

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on November 17, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. in Arts Council Room, Arts 160.

PRESENT: Dean Grant (Chair), Associate Dean Hendren (Vice-Chair); Professors F. Bedford, F. Fabry, A. Hundemer, R. Krahe, A. Maloney (replacing A. Clerk), B. Nagar, P. Panangaden, K. Roulet, J. Unruh, B. Wing; A. Dafoe, J. Kanji, V. Khan, E. Lee; J. D'Amico, Lisa Stanischewski.

REGRETS: N. Allard; Professors B. Cousineau, B. Hales, G. O'Driscoll, D. Ronis, A. Wechsler; L. Houle; A. Ashraf, A. Bezbor, M. Smaoui; Associate Dean Hendershot

GUESTS: Professor Lea Berrang Ford, Department of Geography, and Ms. Wendy Brett, Interdisciplinary Programs Advisor, Faculty of Science

DOCUMENTS: AC-09-31 to AC-09-44

Dean Grant called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- Under Item #11, Other Business: Faculty Review of Courses with no prerequisites and which do not lead into other courses.

Prof. Fabry **moved**, seconded by Prof. Maloney, that the amended Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2009 AC-08-31

Prof. Unruh **moved**, seconded by Ms. Roulet, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

(3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

**(4) REPORT ON MINOR COURSE CHANGES AC-09-32
(for information)**

Associate Dean Hendren briefly went over the Report on Minor Course Changes.

(5) B.A. & Sc.

Program Changes:

- Interfaculty Program in Cognitive Science AC-09-33
- Honours in Cognitive Science AC-09-34

305.1 Ms. Wendy Brett, Interdisciplinary Programs Advisor, Faculty of Science, said that the changes were mainly housekeeping: prerequisite courses were now included in the course lists, some new courses had been added, and retired courses removed.

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

The motion carried.

305.2 Associate Dean Hendren thanked Wendy Brett for her work in updating the programs in Cognitive Science.

(6) SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT

ENVR 400	Environmental Thought Changes in prerequisites and restrictions 3 credits	AC-09-35
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Ms. Roulet **moved**, seconded by Prof. Fabry, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

(7) BIOCHEMISTRY

Program Changes:

- Major in Biochemistry	AC-09-36
- Honours in Biochemistry	AC-09-37

307.1 Prof. Nagar explained that the program changes were needed to make the requirement for CHEM 212 explicit, with some reorganization to minimize the impact on the total credit weights of the programs.

Prof. Nagar **moved**, seconded by Prof. Maloney, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

Course Retirement:

BIOC 460	Advanced Lab in Biochemistry 6 credits	AC-09-38
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307.2 Prof. Nagar said that with the introduction of BIOC 462, BIOC 460 was no longer needed.

Prof. Nagar **moved**, seconded by Prof. Fabry, that the course retirement be approved.

The motion carried.

(8) EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE

Course renumbered from ATOC/EPSC/GEOG 104:

ESYS 104	The Earth System 3 credits	AC-09-39
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308.1 Prof. Fabry said that the triple prefix course, ATOC/EPSC/GEOG 104, had been created about five years ago, but with the introduction of the Earth System Science Program, reassigning the course to ESYS would make its administration simpler.

Prof. Fabry **moved**, seconded by Prof. Wing, that the above change be approved.

The motion carried.**Course Retirement:**

ATOC 104	The Earth System 3 credits	AC-09-40
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Course Retirement:

GEOG 104	The Earth System 3 credits	AC-09-41
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Prof. Fabry **moved**, seconded by Prof. Wing, that the above course retirements be approved.

The motion carried.**(9) COMPUTER SCIENCE****New Course:**

COMP 559	Fund. Computer Animation 4 credits	AC-09-42
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Prof. Panangaden **moved**, seconded by Prof. Unruh, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.**Program Changes:**

- Major in Computer Science: Computer Games Option	AC-09-43
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310.1 Prof. Panangaden said that the introduction of COMP 559 would require only straightforward changes to almost all of the programs in Computer Science; hence these programs were simply listed in the Course Proposal Form for COMP 559. In the case of the Major in Computer Science: Computer Games Option, the situation was more complex, which was why this change was being presented to the Academic Committee.

Prof. Panangaden **moved**, seconded by Prof. Wing, that the change be approved.

The motion carried.**(10) GEOGRAPHY**

GEOG 503	Advanced Topics in Health Geog Changes: activities, title, description, prerequisites, and restrictions 3 credits	AC-09-44
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310.1 Prof. Berrang Ford explained that GEOG 503 had actually been approved previously as a new course, but it was discovered that the number 503 could not be used for a new course. Thus the course was being brought back as a major revision to the existing GEOG 503.

310.2 It was pointed out that since major work cannot be expected of students in the final two weeks of classes, the deadline for submission of the final paper would have to be changed (Evaluation, Final Paper, Page 2 of course outline).

Prof. Unruh **moved**, seconded by Prof. Maloney that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

(11) OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Faculty Review of Courses with no Prerequisites and which do not Lead into Other Courses (Orphan Courses)

Dean Grant said that while there were valid reasons for general interest orphan courses such as The History of Music, in a Science program orphan courses which were not general interest seemed anomalous. The Faculty would therefore undertake a review of such courses in B.Sc. programs.

(ii) In response to a member's question concerning whether there was a Faculty regulation relating to 100% final exams, Dean Grant said there was not, but that there should be a good academic reason for a 100% final exam. He said that while sometimes a Faculty rule could be useful, in this case it would be infringing on the responsibilities of chairs/directors. However, he would bring up the issue at the next Chairs Meeting on November 18, 2009.

There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.