

**FACULTY OF ARTS
Minutes of Meeting
March 8, 2016
Robert Vogel Council Room**

Attendance: As per Faculty Appendix Book.

Documents: A-15-13 to A-15-17

Order

Interim Dean Meadwell welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Resolution on the death of Professor Donald Von Eschen

501.1 Professor van den Berg (Sociology) presented the following resolution:

“ It is with great sadness that the Department of Sociology notes the death of our retired colleague and teacher, Professor Donald Von Eschen, in his home on December 28th at the age of 81 years. Don taught at McGill for 43 years to many generations of devoted students.

Don was born in Emmetsberg, Iowa, in 1934. He received a BA *magna cum laude* in political science from Beloit College in 1956, an MA in political science from the University of Chicago in 1960 and his PhD in social relations from the Johns Hopkins University in 1967, writing his dissertation on the impact of agricultural economics on rural politics. At Johns Hopkins Don was among a small group of star students working under the guidance of the legendary James Coleman and Arthur Stinchcombe. After a brief teaching stint at Vanderbilt University, Don joined McGill’s Department of Sociology in 1967.

At McGill Don taught courses at all levels on Social Change, Development and Underdevelopment, Social Stratification, Political Sociology, Social Movements and Social Theory, among others. He supervised or co-supervised more than three dozen MA and PhD theses in an astonishingly wide range of topics. His graduate students have found academic positions across the North American continent and, indeed, across the world, from Toronto to Taiwan, from Chicago to Dhaka.

Throughout his many years at McGill Don contributed to the life of the University community by serving on a host of committees at all levels of university governance. Don served as Chair of the Sociology Department from 1978 until 1984, in the aftermath of a period of serious strife and turmoil. Don’s steady hand and reputation for impeccable fairness were instrumental in turning the Department into a haven of civility and collegiality ever since.

During the 1960s, while he was working on his PhD, Don became an active participant as well as a keen sociological observer of the civil rights movement. This interest produced a highly influential series of articles on the processes of formation and dissolution of social movements, many of them co-authored with his friend and colleague, Maurice Pinard. From the late 1970s onward Don returned to his interest in rural development, inequality and politics by joining forces with his student Suraj Bandyopadhyay and his friend and colleague in Anthropology, Don Attwood, to undertake a major survey and analysis of the social and political sources of cooperation and development in rural India. This work produced two major volumes to which Don contributed several articles. In his final years Don turned his attention to competing social-scientific approaches to the explanation of social stratification. Don started writing a massive, characteristically comprehensive review of the major theoretical traditions when his deteriorating health forced him to abandon this project.

Don Von Eschen will be remembered by his many friends, his devoted students and his colleagues, for the immense breadth of his erudition and his even greater curiosity, for his exceptional generosity and fairness, and perhaps most of all, for having taught us all how to always look at things from more than one perspective. He is sorely missed.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, March 11th, 2016, from 3:00pm to 5:00pm in the Birks' Building Chapel."

- 501.2 Interim Dean Meadwell noted that the resolution was unanimously accepted and that the Faculty would forward a copy of the resolution to the family.

Agenda

- 502.1 Professor Trehearne (English) **moved** approval of the agenda, seconded by Mr. Gilling.
Carried.

Announcements

- 503.1 Interim Dean Meadwell announced that information about the deadlines and the nominating process for the H. Noel Fieldhouse Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Arts Graduate Student Teaching Awards can be found on the Arts web page.

Minutes of Faculty of January 25, 2016

A-15-13

- 504.1 Interim Dean Meadwell reported that the minutes would be available on the web as soon as possible after the meeting.

Business Arising from the Minutes

- 505.1 There was no business arising.

Members' Question Period

506.1 No questions were submitted.

Report on the Actions of Senate - Senate meeting of February 17, 2016

507.1 Interim Dean Meadwell noted that the report for the Senate meeting held on February 17th was available on web. Members did not have any questions regarding the report. The report can be found at: <http://www.mcgill.ca/arts/facultystaff/facultymeetings/faculty-meetings-restricted>

Detailed minutes of Senate meetings can be found at: <http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/senate-2015-2016>.

507.2 The Interim Dean thanked Senator Ponech (English) for the report.

Report of the Dean

508.1 Interim Dean Meadwell reported on the following:

- As an update, the School of Public Policy was approved by Senate and the next and final stage in terms of institutional creation will be the Board of Governors. The curriculum for the Master of Public Policy was now before SCTP for approval and then will be followed by APC and Senate. Following these approvals, there will be a hiatus while the program and the curriculum are prepared for presentation to the provincial government.
- Another update was that as of May 1st the Faculty of Religious Studies will become a School within Arts. A search for a Director will begin shortly and a search committee will be formed that will consist of the Arts Interim Dean with representation from both the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Religious Studies. It was hoped that the Director would be able to begin as of January 1, 2017. The directorship will be open to both internal and external candidates.
- Chairs and Directors have been provided with information concerning salary policy which was now underway.
- The hiring process continues in the Faculty with some offers still out. It has been a successful recruiting season.
- The review of the administrative reorganization, specifically the Service Centres, was now complete. A report will be prepared and ready for review by the incoming Dean.
- The incoming Dean will begin as of July 1, 2016.

508.2 This concluded the Interim Dean's report.

Report of the Associate DeansAcademic Administration and Oversight

509.1 Associate Dean Lane-Mercier reported on the following:

- It has been confirmed that the University will be selling the Peel row houses, this will affect the Faculty as it has several units located in the row houses on Peel.

These houses are very expensive to maintain and are in bad structural shape. 3465 and 3475 will be the first two house to be put on the market. Meetings have begun with the occupants and representatives from Campus Space and Planning to determine what their space needs are. The plan will be to move the occupants to renovated space on the first and second floors of the Ferrier Building.

There is a very well used screening room in one of the row houses. A meeting will take place with myself, the Chair of the Department of English, and representatives from Campus Space and Planning to discuss this important issue and to find an interim space. The overall plan for the screening room was for it to be reconstructed in the new Wilson Hall. The renovations to Wilson Hall have now been stalled by government requirements.

- The renovations to Wilson Hall were slated to begin in early 2018 with a completion date of 2020.
- The Arts portico camouflage has been removed but the project continues with minor masonry work.
- The project to replace the ventilation system in Moyse Hall will begin mid-June to mid-August. An important note to Arts/Ferrier occupants was the fact that the entire third floor access of the Arts Building will be closed off. The academic offices there will be relocated. This also means that there will be no access to the Ferrier Building via the third floor of the Arts Building. This closure was due to safety precautions.
- The Leacock Terrace Project had begun. This was a very unstable area due to water infiltration which has made the area structurally unsound. Exploratory work has already begun. The replacement of the waterproof membrane on the Leacock Terrace and of portions of the structural slab will begin June and run until October. This work will cause accessibility issues with many of the entrances closed during the work. This will be noisy work, however, exams periods and Convocation period etc. will be respected.
- Furniture for the shared lounge, Leacock 908, was being delivered today.

509.2 Professor Trehearne expressed his concern over the amalgamation of classrooms Arts 145 and Arts 150 into one large super classroom. While he understood the importance of this for his department given the interim need for a screening room due to the sale of 3475 Peel he felt some regret about this renovation. Professor Trehearne pointed out that these were very desirable mid-sized classrooms with heritage features as well as classrooms with daylight. Learning now that eventually the screening room will be relocated to Wilson Hall makes this even more regrettable.

Research and Graduate Studies

509.3 Associate Dean Engle-Warnick reported on the following:

- Interviews were being held to fill the position of Grants Administrator to help with the grant writing submission process and an offer should be made soon.
- Offers were out for a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship; one for Art History was accepted and there is one offer pending.
- The Province announced recently that postdocs were now considered employees of the University. There are approximately 50 postdocs in Arts. No further details

were available as the announcement was not yet official. If there are any issues about this members should contact the Office of the Associate Dean.

Student Affairs

- 509.4 Associate Dean Lach reported on the following:
- The University was in the process of drafting a health and wellness strategy that was currently more student oriented but integrates a Faculty perspective into how the mission of the University and health and wellness intersect with one another. The document will be circulated to members for feedback once it becomes available.
 - Another emerging draft document on Sexual Assault Policy will be circulated to members for their feedback. The name may be changed to Sexual Violence Policy.
 - Creation of a fall break was still being discussed. It has been agreed that the fall break will not take place around Thanksgiving and there was no unanimous support for decreasing the term length from 13 weeks to 12 weeks. The impact of a two day fall break sometime around the end of October or beginning of November around a weekend was still being investigated. It will be hard to implement without some kind of implications. The survey said that it was important to pursue.
 - The Associate Dean (Student Affairs) and Provost Manfredi have reviewed the Freshman Program requirements at various universities across the country and in the United States because the faculty's requirements were so complex. This was an ongoing exercise to determine if it would be possible to simplify the faculty's Freshman Program requirements.
- 509.5 Interim Dean Meadwell thanked the Associate Deans for the reports.

Report of the Curriculum Committee

A-15-12

- 510.1 Associate Dean Lane-Mercier **moved** approval of the Report of the Curriculum Committee 'en bloc', seconded by Professor Everett (Langue et littérature françaises).

The report contained the following proposals:

LINGUISTICS

Proposed Program revisions:

Ph.D. in Linguistics, Language Acquisition Option CC-15-133

QUEBEC STUDIES

Proposed Program revisions:

Major Concentration in Quebec Studies CC-15-132A

Minor Concentration in Quebec Studies CC-15-132B

Proposed New course:

QCST 200 CC-15-132

- 510.2 The motion **carried**.

Report of the Activities of the Arts Undergraduate Society

- 511.1 Mr. Gillling reported on the following:
- Elections have been completed! Current executives will start transitioning the

- newly elected executives this month, until late April.
- Our MOA with the DPSSL has been signed! SNAX is now selling sandwiches again.
 - We have decided to replace our Executive Assistant by 2-3 student positions to perform the tasks, in order to provide student jobs, but also because the new arrangement is much more flexible.
 - The following questions will be presented for our Winter referendum:
 1. Renewing Arts Computer Lab Fee at a reduced fee level
 2. Cleaning up references to FEARC in the AUS Constitution
 3. Revising portfolio mandates of VP Social and VP External
 4. Revising constitution to allow flexibility around AUS External Assistant hiring
 - The Arts-Peer-to-Peer Research Symposium was a success with over 10 students presenting their research.
 - Currently working with AUS President and VP Finance to restructure ASEP, in coordination with Associate Dean Engle-Warnick.
 - The Valedictorian and Teaching Awards Selection Committee will be meeting in mid-March. We will also host an awards ceremony for the best professor, best TA and best advisor in early April.
 - Our listserv issues with MailChimp have been fixed, and listservs are out as normal!
 - Free coffee was given out by the Marketing Committee on February 19th and was a great success.
 - Our AUS lounge redesign is under way, thank you to the AUIF for approving our application!
 - Grad Ball is planned for March 19th, tickets are selling out quickly.

A detailed report can be found at:

<https://www.mcgill.ca/arts/facultystaff/facultymeetings/faculty-and-chairs-meetings-restricted>

511.2 Interim Dean Meadwell thanked Mr. Gilling for the report.

Report of the Graduate Students

512.1 Interim Dean Meadwell said a report would be presented at the next meeting.

Other Business

513.1 There was no other business.

Adjournment

514.1 The meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.