

FACULTY OF ARTS
Minutes of Meeting
November 24, 2015
Robert Vogel Council Room

Attendance: As per Faculty Appendix Book.

Documents: A-15-1 Revised A-15-6 A-15-7 A-15-8

Order

Interim Dean Meadwell welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.

Interim Dean Meadwell said that the first piece of business was to ask the assembly for permission to give Ms. Kristen Perry, Mr. Andrew Stein, and Ms. Emily Boytinck of Divest McGill speaking rights so that they could make a presentation under agenda Item 7 and so that they could respond to questions. Members **agreed**.

Resolution on the death of Emeritus Professor David Williams

301.1 Professor Bray (Department of English) presented the following resolution:

“The Department of English salutes Professor David Williams with much sadness and regret at his passing. He was Professor Emeritus in this Department and a much-published, internationally noted scholar and teacher, especially in medieval studies, yet with wide-ranging literary and historical interests in both his writing and pedagogy. He died at his home in Montreal on Sunday, October 18, 2015.

Born in Boston, Massachusetts, on 12 February 1939, he studied first at Boston University from 1957 to 1961, where he obtained a B.A. in English Literature. He then proceeded to The Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies at the University of Toronto, where he received an M.A. in English and Medieval Studies in 1964 and a Ph.D. in 1970. The central topics of his graduate studies were the great Old English poem *Beowulf*, Anglo-Saxon law, and medieval biblical exegesis.

In 1967 David came to McGill’s Department of English as a Lecturer, then became Assistant Professor in 1970, Associate Professor in 1974, and Professor in 1985. He did great service to the Department of English by chairing it for many years, from 1979 to 1990, through which he profoundly influenced its future development. He was a member of McGill’s Senate from 1972 to 1975 and from 1989 to 1992, and served on numerous Senate Committees. In 1992, he became President of the McGill Association of University Teachers, and between 1983 and 1999 he provided extensive additional service to this Association and its members as a Grievance Officer. He further helped found the Catholic Studies program at McGill, and was the first scholar named to the Kennedy Smith Chair of Catholic Studies, a position he

held from 2000 until 2002. Upon his retirement from this university, he became Visiting Professor at Ave Maria University in Naples, Florida, and taught there from 2004 until 2011. He was appointed Professor Emeritus by McGill University in 2006.

A prolific author, David published five monographs, including two on the poetry of Geoffrey Chaucer, and twenty-one articles, besides co-authoring, editing, or co-editing four additional books. His most acclaimed monograph, *Deformed Discourse: The Function of the Monster in Mediaeval Thought and Literature*, was awarded the Raymond Klibansky Prize (now called the Canada Prize) for the Most Outstanding Book in the Humanities in 1999. In 2000, he was elected a member of the Académie Européenne des sciences, des arts, et des lettres, and in 2002 he was named Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques by le Ministre de l'Education nationale de France. He also gave several invited lectures at the Sorbonne.

Both within and beyond the Department of English, David gave his former students and colleagues in the academy many fond and enduring memories of his uniquely droll and ready wit, his deep learning and acuity, his panache, and his profound dedication to the advancement of younger scholars, the Department of English, the university, medieval studies, and the humanities. In the words of Geoffrey Chaucer, '*And gladly wolde he lerne and gladly teche.*' He is sorely missed."

- 301.2 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

- 302.1 Professor Coleman **moved** approval of the agenda, seconded by Professor Sharp. **Carried.**

Announcements

- 303.1 There were no announcements.

Seating of Student Members

A-15-1 Revised

- 304.1 The Interim Dean welcomed the students, whose names have been added to the list, to the meeting and thanked them for the time and effort they will be devoting to the Faculty. The revised list of student representatives on Faculty committees for 2015-2016 was accepted.

Minutes of Faculty of October 27, 2015

A-15-6

- 305.1 Professor Burman **moved** approval of the minutes, seconded by Professor Bray. **Carried.**

Business Arising from the Minutes

- 306.1 There was no business arising.

Members' Question Period

- 307.1 No questions were submitted.

Motion: Arts to support Divest McGill's petition to the Board of Governors A-15-7

- 308.1 Interim Dean Meadwell said that the representatives of Divest McGill will begin by presenting a PowerPoint presentation. This will be followed by a question and answer session. The presentation will be posted on the Arts web page along with contact information for Divest McGill.
- 308.2 Interim Dean Meadwell asked that an electronic vote be held on this motion. The voting timeline will be from noon November 25th until noon November 30th. [**Secretary's Note: the period for the e-vote has changed but the change was clearly indicated on the website and related communications to members of Faculty Council**]. Council was informed that the Secretary would communicate the instructions for the voting process to all members the next morning.

Interim Dean Meadwell opened the floor to discussion.

- 308.3 Members voiced concern about the authority of the Chair to delegate this vote as an electronic vote. Interim Dean Meadwell responded by stating that electronic votes have been held in the past and these eVotes did not require support or a motion to acquire the approval of the assembly. The Interim Dean also pointed out that there was nothing in the procedures that regulate these meetings that indicates that a motion to do an eVote must be put forward. Proceeding with an eVote gives an opportunity for members not present at the meeting to participate in the voting and because this was a body that is often sensitive to numbers in attendance (quorum), it is in the best interest of the movers to go forward with an electronic vote.
- 308.4 In response to a query about the number for quorum, Interim Dean Meadwell said that the number for quorum was fifty. Members asked that a count be taken and recorded. Interim Dean Meadwell and Associate Dean Engle-Warnick counted thirty members present. The Interim Dean reminded members should anyone call quorum that the meeting was then adjourned. This would not be a desired outcome for a vote of this importance and, thus, the reasoning behind proceeding with an electronic vote.
- 308.5 It was suggested that a recorded straw vote be taken to do justice to the deliberation that will follow the reading of the motion to obtain the opinion of the members present. Interim Dean Meadwell accepted this suggestion and said that he would call an indicative vote at the end of the discussion, which would be communicated in the information sent to all members for the electronic vote. The Interim Dean pointed out that this indicative vote does not in any way bind the Faculty. Members accepted this arrangement.
- 308.6 The PowerPoint presentation began with Ms. Boytinck, Ms. Perry, and Mr. Stein elaborating on the slides. The presentation can be found at:

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

308.7 The following is a summary of the slides:

- Divest McGill – for a fossil free endowment
- Facts about current fossil fuel reserves and climate change
- What we can do about the situation
- McGill's environmental policy
- Fossil fuel divestment; unethical business; a worldwide movement; and victories
- McGill's investments and the history of Divest McGill
- Activities of Divest McGill and moving forward for our future.

The presentation ended and Faculty applauded.

A question period began.

308.8 Professor Galbraith (Economics) said that he had one serious worry concerning what would happen when Canadians sell off their interests in Canadian natural resources in light of foreign interest in the ownership of Canadian natural resources. He asked the presenters, How do you feel about the possibility of foreigners owning our natural resources?

308.9 Ms. Perry (Divest McGill) replied that something that has often been discussed as an alternative to divestment is shareholder action. Whoever holds those stocks has some impact on the company, however, shareholder action has repeatedly been shown not to be effective. People have been bringing forward resolutions for a long time to try to positively influence their companies and this has failed. Nothing can be done, she said, if other investors are purchasing these stocks. It is really not about the financial impact but about the social and political impact. It would be a big positive statement that McGill could take to say that it is not acceptable what these fossil fuel companies are doing.

308.10 Mr. Biggs said he was confused with regard to the impact the political and social effectiveness could have on the companies if other interested parties buy their assets, won't they still have money in the end? How big a social impact will that be if they still acquire the capital?

308.11 Ms. Boytinck (Divest McGill) responded that this movement is not about bankrupting these companies. What is really important is to recognize that if McGill were to say that it was their mission to invest in the future and that McGill wants to listen to their own science experts and they publicly announce that they don't want their money in this, this would be a huge step forward. When one looks at institutions that have already divested, for example Stanford University, who recently divested from the coal industry, there is a lot of media coverage that occurred because of this action. As stated earlier, every time other time where divestment has been implemented, for instance in South Africa it was tobacco, it has resulted in public policy which matches it. Our goal is to influence public opinion and policy rather than the bank accounts of the fossil fuel industry. In terms of this, divestment has been extremely effective in the past.

- 308.12 Professor Burman (Art History and Communication Studies) expressed her gratitude to the students and the members of Divest McGill for this voluntary cross faculty initiative that they worked very hard on and made very impressive gains in the last few years. Professor Burman congratulated the students, belatedly, for receiving from the University last spring the Catalyst Prize. Professor Burman concluded by asking if the students could talk about the committee that they have been dealing with: CAMSR.
- 308.13 Ms. Perry (Divest McGill) informed members that a couple of students have been representatives on the Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility (CAMSR). Essentially the McGill Board of Governors is the one that has the power to make the final decisions. However, they delegate everything to committees. So we are lucky at McGill to have a formal process to go through and express ourselves as community members if we are concerned about something. So we brought forward a petition and social injury brief to the committee. They invite you to present and they do what they have to in order to gather information and make their decisions. The first time we went to the committee we were successful in changing our terms of reference.
- 308.14 Mr. Sobat said that he understood that their goal was not financial, but he asked if the students could speak about the market performance of the fossil fuels that McGill has invested in over the last few years.
- 308.15 Mr. Stein (Divest McGill) said that oil prices are inherently volatile. The leading economic forecasters, none of them, saw the oil crash coming. Recently a study released by the Corporate Knights which looked at several portfolios, one of which was McGill's, concluded that by not divesting in oil companies three years ago McGill essentially left 43 million Canadian dollars on the table because portfolios without fossil fuel holdings outperformed those portfolios invested in fossil fuels.
- 308.16 Professor Galbraith asked if we have considered doing what Stanford University has done by divesting from coal. He said that this struck him as a place where we could have a certain moral authority. South Africa was a situation where we said, "these are human rights issues, we don't want to be associated with this situation"; this was a moral issue where we had a certain legitimacy. He said with coal one can make the same argument because, as far as he knew, it is a particularly dirty fuel that we can pretty well entirely avoid. However, there is, he stated, an issue that in the poorer countries where there is the need to use it more. But, he said, this is not something for us to decide. Divesting from oil, generally though, which Stanford University did not decide to do, is trickier because we all use it and putting ourselves in the position where we say "look this is not compatible with our values" seems odd when universities are burning it and we are all burning it. Coal is something that he felt he could sign on to. Professor Galbraith concluded by asking the students if they thought about going this way first?
- 308.17 Ms. Boytinck responded to the first point that Professor Galbraith made and that was "why we want to divest while we are still using oil". This was brought up specifically a lot at Divest McGill's first presentation to CAMSR. She said that they really understand that society is highly dependent on fossil fuels right now especially oil. So as a climate change activist she recognizes that she could go live off the grid a completely carbon neutral lifestyle but, Ms. Boytinck said, she would make no impact on how the rest of society lives.

Therefore it is very important that we do not disregard political action because we are scared of being hypocritical. It is not possible to get off fossil fuels tomorrow but in order to do so we must take that political action first.

- 308.18 In response to the second point raised by Professor Galbraith concerning why we don't potentially just try to divest from coal, Ms. Boytinck said that this was something that they have thought about specifically at Divest McGill which would have a really big impact. When you look at the national level at Canada, the tar sands is actually a huge issue and so this would be something Divest McGill would really be amenable to: as a first step, divesting from the tar sands. The Alberta tar sands are actually equally dirty, in that sense, they are very carbon intensive. It takes a lot of energy to get the tar sands out of the ground which ends up being a very energy intensive way of getting energy. This is something that they think could have a really strong impact in Canada in a much larger way than coal can. Coal is certainly another step that could be useful but, for now, the petition is to divest from all fossil fuel companies of the carbon tracker initiative and if CAMSR says that this is something they cannot do or will not recommend then Divest McGill will begin to start looking into ways that we can potentially negotiate with them.

The question period ended.

- 308.19 Interim Dean Meadwell, on behalf of the assembly, thanked Mr. Stein, Ms. Perry, and Ms. Boytinck for an excellent presentation. Faculty applauded.
- 308.20 Interim Dean Meadwell said that the assembly could move into a more general discussion of the motion that was on the floor.
- 308.21 Mr. Kpeglo-Hennessey asked if the minutes of the meeting could be expedited so that all members participating in the electronic vote can have access to the full discussion held today. Interim Dean Meadwell said this was an excellent idea and that the sections of the minutes concerning the motion will be posted by the mid-point of the time period for the electronic vote.
- 308.22 Interim Dean Meadwell was asked to read the motion. The Interim Dean read:
- “BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty of Arts supports Divest McGill’s Petition to the Board of Governors’ Committee to Advise on Matters Of Social Responsibility (CAMS), which proposes that McGill divest its holdings from the top 200 fossil fuel companies;
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Faculty of Arts communicates its support of Divest McGill’s petition to CAMS, and urges the Committee to advise the Board of Governors to divest from said Companies.”
- 308.23 Professor Nystrom, as one of the movers of the motion, wished to inform members as to why it was put together. As Divest McGill has noted, the Board’s Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility is currently deliberating on Divest McGill’s petition and it is seeking counsel from various sources. As a result, he said, the movers see this motion as way by which we can go to the Board as key stakeholders in this institution concerning this

matter. He wanted to note the importance of divestment as a strategy and as setting an example. Professor Nystrom referred to way in which McGill has shown leadership as the first Canadian university to divest from companies doing business in South Africa's apartheid regime.

- 308.24 Professor Nystrom stated that it would send a very powerful message for the alma mater of the new Prime Minister should we divest from fossil fuel companies. Professor Nystrom said, on a personal note, that students at Divest McGill are doing the thing that we would want our students to do and that is that they are taking the knowledge they are learning in their classes and acting on it to better the world. He continued by saying that last year he attended a meeting at which Divest McGill gave a presentation much like the one given today and he was so inspired that he joined their campaign even though he really did not have the time to participate. He noted that it was not for nothing that Divest McGill was given the Catalyst Prize from McGill for all the hard work and outreach in educating the public. They have done all the heavy lifting and we have the easy part – we just need to add our voice to theirs.
- 308.25 Mr. Sobat pointed out that the Arts Undergraduate Society Council unanimously endorsed the same motion last week and noted as well that the Student Society of McGill University and the Post Graduate Student Society have both recently given mandates to support the Divest McGill petition.
- 308.26 Professor Mikkelsen wanted to make a short comment on why divest from oil specifically noting that we are currently dependent on oil but we have to start “stopping”. He said the main thing blocking progress in getting on with divesting from oil is the fossil fuel companies through their goals, actions, lobbying, and just their normal business practices supplying us with as much oil as they can.
- 308.27 Professor Barney took the opportunity to express his gratitude to the Interim Dean and the Faculty for bringing this motion to this body. This discussion has not taken place in other Faculties so he felt this merits congratulations to the Interim Dean for setting an example for the other faculties. Professor Barney said he wanted to speak in support of the motion. He also wanted to acknowledge the very important question raised by Professor Galbraith. He said that there are political moments where broad strokes are called for and this is one of those moments. Professor Barney continued by saying that what he finds so compelling about what Divest McGill is saying is that it really does speak to a very specific concern that is squarely within the authority and concerns the governance that are properly used by the Board of Governors. There is a body that is supposed to determine whether McGill’s investments are harmful or not. So the question to CAMSR and the Board is will McGill continue to invest in companies that have been shown to be socially irresponsible or will McGill, as a first step, divest from these companies and get on with more complex work.
- 308.28 Professor Galbraith said he agreed with Professor Mikkelsen’s comment that we have to do something. Professor Galbraith pointed out that one of his colleagues who works on this could not be present today because he was away working on the Ecofiscal Commission which is trying to get us to start “stopping” by raising prices for things which is something that does work. Professor Galbraith felt this was the right way to go. He said, with respect to divesting, he just can’t get around the fact that it seems like the outcome is going to put

our Canadian natural resources in the hands of foreign companies. He felt it would be best to try to do something that will suppress the demand for oil.

308.29 Professor Mikkelsen said that he sees divestment as helping that effort so basically if we don't have legislation like that, at least not strong enough or comprehensive enough or in enough places, and as the students pointed out, every divestment movement that was studied recently found that they all resulted in "restricted legislation affecting stigmatized companies". So right now those companies are effectively stalling or blocking such legislation.

308.30 Professor Barney responded to Professor Galbraith's comments. He also felt that carbon pricing is a vital part of the solution. However as an institution McGill can't impose carbon pricing but we can take care of our own investments.

308.31 The vote was called.

308.32 Interim Dean Meadwell said that the motion **carried** with the proviso that this was an "indicative" vote with 25 in favour and 4 opposed. This result will be communicated with the information sent out for the electronic vote.

Report on the Actions of Senate - Senate meeting of October 21, 2015

309.1 Interim Dean Meadwell noted that the report for the Senate meeting held on October 21, 2015 was not yet available. Past reports 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>.

Report of the Dean

310.1 Interim Dean Meadwell provided updates on the following:

- The proposal for the integration of the Faculty of Religious Studies into the Faculty of Arts as a school was moving up the approval path with the hopes that it would be before the Board of Governors by the end of this term and that all the approval steps would be completed by May 1, 2016.
- The first administrative step in the creation of the School of Public Policy will be a motion before this body. The process begins with a motion put forward to the Faculty because the School will be located in Arts. A motion to this effect will be submitted to the January 26th Faculty meeting. It was expected that the Curriculum Committee would also have a recommendation to present at the January 26th Faculty meeting with regard to the proposal for a Master of Public Policy.
- The review of the Arts Service Centres continues. The survey of administrative staff (Ms and Cs) has concluded. The final item being worked through, in terms of feedback, was student feedback. Some discussion has taken place with the Arts Undergraduate Society. More details about the review will be brought forth once the review process has been completed.

310.2 This concluded the Interim Dean's report.

Report of the Associate Deans

Academic Administration and Oversight

311.1 Associate Dean Lane-Mercier reported on the following:

- This was a snap shot of the course offerings for Winter 2016 with low enrolments (10 students or less enrolled as of November 10th):
 - A total of 550 courses are listed for Winter 2016 and of these, 154 courses currently have ten students or less - this represents 28% of the total offerings.
 - Of the 154 courses with ten or less students, 22 have already been cancelled and 19 have been temporarily closed.
 - This means that currently there were a total of 115 active courses with ten students or less – this represents 20% of the total courses listed.
 - Of the 115 active courses, 55 had an enrolment of five students or less - this represents 10% of the total offerings.

The Associate Dean asked that departmental Chairs/Directors consult their course offerings in order to determine if any actions need to be taken with regards to courses with less than ten students enrolled and, specifically, those with five or less students.

- On a more upbeat note, meetings have taken place with all the departmental Chairs/Directors as well as Chairs of Interdisciplinary programs concerning minor concentrations with low enrolments. The conclusion was that everyone agreed that most of the low enrolment minor concentrations (with ten or less students over the last five years) should either be retired or completely rethought, revised, and updated over the next couple of years in an attempt to attract more students. This should prove to be a very useful endeavor.

In response to a question on what strategies were being used to try to make students more aware of minor concentrations, Associate Dean Lane-Mercier said that web pages have been examined, Directors of low enrolment minor concentrations have been asked to convene meetings with their advisory committees to examine this issue as well as getting students involved with the advisory committees, these Directors have also been asked to speak about their minor concentrations at Orientation sessions, etc.

Associate Dean Lach also noted that the OASIS web site was being redesigned to try to make information about such programs more visible.

It was pointed out that when the University supplied self-contained documents, for example, the printed Calendar one knew all the necessary information was provided, however, with the move to eCalendars, web sites and links provided with information, one was always left wondering if one truly received all the necessary and proper information. This causes confusion. One suggestion was to move to self-contained documents as PDF files and to get away from receiving disjointed

links. The one concern with this suggestion was that all the information in the PDF must be consistent with what was on the eCalendar.

Research and Graduate Studies

311.2 Associate Dean Engle-Warnick reported on the following:

- All the applications for the Mellon Fellowship have been received. This was a program with a value of \$1.5 million which was available to students in Humanities. Two applicants will be chosen out of eighty.
- A new position was posted for a Research Grants Assistant. The organizational chart and budget for this office will be brought to the next Faculty meeting.
- There will not be any changes to funding from the University for graduate students.

Student Affairs

311.3 Associate Dean Lach drew attention to a scholarship offered by the University of Glasgow. Information about this scholar was now posted on the OASIS web site. This award was a fee tuition waiver for students graduating from McGill University in Arts to study on a one year Masters program at the University of Glasgow.

Associate Dean Lach reminded members to complete the survey that was sent to academics about fall grades. The survey was open until November 30th. It was important to find out if academics agree with it in principle and there were a number of options that have been articulated for academics to weigh in on regarding the extent to which they favour them one way or the other.

311.4 Interim Dean Meadwell thanked the Associate Deans for the reports.

Report of the Curriculum Committee

A-15-5

312.1 Associate Dean Lach **moved** approval of the Report of the Curriculum Committee 'en bloc', seconded by Professor Everett.

The report contained the following proposals:

Philosophy and Western Religions

Program retirements: Honours in Philosophy and Western Religions (CC-15-1) / Joint Honours in Philosophy and Western Religions (CC-15-2) / Major Concentration in Philosophy and Western Religions (CC-15-3) / Minor Concentration in Philosophy and Western Religions (CC-15-4).

School of Social Work

Course revision: SWRK 445 (CC-15-62/PRN 10600,V3) / Program revisions: BSW (CC-15-63).

Linguistics

New course: LING 630 (CC-15-65/PRN 10551,V2) / Program revisions: M.A. in Linguistics (Non-Thesis)(CC-15-66) / Ph.D. in Linguistics (Thesis)(CC-15-67)

Institute for Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies

Merger of Programs - Program revisions: Major Concentration Rationale (Corresp.CC-15-24D)/ Minor Concentration Rationale (Corresp.CC-15-24E)/Honours/Joint Honours Rationale (Corresp.CC-15-24F) / Minor Conc in Gender, Sexuality, Feminist, & Social Justice Studies (CC-15-24) / Major Conc in Gender, Sexuality, Feminist, & Social Justice Studies (CC-15-25)/ Joint Honours in Gender, Sexuality, Feminist, & Social Justice Studies (CC-15-26) / Honours in Gender, Sexuality, Feminist, & Social Justice Studies (CC-15-27).

Program retirements: Minor Conc in Sexual Diversity Studies (CC-15-28) / Minor Concentration in Women's Studies (CC-15-29) / Major Concentration in Women's Studies (CC-15-30) / Joint Honours in Women's Studies (CC-15-31) / Honours in Women's Studies (CC-15-32).

Course revisions: GSFS 200 (CC-15-33)/GSFS 250 (CC-15-34)/GSFS 300 (CC-15-35)/ GSFS 301 (CC-15-36)/GSFS 302 (CC-15-37)/GSFS 401 (CC-15-38)/GSFS 402 (CC-15-39)/ GSFS 450 (CC-15-40)/GSFS 495D1-D2 (CC-15-41)/GSFS 496 D1-D2 (CC-15-42)/ GSFS 497 D1-D2 (CC-15-43)/GSFS 499 (CC-15-44).

New courses: GSFS 303 (CC-15-45)/GSFS 304 (CC-15-46)/GSFS 305 (CC-15-47)/ GSFS 306 (CC-15-48)/GSFS 307 (CC-15-49)/GSFS 308 (CC-15-50)/GSFS 400 (CC-15-51)/GSFS 403 (CC-15-52)/GSFS 404 (CC-15-53)/GSFS 405 (CC-15-54)/ GSFS 406 (CC-15-55)/GSFS 407 (CC-15-56)/Consultations (Corresp.CC-15-57).

Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Program retirements: Minor Concentration Hispanic Literature and Culture (CC-15-59)/ Minor Concentration Hispanic Languages (CC-15-60) / New program: Minor Concentration in Hispanic Studies (CC-15-61).

312.2 The motion carried.**Report of the Activities of the Arts Undergraduate Society****313.1 Mr. Gilling reported on the following:**

- The AUS is currently running its fall referendum! Questions on the ballot include renewals of the Arts Undergraduate Improvement Fund and Arts Undergraduate Theatre Society Fees, changes to the AUS fiscal year dates, amending the constitutional description for Arts Representatives to SSMU.
- Planning for the AUS' annual Work Your BA events series is underway! Held in collaboration with CAPS, events stretch from January 18th to 29th and are designed to help students to plan and find a career.
- The Library Partnership Committee has met twice and has developed a plan to renew the McLennan landings.
- The Academic Affairs Committee met to discuss different initiatives planned for the year. We talked about the conceptualization of surveys to poll students on some of the issues that we have decided are the most pressing, but also will include options for students to voice their concerns.

- A new academic advising software is being investigated. The software will be tested by engineering next semester. We met with Nellie from OASIS to see whether or not something similar could be developed for Arts students.
- Working with AUS Marketing Committee to promote AUS services such as the Essay Writing Centre and Ferrier computer lab.
- Ordered compact phone charging station for the Arts Lounge so students will be able to charge their devices while lounging.
- Arts Undergraduate Improvement Fund Committee meeting has been set up for February 2nd 2015 at Arts 160 between 6 to 9 pm.
- AUIF and AUTS fees have been put up for renewal as in accordance with AUS Constitution.
- I am in the process of finalizing the AUS representatives that will sit on Grad Ball Committee, and meetings will begin next semester.
- The faculty VP Internals met last week to discuss certain changes we would like to see implemented for Frosh next year, and we would like to meet with the SSMU VP Internal once they're elected to talk about redistributing responsibilities between SSMU and the faculties.

A detailed report can be found at:

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

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

Report of the Graduate Students

314.1 Interim Dean Meadwell reported that there was no graduate student representative appointed to this body as of yet.

Other Business

315.1 Interim Dean Meadwell announced that Provost Manfredi will be attending the January 26th Faculty meeting. The Interim Dean hoped that the Provost would speak about the Task Force on Indigenous Studies and Aboriginal Education. The Interim Dean also hoped that the Provost would also speak to the creation of the School of Public Policy.

Adjournment

316.1 The meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.