damha, Department of Chemistry
Michael Langer, School of Computer Science
Antony Humphries, Department of Mathematics & Statistics
Alex Maloney, Department of Physics
John Lydon, Department of Psychology

Prof. Zorychta read the following citation:

The Leo Yaffe Award is given each year to recognize a faculty member for superior teaching at the undergraduate level in the Faculty of Science. The recipient for 2011-2012 is **Professor Masad Damha** from the Department of Chemistry, an outstanding teacher and mentor who has inspired and guided a generation of students at McGill.

Masad Damha is a McGill alumnus, having received both his BSc and PhD from this university. Upon graduation he joined the academic staff at the University of Toronto, but fortunately for McGill he returned in 1992 to become a professor in the Department of Chemistry. Teaching has been a priority from the beginning of his career, and his accomplishments have been eloquently summarized by one of his former students: *"Years from now students are not likely to recall the*

details of an intricate chemical synthesis pathway. Dr. Damha's students, however, will be equipped with the tools to critically reason out that pathway. It has been said that 'the best teachers teach from the heart and not from the book'. Dr. Damha is the epitome of this statement. His compassion for his students is unmatched and his passion for his subject matter is contagious. One only has to attend a single Damha lecture on nucleic acid synthesis to come to appreciate these structures as works of art!"

In his 20 years of teaching, Masad has taught the entire range of undergraduate Chemistry courses, from introductory to advanced, including both small and large classes. Students have consistently ranked him as an excellent teacher in course evaluations, and emphasize the high level of organization in his classes, the clarity and relevance of his lecture material, as well as the fairness of his grading. Students who were initially apprehensive about the intellectual challenges of learning chemistry, particularly those from biomedical disciplines who take these courses out of necessity rather than choice, are among the most enthusiastic. They frequently refer to his kindness and his willingness to help them learn, and many remark that he has not only made chemistry understandable and fascinating, he has changed their perspective on learning in general and allowed them to understand and expand their personal capabilities.

Professor Damha's accomplishments as an educator are linked to his personal philosophy of teaching. He considers teaching to be a privilege, and doing it well involves more than providing structured information in an interesting and relevant format - it is also essential to infuse students with enthusiasm, as well as to provide strong support and guidance through mentorship, understanding, and sincerely caring for their welfare. Student comments reflect the effectiveness of his approach. One characterized him in the following words: *"Dr. Damha stands out as the most well-rounded, passionate, motivational and charismatic teacher I have encountered during my undergraduate education. He inspires curiosity in his students by encouraging non-course material related questions, by providing complementary material for reading and viewing, and by motivating students to follow their own interests. His excellent teaching abilities and his warm personal qualities, along with his fairness have earned Dr. Damha enormous respect as well as sincere admiration not only from his students but also from faculty members who speak very highly of him."* Another said: *"Professor Damha made a lasting impact on me that did not consist of scientific facts, theories, or mechanisms. He introduced to me, among hundreds of others, a zeal for understanding and learning. In addition, he demonstrated that learning does not ever cease....very few professors are actually capable of successfully instilling these notions in their students."*

While Professor Damha has maintained a consistent philosophy of teaching, his techniques in the classroom have continually evolved with the incorporation of new technological tools as they have become available. He now uses computer-generated visualizations to show complex chemical structures and reactions, and tablet technology to work through problems in real time. He was one of the first to introduce the student response system thereby generating instant feedback from students during lectures – a technique that can be particularly valuable in large classes.

In summary, Masad Damha is an exceptional teacher and a highly deserving recipient of the Leo Yaffe Award. His impact has been encapsulated by one his

former students who said: *"I feel so very fortunate as a McGill student to have been taught by countless wonderful professors. However, when I think of bright lights, it is Dr. Damha who shines the brightest."*

903.6 On behalf of the Faculty of Science, Dean Grant congratulated Prof. Damha, who unfortunately could not attend the current meeting. He mentioned that Prof. Damha was not only a great teacher, but also a fine researcher.

903.7 Dean Grant thanked Prof. Zorychta and the Committee members for their diligent work on the Leo Yaffe Award Committee.

(4) CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

a) Bachelor of Arts and Science S-11-23

904.1 Director Allard said there were 67 students graduating with the B.A. & Sc. degree, and 2 students pending. The cut-off for the Dean's Honour List was 3.85, and the Distinction designation cut-off was 3.71.

Director Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Precup, 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-11-24

904.2 Director Allard said there were 720 students graduating with the B.Sc. degree, and 9 students pending. She said that there were 70 more candidates than the previous year. The Dean's Honour List cut-off was 3.86, and the Distinction designation cut-off was 3.70.

Director Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gale, 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-11-25

904.3 There was one candidate recommended for the Diploma in Environment.

Director Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Zuroff, that the above list be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Diploma in Environment.

The motion carried.

d) Diploma in Meteorology S-11-26

904.4 There were no students for the above Diploma.

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

- Major in Physiology

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Zuroff, that the new course be adopted.

The motion carried.

(3) PSYCHIATRY
PSYT 400 Res. Project in Psychiatry **AC-11-49**
6 credits

907.4 Associate Dean Hendren said that PSYT 400, spanning two consecutive terms, was a new research project course taught by the Department of Psychiatry and administered by the Faculty of Science. She mentioned that a number of research courses had been created recently, and that Victor Chisholm, Undergraduate Research Officer, had been working with the instructor of PSYT 400. PSYT 400 will be added to the list of approved research courses available for the DMURL.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the new course be adopted.

The motion carried.

(4) MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS
MATH 180 The Art of Mathematics **AC-11-54**
3 credits

907.5 After introducing the new general interest mathematics course, Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Precup, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

MATH 537 Honours Math Models in Biology **AC-11-55**
4 credits

907.6 MATH 537 will be an Honours version of MATH 437.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Wolfson, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

MATH 540 Life Actuarial Mathematics **AC-11-56**
4 credits

MATH 541 Nonlife Actuarial Models **AC-11-57**
4 credits

907.7 The above two new courses were intended for two different exams that future actuaries must take.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Mr. Ryan, that the above courses be adopted.

The motion carried.

SECTION B: COURSE CHANGES

(1) COMPUTER SCIENCE

COMP 522	Modelling and Simulation 4 credits Change in prerequisite	AC-11-45
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Zuroff, that the change be approved.

The motion carried.

(2) GEOGRAPHY

GEOG 321	Climatic Environments 3 credits Change in description	AC-11-46
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the change be approved.

The motion carried.

(3) BIOLOGY

BIOL 473	Vertebrate Palaeo Field Course Changes in number [from 573], prerequisites, restrictions 3 credits	AC-11-52
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Bell, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

BIOL 551	Principles of Cellular Control Changes in title, description, prerequisites, restrictions 3 credits	AC-11-53
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Bell, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

BIOL 307	Behavioural Ecology Change in course title 3 credits	MCC-11-24
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Bell, that the change be approved.

The motion carried.

- (4) **CHEMISTRY**
CHEM 577 Electrochemistry **MCC-11-25**
Changes in course title, description, prerequisites
3 credits

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Harpp, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

SECTION C: Other (for information)

- (1) **B.A. & Sc. Degree Program:**
- Interfaculty Program Requirements **PAC-11-8**

907.8 Associate Dean Hendren said that the major change was a reduction from 30 to 21 credits required in each of Arts and Science for Interfaculty Programs.

- Retiring the Double-Minor Option** **PAC-11-2**

Associate Dean Hendren said that the option of doing a Major Concentration in either Arts or Science along with two Minors/Minor Concentrations in the other faculty was being retired because it did not provide students with sufficient depth.

- (2) **Super B.SC.:** **AC-11-58**

907.9 Associate Dean Hendren described the proposal contained in Document AC-11-58 for the Enriched Freshman Program and the B.Sc. (Global).

907.10 In response to a question concerning a shortage of funding for undergraduate research, Dean Grant said that Lorne Trottier would be giving a great deal of money to the Faculty, some of which could be used for undergraduate research.

907.11 This being the end of Academic Committee business, Associate Dean Hendren thanked the members of the Academic Committee and Malek Yalaoui and Josie D'Amico for their hard work, particularly during the fall.

- d) **Committee on Student Standing** **S-11-28**

907.12 Director Allard said that there had been one request to have a particular course counted for credit. This request had been approved.

- e) **Scholarships Committee** **S-11-29**

907.13 Associate Dean Grütter announced that **Jean-Benoit Lalanne, First Class Honours in Physics**, was a winner of the Governor General's Silver Medal for 2011-2012. He added that there were only two medals given for the entire university, and that in the past 24 years, Science students had received the Governor General's medal 23 times.

907.14 Associate Dean Grütter also announced the winner of the Moyse Travelling Scholarship: **Laurent Beaugard, First Class Honours in Mathematics & Physics.**

- (8) **DEAN'S BUSINESS**

a) **Dean's Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research List** **S-11-30**

908.1 The DMURL recognizes undergraduate students who had done research in a field other than their primary area. It was pointed out that there were many more students on the DMURL for the current year than in previous years.

b) **Research Innovation and Commercialization**

908.2 Dean Grant said that the Faculty wished to recognize members of the Faculty of Science whose inventions had merited filing of a first patent application in the past 12 months. For the 2011-2012 academic year, the following Faculty members earned this recognition:

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|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Bruce Arndtsen | 5. Allan Hay |
| 2. Bill Chan (2) | 6. Audrey Moores |
| 3. James Gleason | 7. Eric Salin |
| 4. Peter Grutter | 8. Youla Tsantrizos |

908.3 Dean Grant presented certificates to the above people, and congratulated them.

908.4 Student co-inventors were also recognized, with certificates presented at departmental events.

908.5 Similarly, the Faculty recognized a new license for intellectual property signed in the past 12-month period, developed by a Faculty of Science researcher. In 2011-2012, this was:

- **Allan Hay**

c) **Fessenden Prizes and Professorship**

908.6 Dean Grant said that Fessenden Prizes recognize achievements in innovative research with commercialization potential.

908.7 The Fessenden Prize in Science Innovation, **Graduate student category**, was awarded to:

- **Gang Li** , for his design of a centrifugal cryogenic pump.

908.8 The Fessenden Prize in **the Professor category** was awarded to:

- **Pat Kambhampati**, for his work (together with Prof. Zetian Mi) on Quantum dot light-emitting diodes: Solutions for energy efficient lighting

908.9 There was no prize awarded in the Undergraduate student category this year.

908.10 Dean Grant explained that Fessenden Professorships promote the development of spin-off companies and technologies based on intellectually rigorous research. In 2012, the Fessenden Professorship was awarded to:

Pat Kambhampati to further develop the first single-sealed box, commercial, two-dimensional optical spectrometer.

- 908.11** On behalf of the Faculty, Dean Grant congratulated the Fessenden Prize winners and the new Fessenden Professor.
- 908.12** Dean Grant said that Prof. Kambhampati was the seventh recipient of a Fessenden Professorship, and that there had been a celebration in honour of the previous six about a month ago. He said that the Fessenden Prizes and Professorships were the result of a generous donation from the Blachford family, and that one of their aims was to keep researchers in Canada. The Faculty of Science was the first to do this in North America. It was now being copied by the Faculty of Engineering.
- 908.13** Dean Grant said that as a result of discussions with Prof. David Burns, Dr. Erica Besso had been hired, and thanks to her work and to the support of the Blachford family, the Fessenden Prizes and Professorships had been instituted. He thanked Erica for her extremely diligent and hard work in the past six and half years for the Faculty of Science.

(9) RESULTS OF SCIENCE ELECTION FOR SENATE S-11-31

- 909.1** Dean Grant announced the recently elected new Science Senators. He said the terms would begin in the 2012-2013 academic year, and would end in August 2015.
- 909.2** The new Senators are:
 Prof. Graham Bell (Biology)
 Prof. David Harpp (Chemistry)
- 909.3** The Continuing Faculty representatives on Senate, and remaining years to serve, are:
 Prof. Gregory Dudek (Computer Science) - one year
 Prof. Charles Gale (Physics) - one year
 Prof. Peter Grütter (Physics) - two years
 Prof. Jacques Hurtubise (Mathematics & Statistics) - one year
 Prof. Andrew Hynes (Earth & Planetary Sciences) - two years
 Prof. Bruce Lennox (Chemistry) - two years
 Prof. Nigel Roulet (Geography) - two years
- 909.4** Dean Grant thanked Josie D'Amico for organizing the first electronic Senate election.

(10) REPORTS ON ACTIONS OF SENATE

Please note that the entire Minutes of Senate are available on the Web at <http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/senate2011-2012>

Senate Meeting of February 15, 2012 - Prof. D. Harpp

At the start of the Principal's remarks, Senator Barney raised a garbled issue about spectators and eventually it was agreed to have spectators accommodated via a live feed into the Redpath Museum Auditorium. This was the beginning of a torturous meeting and I will try to be very brief so as not to re-live the experience.

Chair's Remarks

The Chair began her remarks by discussing her response to the Jutras Report, thanking community members for their input. She informed Senate that, in response to the Report's first recommendation, Professor Christopher Manfredi had begun developing an

open forum to discuss the meaning and scope of the rights of free expression and peaceful assembly on campus. ED-- Most of this audience are aware of the subsequent meetings that did not attract very many. The first one was attended by 35 counting many from the Administration Building.

Speaking as Principal, the Chair reflected that 300 people worked in the James Building and that their important services – including research, financial and academic services – were interrupted for 5 days.

The Chair then provided remarks on the Strategic Reframing Initiative (SRI), which she placed within the context of anticipated federal and provincial government budgetary restraint and McGill's continued underfunding. She said that the SRI was publicly launched in October 2010 as a disciplined process to examine and improve key areas in the University's administrative practices. The Chair explained that the SRI aimed to allocate McGill's all-too-scarce resources most effectively to support the University's teaching and research missions. Regarding the implementation phase, the Chair told Senate that each project fell under the responsibility of a member of the senior administration, and that each project had its own specific objectives, timeline, measurement for success, and benefits, together contributing to the McGill community in a broad range of areas.

1. Question Regarding the Recognition of Student Referenda

Senator Leung asked about the referendum dispute with CKUT Radio and the Quebec Public Interest Research Group. It was highly complex and I advise the House to read about it on the Senate's website for details and the answer provided by Professor Mendelson.

1. Recent Statements concerning Asbestos Research at McGill University

Senator Eidelman, Vice-Principal (Health Affairs) and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and Senator Goldstein, Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations) spoke on this issue asked Dr. Rebecca Fuhrer to conduct a preliminary investigation and provide a review indicating whether the matter should be referred to McGill's Research Integrity Officer.

Senator Goldstein provided an overview of research policies at McGill (all available online

Ms Kathleen Massey, University Registrar and Executive Director of Enrolment Services, presented the Annual Enrolment Report. It showed the usual mild expansion in both undergraduate and graduate students.

Mr. Drew Love, Director of Athletics and Recreation, delivered this report for the information of Senate. He highlighted the University's partnership with the Alouettes, which covered the operating costs of Molson Stadium, as well as varsity athletes' participation in the Stay in School Program. Mr. Love spoke about the interaction of athletics and academics, with many varsity athletes excelling in the classroom and 7,000 students participating in intramural sports. Mr. Love ended by underlining the importance of athletics and recreation for many alumni, who often give back

Senator Mendelson, Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning), delivered this report for the information of Senate. He told Senate that Student Life and Learning was much larger than his office and featured 675 individuals providing routine services for students like exam scheduling, sorting out visa issues, cleaning residence halls and providing

emergency funding and included faculty members and other individuals concerned with student affairs and student success.

Senator Weinstein, Vice-Principal (Development and Alumni Relations), presented the report to Senate, providing an overview of the achievements of Campaign McGill to date. At the present time we are at about \$700M.

The Provost presented this report of the Academic Policy Committee. He called on Senator Allison, Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, to describe the McGill University-Qatar Institute of Oral Health. Senator Allison explained that this partnership opportunity presents a unique chance for McGill's Faculty of Dentistry to deliver an oral health program involving teaching and research that would enable McGill to promote excellence in education and research on an international level, expand its access to new resources and provide a unique opportunity for staff and students to learn in Qatar.

On motion duly proposed and seconded, Senate approved the creation of the McGill University- Qatar Institute of Oral Health, contingent on the necessary resources being provided by the Qatar Foundation and on the conditions for the successful operation of the programs being agreed on, and so recommend to the Board of Governors.

The Provost also reported that the Academic Policy Committee had revisited the revised thesis review procedures and had reiterated their conformity with the existing Thesis Review Policy. He added that the procedures allowed flexibility as to which person would call an external evaluator.

8. Budget Planning 2012-2013: Report II (D11-39)

The Provost presented the Budget Planning Report for the information of Senate.

The Provost provided Senate with forecasts on FY2012, which projected a deficit of \$6 million. He noted that several unknowns would impact the final budget variance for the year.

There being no other business to deal with, on motion duly proposed and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Senate Meeting of March 21, 2012 - Prof. N. Roulet

The Principal was absent from Senate so the meeting of March 21, 2012 was chaired by Dean Todd. He provided no Chair's remarks but reminded Senators to look at the Principal's kudos. There were no memorial statements.

After an encouraging rapid start, giving Senators a false sense that Senate might conclude its business in under 3 hours for a change, the Chair reviewed the Minutes of the Senate Steering Committee (normal process) when Senator Barney proposed an amendment to Steering Committee's motion that Senate proceedings be broadcast to a location where visitors could be accommodated. This motion was required to extend the practices that had been used for Senate for the last four meetings to the end of the academic year. There was a lengthy discussion over the amendment because: a) the Secretary General took a considerable amount of time articulating the motion; and b) there was general confusion over what the motion actually meant. Even the Dean of Science stated he did not understand the motion! After a half hour Senator Barney withdrew his motion to amend the original motion of Steering Committee, apologized to

Senate for creating confusion and the original motion from Steering Committee was approved.

There was a Members' question concerning sustainability and teaching. In response the Provost provided a detailed accounting of most activities at McGill University related to teaching and research involving sustainability, though his response neglected to recognize two of McGill's longest running research centres that sustainability research – the Global Environmental and Climate Change Centre (GEC3) and the Brace Centre for Water Resources (the Provost said they were in his notes and will be reflected in his written response in the minutes of Senate). The Provost was asked if McGill University was a leader in sustainability education, an aspiration expressed in the 2006 White Paper, and he said he had not done that analysis because it was not in the original question.

Senate then dealt with Motions and Information.

There was an active participant presentation on Excellence in Teaching at McGill University by Professor Cynthia Weston, Director of TLS and her staff. Senators used clickers and were asked to respond to questions on the roles and responsibilities of students, professors, the University, and support services in achieving excellence in teaching. To no ones' surprise the students got the highest grade for how they contributed to excellence and the University barely passed. The subsequent discussion focused on three questions: How can we shape more effective partnerships among the four partners?; What types of support are necessary to achieve teaching excellence; and In your experience, does McGill have the right kinds of kinds of systems in place to encourage teaching excellence?

There was then a presentation of McGill Strategic Enrolment Management by Deputy Provost Mendelson. Student Senators asked if McGill was moving to full file review of applicants, rather than simply a GPA assessment. The Deputy Provost said they were looking at how other large enrollment institutions were doing this and pointed out some McGill Faculties already do more than assess only on GPA. The Deputy Provost said financial aid was given to all students regardless of their origin and pointed McGill still has the largest proportion of foreign students of any university in Canada, but that other universities, particularly some smaller universities were quickly catching up. Dean of Students Everett presented a series of changes that are being considered to the Code of Student Conduct. She said the language of the Code was being updated and that there were a number of irritants that were being dealt with. She assured Senate that the Code would make exciting reading and said she was dedicating her final two months and 10 days as Dean to seeing these changes through.

There was a discussion on Regulations Relating to the Employment of Academic Staff in response to a brief presentation by Associate Provost White. She said Senators should focus the changes to the section on reappointments (mainly cleaning up language); and tenure requirements, particularly a proposed change the weighting of research, teaching and service. As it stands now a superior in two of teaching, research and service and satisfactory in the remainder are required, but the proposal is that there would need to be superior in both research and teaching and at least satisfactory in service. There was considerable debate over the proposed changes to the tenure requirements. The debate focused on whether they devalued service.

The last three items of business in the open part of Senate were the Report of APC, Report on Full Disclosure, and the Report of the Nominating Committee. No questions were raised on these items.

Senate then moved into confidential session to receive the Report of the Nominating Committee for Honourary Degrees. That session will remain confidential.

Senate adjourned far too late at 18:11.

Senate Meeting of April 18, 2012, and May 16, 2012: Reports to be tabled by Prof. G. Dudek and Prof. C. Gale.

(11) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

911.1 A member asked:

1. What would be the B.Sc. tuition fees for international students for the upcoming year?
2. Was the Faculty consulted on the setting of these fees?
3. What proportion of B.Sc. students are international?
4. What are the benefits of international fees for the Faculty?

911.2 Dean Grant said that the fees were increased by 22% at the last minute, but that for any given student, the fees would remain constant during the student's time at McGill. The Faculty was consulted about the fees, and was assured that they were competitive across North America. There were no direct benefits to the Faculty from the international fees, but the Faculty did indirectly benefit from the university having more money. The percentage of B.Sc. students who were international is about 20%, however, only 13% of the B.Sc. students pay the international fee.

(12) OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.