FACULTY OF SCIENCE
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 April 2017, at 3:00 p.m. in Arts Council Room, Arts 160.

PRESENT: Director Nicole Allard (Acting Chair), Professors Huy Bui, Melania Cristescu, Andrew Cumming, Thomas Duchaine, Peter Douglas (in place of Jeanne Paquette), Barbara Hales, Axel Hundemer, Michael Langer, Greg Marczynski, Caroline Palmer, Josie D’Amico.

REGRETS: Dean Bruce Lennox (Chair), Associate Dean Tamara Western (Vice-Chair), Professors Michel Lapointe, Timothy Merlis, Anthony Mittermaier, Ana Nyzhnyk, Kathy Roulet, Ms. Natalie Waters, Mr. Daniel da Costa, Thérèse Koch, Ms. Jasmine Leung, Ms. Elisabeth Sulmont, Ms. Jacqueline Chan, Mr. Gary Tom, Ms. Christina Kim.

GUEST: Prof. Mathieu Blanchette

DOCUMENTS: AC-16-67 to AC-16-75

Director Allard said that Dean Lennox and Associate Dean Western were unable to attend the current meeting. She called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

1) Adoption of Agenda

Prof. Hales moved, seconded by Prof. Palmer, that the Agenda be approved.

The motion carried.

2) Minutes of 21 March 2017 AC-16-67

Prof. Hales moved, seconded by Prof. Palmer, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

3) Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

4) Computer Science

New Course:
COMP 204 Comp. Programming for Life Sci AC-16-68
3 credits
Prof. Mathieu Blanchette, instructor of COMP 204, said that the School of Computer Science was asked to develop an introductory computer programming course specifically tailored to life science students.

Director Allard moved, seconded by Prof. Langer, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

5) Anatomy & Cell Biology

ANAT 321 Circuitry of the Human Brain AC-16-69
3 credits
Change in restrictions

Prof. Bui explained that currently ANAT 321 was restricted to U3 students only. However, after reviewing the course, the instructor agreed to allow U2 students to take ANAT 321 provided that the prerequisites were successfully completed.

Director Allard moved, seconded by Prof. Duchaine, that the above changes be approved.

The motion carried.

ANAT 322 Neuroendocrinology AC-16-70
3 credits
Change in prerequisites

Prof. Bui said that the proposed prerequisite course, PHGY 210, was a more appropriate prerequisite than the current prerequisite, ANAT 261. He added that students in Anatomy & Cell Biology Programs are required to take PHGY 210 in their first year, and hence, would not increase their course load.

Director Allard moved, seconded by Prof. Duchaine, that the above changes be approved.

The motion carried.

The following course was tabled to a future Academic Committee meeting

ANAT 381 Experimental Embryology AC-16-71
3 credits
Change in prerequisites

Prof. Bui explained that BIOL 202 (Basic Genetics), one of two prerequisite courses for ANAT 381, was being removed since genetics is already covered in ANAT 381.

Prof. Duchaine was concerned that by removing BIOL 202 as a prerequisite, students would not gain adequate knowledge in genetics. He emphasized the importance of maintaining depth, and asked for more details on how genetics will be covered in ANAT 381.
Another member pointed out that BIOL 202 is required in the Major & Honours programs in Anatomy & Cell Biology.

Given the above issues, the Committee agreed that ANAT 381 be tabled to a future Academic Committee meeting.

6) Psychology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PSYC 433</th>
<th>Cognitive Science</th>
<th>AC-16-72</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Changes: number change [from -532], schedule type, description, prerequisites, restrictions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prof. Palmer described the proposed changes to PSYC 433 [from -532]. The changes were due to (i) a new instructor teaching the course, (ii) a demand for cognitive science courses in many programs (see list below), and (iii) an increased enrolment from psychology, cognitive science, and neuroscience programs. PSYC 433 will now be taught as a lecture course.

After a short discussion concerning the prerequisites, Director Allard recommended that a short advisory note warning students that some previous knowledge in cognitive science would be ideal. She pointed out that it would be unfair to expect some students to have completed the prerequisite course (PSYC 212 or PSYC 213), whereas no prerequisites would be required for students in the Minor in Cognitive Science. Furthermore, students do not require permission to register for any Minor program in the B.Sc. degree. Prof. Palmer will discuss with the course instructor the exact wording of an advisory note.

Director Allard moved, seconded by Prof. Palmer, that the changes be approved, with the above proviso.

The motion carried.

For information: PSYC 433 will replace PSYC 532 in the following programs:

**PSYC 433 to replace PSYC 532 in List A:**

**B.A. & Sc. programs:**
- Major Concentration Psychology (36 credits)

**B.Sc. programs:**
- Liberal Program - Core Science Component Psychology (45 credits)
- Major Psychology (54 credits)
- Honours Psychology (60 credits)

**B.A. programs:**
- Major Concentration Psychology (36 credits)
- Honours Psychology (60 credits)
- Honours Linguistics (60 credits)
- Minor Concentration Behavioural Science (18 credits)
PSYC 433 to replace PSYC 532 in the list of Complementary Courses, under Psychology B.A. & Sc. programs:
- Interfaculty Program Cognitive Science (54 credits)
- Honours Cognitive Science (60 credits)

PSYC 433 to replace PSYC 532 in the list of Complementary Courses, under Faculty of Science B.Sc. programs:
- Major Neuroscience (65 credits)
- Minor Neuroscience (25 credits)
- Minor Cognitive Science (24 credits)

Secretary's note: After consultation with the course instructor, Prof. Palmer said that the prerequisites would be revised to read: PSYC 212 or PSYC 213.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 507</td>
<td>Emotions, Stress, and Illness</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Change: prerequisites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 529</td>
<td>Music Cognition</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Change: description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

806.7 Prof. Palmer said that the above changes were housekeeping in nature, to update prerequisite number and description.

Director Allard moved, seconded by Prof. Palmer, that the above changes be approved.

The motion carried.

7) Chemistry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 480/480D1/D2</td>
<td>Undergrad Research Project 2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Changes: title, description, prerequisites</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

807.1 Director Allard described the above changes. She said that CHEM 480 was currently restricted to students in the Honours programs, but with the proposed revisions, Majors students will also be able to take an additional research course. CHEM 480 will be a follow-up to CHEM 396.

Director Allard moved, seconded by Prof. Marczynski, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

8) Undergraduate Skills Development Program
808.1 Director Allard briefly described the Undergraduate Skills Development Program, and said that this item will be revisited at a future Academic Committee meeting.

808.2 Director Allard said that the program is a new initiative developed by Teaching & Learning Services (TLS) and loosely modeled on the Graduate Skills Program. The program aims to offer students conflict resolution, communication and professional skills, as well as academic development support. The program will be free, not for credit, and open to all undergraduate students. Participation in the program will be recognized on a student’s McGill Co-Curricular Record which is not part of their academic record. TLS has been consulting with faculties to establish their specific needs. Director Allard said that she would have more information at a future meeting. She welcomed comments and suggestions.

808.3 The suggestions made include:
- writing course for Science students
- courses in research ethics and patents
- Science poster workshops similar to ARIA (Arts Undergraduate Research Internship Award) workshops

Director Allard said that any additional suggestions could be sent to Josie D’Amico (josie.damico@mcgill.ca).

9) SUS Activities

There was no Report.

10) Other Business

810.1 Director Allard thanked the members of the Academic Committee for their diligent work throughout the year. She added that the AC played an important role in the Faculty of Science and at McGill.

There being no further business, Director Allard moved, seconded by Prof. Hales, that the meeting be adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

The motion carried.