

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

The January 19, 2018 meeting of Staff of the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, held in R3-048, was called to order at 2:50 p.m. with Professor Cue in the Chair and Professor Akbarzadeh as Secretary.

The Staff Meeting was followed by the Faculty Meeting with Associate Dean (Graduate Studies) Strachan in the Chair.

Attendance: As recorded on the Faculty Meeting attendance sheet.

Regrets: As recorded on the Faculty Meeting attendance sheet.

There were a few introductions.

Professor Yaylayan introduced Dr. Yixiang Wang who has been appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Food Science & Agricultural Chemistry.

Dr. Wang received his BSc in Chemistry and PhD in Polymer Chemistry and Physics from Wuhan University in China. Following a post-doctoral fellowship at University of Alberta, Dr. Wang completed a five year training as a Research Associate in the same University, where his research focused on developing plant protein & cellulosic biomaterials for food and biomedical applications.

The overall aim of Dr. Wang's research is to explore a systematic approach to develop new applications of natural polymers in functional food and advanced food packaging."

Dr. Wang has authored/co-authored 34 journal articles, four book chapters, one patent and serves as a reviewer for many leading journals in the fields of food, polymer, and material sciences.

Dr. Linda Wykes said that it was a very exciting time for the School of Nutrition as she had four introductions today.

Dr. Linda Wykes introduced Dr. Daiva Nielsen, appointed as Assistant Professor of Nutritional Epidemiology completed her graduate work at the University of Toronto in the areas of nutrigenomics and personalized nutrition. Dr. Nielsen's training background has provided her with skills in dietary assessment, behaviour modification, genomics and knowledge translation.

Dr. Anne-Sophie Brazeau, appointed as Assistant Professor and Program Director of dietetic education and practice, is a registered dietitian and member of the Ordre Professionnel des Diététistes du Québec. She received her Ph.D. in Human Nutrition from the Université de Montréal, which was followed by her appointment as a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Division of

Clinical Epidemiology at McGill University, competitively funded by the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Dr. Stéphanie Chevalier, appointed as an Associate Professor is a Registered Dietitian and a member of OPDQ. She obtained her BSc in Dietetics and both her MSc and Ph.D. degrees in nutrition from the University of Montreal. In 1998, Dr. Chevalier joined the McGill Nutrition and Food Science Centre as a Postdoctoral Fellow. In 2013, she became the leader of the Nutrition Axis of the Quebec Research Network on Aging. She joined the School of Human Nutrition as an Associate Member in 2009.

Dr. Treena Delormier, appointed as an Associate Professor of Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Food Security is also the incoming Associate Director of the Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment (CINE), and a member of the McGill Institute for Global Food Security. Dr. Delormier is a Professional Dietitian and holds Bachelor and Master degrees in nutrition from McGill University, and a Ph.D. in Public Health from l'Université de Montréal.

5.01 Adoption of the Agenda

As the Dean had to leave early in order to catch a flight the Dean's report was moved to be presented immediately following any business arising.

There was one addition to the agenda:

Founder's Day Announcement – Professor Geary

Professor Orsat moved adoption of the agenda as modified, seconded by Professor Fyles.

CARRIED

5.02 Minutes of the meeting of December 15, 2017.

A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Professor Clark seconded by Professor Jabaji.

CARRIED

5.03 Business arising from the minutes of the December 15, 2017 meeting.

There was no business arising.

5.04 **Dean's Report**

The Dean gave a warm welcome to the new faculty members. Dean Geitmann encouraged everyone to reach out to our new colleagues and introduce themselves on an individual basis and asked that the new faculty members do the same.

Dean Geitmann mentioned that we will have another new member at our Faculty namely a new Director of Administration, her name is Christine Butler and she has worked on the down town

campus for 25 years. She has enormous experience in the field of Finance and she will be starting mid-February.

Dean Geitmann congratulated the 3MT competition winners. We had thirteen candidates vying for the competition which was extremely successful. Geoffrey Kelley, MNA for Jacques-Cartier and Minister responsible for Native Affairs was also in attendance. The students presented their research in incredibly talented ways. The first place winner, Mark Kaji is a PhD candidate at the Institute of Parasitology.

Second-place winner and recipient of the People's Choice Award is Animal Science MSc candidate Véronique Boyer,

Third-place winner is Karolin Dietrich, a PhD candidate in Bioresource Engineering.

The Dean asked everyone to save the dates on their agenda for two events

- a) A hundred mile meal event being held on March 16th, something that is set up annually to showcase what we have on this campus. Alumni are invited to this. There are tickets available.
- b) A joint JAC/MAC event being held on March 15th. We have a great academic Institution right next door to us and some of us have collaborations with them but we don't optimize this relationship as we don't necessarily know what's going on just a 100 meters away. It was decided to have a mostly social event, it's scheduled to be a 5 a 7 starting with 3 short presentations from each side to get things going and then have everyone mix and mingle. The event will be held at the Ceilidh.

Dean Geitmann brought up the fact that the Board of Governors have passed a new smoking policy. The down town campus will eventually be completely smoke free. On this campus there will be a couple of identified smoking areas. John Abbott have already forged ahead and implemented a no smoking policy and will be ticketing anyone caught smoking on their side. There will be more communication with regards to this policy.

The Principal has created a Task Force on Respect and Inclusion in Campus Life. This is to ensure McGill's values and principles are upheld namely "The University values the variety of opinions and experiences of members of the McGill community and encourages the open and respectful expression of that diversity."

The Provost has set up a Working Group on the Commemoration and Renaming of Underrepresented Groups. The group is co-chaired by Dean Geitmann and Dean Leckey from the Faculty of Law.

In response to our changing legal and moral standards, universities and other institutions have confronted calls for change – for instance that they cease commemorating a historical figure whose legacy no longer seems so worthy of celebration or that they change a name, for example that of a scholarship or building. With this broad context in mind, the Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic) has recently mandated a Working Group on Principles of Commemoration and Renaming. The Working Group will recommend principles to guide the University in responding to calls for change in relation to naming and commemorative practices. The Working Group will convene shortly, with the intention of consulting broadly over the coming months, with the goal of submitting a final report to the Provost at the end of 2018.

5.05 Committee Reports to Faculty

a. Academic Program Committee – D1678 – Professor Scott

Professor Scott presented the report, D1678, from FAPC based on the January 8th meeting. Professor Scott explained that there are some unstarred items which is unusual.

Professor Scott moved adoption of three new courses in the Department of Plant Science, PLNT 643, Research Project 1, PLNT 644, Research Project 2 and PLNT 645, Research Project 3.

CARRIED

Professor Scott moved adoption of two new courses in the School of Human Nutrition, NUTR 508, Professional Practice Stage 4A and NUTR 509, Professional Practice Stage 4B.

CARRIED

Professor Scott moved adoption of course revisions in the School of Human Nutrition: NUTR 209, Professional Practice Stage 1B; NUTR 311 Professional Practice Stage 2B; NUTR 408, Professional Practice Stage 3A; NUTR 409, Professional Practice Stage 3B; NUTR 510, Professional Practice Stage 4.

CARRIED

Professor Scott moved adoption of program revisions in the Department of Plant Science: B.Sc. (Ag.Env.Sc.), Ecological Agriculture Minor and B.Sc. (Ag.Env.Sc.), Ecological Agriculture Specialization.

CARRIED

Professor Scott explained that the star had been removed from the next item which is the M.Sc. (Applied) in Plant Science.

A question has come up about the wording in the course proposal around the 3 credit statistics course where it states the possibility of taking “or another advanced level statistics course”.

Professor Scott proposed, seconded by Professor Driscoll that the question be opened for discussion.

Professor Thomassin explained that he was the one that had asked for the star to be removed as he felt that it should read “another graduate level statistics course” rather than “another advanced level statistics course”.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

Professor Thomassin agreed to an amendment to remove the sentence “or another advanced level statistics course”.

With this change, Professor Scott moved adoption of a program revision in the Department of Plant Science: M.Sc. (Applied) in Plant Science.

CARRIED

Professor Scott moved adoption of a program revision in the School of Human Nutrition: B.Sc. (Nutr.Sc.), Dietetics Major.

CARRIED

Professor Scott moved adoption of a new option of an existing program in the Department of Animal Science: M.Sc. (Applied) in Animal Science, Sustainable Agriculture option.

CARRIED

Professor Scott moved adoption of a new option of an existing program in the Department of Plant Science, seconded by Professor Driscoll as this item was also unstarred and therefore open for debate: M.Sc. (Applied) in Plant Science, Sustainable Agriculture option.

There was a concern about the number of five hundred level courses that students could take in this program.

Professor Thomassin brought up the fact that there was a lack of an Agricultural Economics course within the program as well as his concern that a student could take up to 18 credits of 500-level courses.

Professor Gravel said that she agreed that Agricultural Economics was very important but that there were no courses available for a student with a plant science background. If such a course were to be available in the future, it could possibly be included in the program.

Discussion ensued.

CARRIED
1 OPPOSED

Professor Scott moved adoption of her report.

CARRIED

b. Academic Standing Committee – D1679 – Professor Faucher

Professor Faucher moved that the meeting move into closed session, seconded by Professor Fyles.

CARRIED

Professor Faucher presented confidential report, D1679, for the information of Faculty.

Professor Faucher moved, seconded by Professor Jardim that the meeting return to open session.

CARRIED

Professor Faucher moved acceptance of his report.

CARRIED

5.06 Senate Report – Professor Goodridge

Professor Goodridge reported on the Senate meeting of January 17, 2018.

A copy of the Report is on file in the Dean's office.

Professor Goodridge moved acceptance of his report.

CARRIED

5.07 Other Business

a. MacShares Announcement – Professor Wykes

Professor Wykes said that MacShares was holding a fun event. Last fall we had a similar event to bake apple pies for a good cause. There were a lot of positive comments about it so we are going to repeat the event and this time we will be making soup and homemade bread.

The event will be held on Monday, February 12th, there will be two sessions at 11h30 and 15h00. Kathy Maclean will be sending out an email with the details.

b. Mental Health Workshop announcement – Professor Fyles

Professor Fyles mentioned that there will be a Mental Awareness Week held during the week of January 30th. As instructors we are often the first point of contact for students in distress and we sometime are uncertain as to how to respond. Professors and TA's will be offered a workshop on how to be better informed to recognize potential problems in regards to mental health. The workshop will be offered on Tuesday, January 30th from 10:00 to 11:30 and will be given by the Counselling Service of Student Services. There is no registration required.

Starting next week Student Services will have an online calendar when counselors will be available and when workshops will be taking place.

c. Founder's Day – Professor Geary

Professor Geary reminded everyone that Founder's Day will be held on February 8th at a new time this year, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The theme is Smoke and Mirrors, Medical, Legal and Entrepreneurial Perspectives around cannabis will be discussed.

Professor Geary asked that faculty encourage their students to attend and that all faculty should attend as well.

5.07 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Professor Thomassin seconded by Mr. Enright.

CARRIED

5.08 The Faculty meeting followed with Associate Dean Strachan in the Chair.

A motion to ratify the business at the Staff Meeting was proposed by Professor Jardim seconded by Professor Jabaji.

CARRIED

5.09 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 16h10.

CARRIED