Attendance: As per Faculty Appendix Book.
Documents: A-17-8 to A-17-11

Order
Dean Maioni welcomed members to the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m.

Agenda
301.1 Professor Macchi (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) moved approval of the agenda, seconded by Ms. Wilson. Carried.

Announcements
302.1 There were no announcements.

Minutes of Faculty of November 21, 2017
303.1 Ms. Wilson moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Professor Alonso-Ovalle (Linguistics). Carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes
304.1 There was no business arising.

Members’ Question Period
305.1 No questions were submitted.

Report on the Actions of Senate -
306.1 Dean Maioni explained that there will no longer be any reports submitted by Arts Senators to Faculty Council meetings. If the Senators feel there is a need for a discussion about issues raised at Senate meetings, they may do so at any Faculty Council meeting.

306.2 There were no items to report to members from the Senate meetings held on January 17, 2018 and February 21, 2018.

Report of the Dean

307.1 The Dean reported on the following:

- Federal budget news for 2018-19: there was good news concerning research funding. The three funding councils that the University relies on for a great deal of research funding for individuals, for research groups, and for research centres will receive an additional $925 million in funding over the next five years. The following items are most relevant to Arts:
  - The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) will receive $215.5 million over the next five years, this is a good increase. It is important to note that, perhaps for the first time, SSHRC was now on par in terms of the division of the money alongside NSERC and CIHR. In other words, the total dollar amounts are less for SSHRC than NSERC and CIHR but the portion of new funding is larger than it has been. This is very good news for those in social sciences and humanities.
  - Another very important initiative for Arts will be the creation of a new Tri-council fund that will support research that is international, interdisciplinary, fast-breaking and higher-risk, research projects (some of which were established in the Naylor Report). The fund will provide $275 million over five years.
  - The Canada Research Chairs (CRC) Program will receive an additional $210 million over five years with the aim to create 250 new chairs.
  - The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) will receive $763 million over five years to establish a more robust level of funding for those researchers who team into these very innovative projects.
  - A further $582.5 million over five years to implement additional research infrastructure strategy to provide access to advanced computing and “big data” resources to researchers.

- There are three new research chairs in Arts. This was a very robust and difficult competition because of the quality of the researchers in the Faculty. The internal chairs have been announced: Professor Vincent Pouliot (Political Science) has been awarded a James McGill Professorship, Professor Tim O’Donnell (Linguistics) has been awarded a William Dawson Scholar, and Professor Celine Le Bourdais (Sociology) has been named Distinguished James McGill Professor. Faculty applauded.

- Professor Garth Green has been named the new Director of the School of Religious Studies. Faculty applauded.

- Chairs and Directors have received their salary policy information.

- Finally, tomorrow will be the McGill 24 campaign. This is a very important event held by University Advancement that will be a day long fundraising event. Last year McGill University raised $1.4 million in twenty-four hours. The Dean encouraged everyone to contact colleagues to participate in this very important event.

307.2 This concluded the Dean’s report.
Report of the Associate Deans

Academic Administration and Oversight

308.1 Associate Dean Lane-Mercier reported on the following:

- An important item that should be disseminated widely amongst the undergraduate students: the University has created a special fund to pilot an Enriched Educational Opportunity bursary program (EEO). These are unpaid, off-campus, professional, and research internships and are part of the University’s commitment to expand such opportunities for full-time undergraduate students. These EEOs are non-repayable and are, therefore, considered to be forms of financial assistance based on demonstrated financial need.

For Arts undergraduate students, a pilot program will be run out of the Arts Internship Office (AIO). AIO will determine which opportunities are eligible for funding and it will also provide a vetting process as well as pre-internship training sessions. More details about this new initiative will be provided by AIO.

- Update on the third year of the pilot project with Northeastern University (NU). In fall 2017 there were 133 students from NU who enrolled in a total of eight pre-selected Arts courses. This was an increase from 102 students in fall 2016. The good news for Arts is that the partnership generates revenue: the net revenue for fall 2016 was just over $400,000; and, for fall 2017 the net revenue was approximately $563,000. This is a significant increase. The cohort next fall is expected to be even larger than in past years.

The Faculty decided to top up its Summer Session 2018 budget by $100,000 which enabled the Faculty to offer more courses for this coming summer session. Discussions with the Dean were ongoing on how to enhance other programs using the remaining $463,000 from the revenue of the NU project. Last year the T.A. budget was topped up.

- The Chairs and Directors will be receiving their T.A. budget allocations for 2018-19 shortly. There is a large gap between the budget received from the administration of $2,850,000 and the requests made from the various units which total $3,440,000. A decision on how much the T.A. budget will be topped has not yet been determined.

Research and Graduate Studies

308.2 The Dean conveyed the regrets of Associate Dean Engle-Warnick.

Student Affairs

308.3 The Dean conveyed the regrets of Associate Dean Lach.

308.4 Dean Maioni thanked Associate Dean Lane-Mercier for the report.
Report of the Curriculum Committee

309.1  Associate Dean Lane-Mercier moved approval of the Report of the Curriculum Committee ‘en bloc’, seconded by Ms. Wilson.

The report contained the following proposals:

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Proposed program title change and program revisions:
Major Concentration in Latin American and Caribbean Studies (formerly Major Concentration in Latin American Studies)

Proposed program revisions:
Honours in International Development Studies
Joint Honours in International Development Studies
Major Concentration in International Development Studies
Minor Concentration in International Development Studies

LANGUAGES, LITERATURES, AND CULTURES
Proposed program retirement:
Major Concentration Hispanic Studies – Literature and Culture

Proposed program revisions:
Honours Hispanic Studies
Joint Honours Component Hispanic Studies

Proposed program title change and program revisions:
Major Concentration in Hispanic Studies

309.2  The motion carried.

Latin American & Caribbean Studies Interdisciplinary Program Committee

310.1  The Annual Report was accepted.

Gender, Sexuality, Feminist & Social Justice Studies Program Committee

311.1  The Annual Report was accepted.

Report of the Activities of the Arts Undergraduate Society

312.1  Ms. Wilson reported on the following:
- The elections were held to determine the new Executive, Arts Representatives to SSMU, and Arts Senators.
- A textbook lending service will be implemented.
• The Arts Valedictorian Selection Process was in process for Groups A, B, and C of the June 2018 Convocation ceremony.
• Preparations for the AUS/SUS graduation ball was underway.
• The Arts Undergraduate Improvement Fund Committee met recently and allocated over $202,000 to Capital Improvements for Arts students and Arts faculty members.

312.2 Dean Maioni thanked Ms. Wilson for the report and for her hard work of the past year. The Dean also noted that Ms. Wilson attended the recent lecture by former First Lady Michelle Obama. The Dean said that this was a very exciting event to have taken part in.

Report of the Graduate Students
313.1 There was no report. Dean Maioni was hoping that there was a way to solicit graduate students to fill the seats available to them in this assembly. Ms. Wilson said that the AUS would reach out to PGSS about this.

Other Business
314.1 There was no other business.

Adjournment
315.1 The meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.