

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

The May 12, 2017 meeting of Staff of the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, held in R3-048, was called to order at 2:30 p.m. with Professor Cue in the Chair and Professor Akbarzadeh as Secretary.

The Staff Meeting was followed by the Faculty Meeting with Dean Geitmann in the Chair.

Attendance: As recorded on the Faculty Meeting attendance sheet.

Regrets: As recorded on the Faculty Meeting attendance sheet.

There was one introduction. Professor Clark introduced the newest member of the Office of Student Academic Services (OSAS), Margaret Forrest, who will be joining the team as the Project Officer. Margaret will be replacing Kendra Gray, the former Project Officer who is now working with the Bieler Family Internship portfolio replacing Mehek Mehta.

Margaret has a diverse background as an educator, musician, artist, and thespian. She has worked on both McGill campuses as a student and research administrator in Geography, Anthropology, and Natural Resource Sciences, where she was recently involved in the Economics for the Anthropocene program. Margaret has an MA in Geography and a Diploma in Environment.

Margaret will be responsible for developing and supporting academic outreach programs that engage FAES with the larger community at the local, national and international scales. Examples of such programs include the Lister Family Engaged Science Initiative, workshops for special interest groups, educational initiatives for high school or non-McGill students, continuing professional development offerings, etc.

The following resolution on the death of Professor Florence Amelia Farmer, Professor of Nutrition was presented by Professor Koski and adopted unanimously by faculty.

The life of Florence Farmer begins on Maple Avenue in Ste Anne de Bellevue in 1919. In 1938, the young Florence entered McGill's Macdonald Campus. Upon graduation with a BSc in Household Science, Florence enrolled in graduate studies in Nutrition. Under the supervision of Dr Crampton, the first professor of Nutrition in Canada, Florence completed her MSc in 1944 and her PhD in 1947, a year after establishment in 1946 of the first department of Nutrition in Canada. Dr Farmer often described herself as the first female to earn a PhD in the first department of nutrition in Canada. As a newly appointed Assistant Professor in the department, Dr Farmer also became the first female Professor of Nutrition in Canada.

From 1947-1959, Dr Farmer taught Nutrition and had an active research program. With Dr Crampton, she oversaw the development of the first animal research facility and created the

first prototype of a metabolic cage for experimental laboratory animals. Her research focused on the use of a bioassay to measure Vitamin C content of foods and feeds and to identify the metabolic consequences of biologically active thyroproteins used at the time to increase milk production. She was also among the first to assess the nutritional content of indigenous foods and to conduct extensive research on the nutrient composition of foods for both the Army Medical Research Committee of the National Research Council and for the Department of National Health and Welfare of Canada. This work was the forerunner to current food composition tables published by both USDA and Health Canada.

In 1964, upon her return from teaching nutrition at the Women's Christian College in Madras India, she was hired by Professor Helen Neilson, Head of the School of Household Science, to teach nutrition and food science to dietitians. During this active period as a member of the Schools of Household Science and Food Science, she established the first sensory evaluation laboratory at McGill, conducting organoleptic studies on irradiated foods.

She also continued her interest in human nutrition. At the behest of the Executive Director of the Montreal Diet Dispensary, Agnes Higgins, the research trio of Professors Farmer, Moxley and Crampton evaluated the impact of the "Higgin's Method" to reduce the incidence of low birth weight among Montrealers. These findings led to international recognition that maternal malnutrition could impact maternal health and lower infant birthweight and resulted in the establishment of the Women, Infants and Child Nutrition (WIC) Program in the US and to similar nutrition supplementation programs for pregnant and lactation women throughout the world.

Dr Farmer ended her 40 year teaching career in the mid-eighties. She will be remembered by current faculty who were her students as a dynamic, committed professor, passionate about nutrition and who always wore 'bobby socks'. The beloved teacher passed away at the age of 98 on March 29, 2017 in Sarnia, Ontario, and was laid to rest at the Lakeview Cemetery in Pointe Claire Quebec. She is survived by 10 nieces and nephews.

Respectfully submitted on May 12, 2017 by Dr Kristine Koski, Former Director of the School of Dietetics and Human Nutrition

9.01 Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was modified as follows:

Academic Program Committee – D1622 – Professor Cue on behalf of Professor Scott.

Professor Driscoll moved adoption of the Agenda as modified, seconded by Professor Singh.

CARRIED

9.02 Minutes of the meeting of April 7, 2017

There were no corrections.

A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Mr. Wees seconded by Professor Driscoll.

CARRIED

9.03 Business arising from the minutes of the April 7, 2017 meeting.

There was no business arising.

9.04 Committee Reports to Faculty.

a. Academic Program Committee – D1662 – Professor Cue

Professor Cue presented, on behalf of Professor Scott, the Academic Program Committee Report, D1662 from the May 1st FAPC meeting.

Professor Cue moved adoption of a course revision in the Department of Natural Resource Sciences, AEHM 205, Science Literacy, AEHM 303, Academic & Scientific Writing.

CARRIED

Professor Cue moved adoption of a course revision in the Department of Natural Resource Sciences, WILD 401, Fisheries and Wildlife Management, a change in pre-requisites.

CARRIED

Professor Cue moved adoption of program revisions in the Department of Natural Resource Sciences, B.Sc. (Ag.Env.Sc.) Applied Ecology Specialization.

CARRIED

Professor Cue moved adoption of program revisions in the Department of Natural Resource Sciences, B.Sc. (Ag.Env.Sc.) Wildlife Biology Specialization.

CARRIED

Professor Cue moved adoption of his report.

CARRIED

b. Academic Standing Committee – D1663 – Professor Faucher

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

CARRIED

Professor Faucher presented the confidential portion of report D1663 for information purposes.

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

CARRIED

Professor Faucher explained that the second portion of the report (on white paper) consists of a list of graduates that we'll see at Convocation. There are more than 155 names on the list, however, there are 12 students whose names are not on the list at the moment but will be added in the next few days as they are still waiting on grades or transfer credits for these students.

Professor Driscoll suggested that it would be helpful if the list was arranged by majors or concentrations to make it easier to track. There was also a suggestion from Professor Wade that since this was not a confidential document that perhaps it should be distributed electronically to save on paper.

Professor Faucher said he would take both points under advisement.

Professor Faucher moved, seconded by Driscoll that:

- a) Faculty accept that the students whose names appear in the attached list of graduating students have met all the requirements for their respective degrees and that their names be presented to Senate for approval in granting the degrees.

CARRIED

Professor Faucher moved, seconded by Professor Raghavan that:

- b) The Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences be empowered to add/delete names to/from the list of graduating students if new information brought to her attention requires a change in the status of an individual student.

CARRIED

Professor Faucher moved acceptance of his report.

CARRIED

b. Farm Management and Technology Program Committee – D1664 – Mr. Enright

Mr. Enright moved that the meeting move into closed session, seconded by Professor Wade.

CARRIED

Mr. Enright presented confidential report D1664, namely the spring graduation list for the Farm Management and Technology Program. There are twenty-five names on the list.

With the four students who were approved by faculty earlier in February this year, it takes the total number of graduating students to twenty-nine which is the highest number since 2003. They hope to surpass that record next year.

Mr. Enright moved, seconded by Professor Geary that the meeting return to open session.

Just for information purposes Mr. Enright mentioned that in order to encourage students to participate in technical programs, the CPMT is offering \$1700 bursaries to the students. The FMT Program will benefit from nine bursaries in the coming year, the students will get \$500 in the first year if they finish their courses on time and a \$1200 bonus when they graduate.

CARRIED

Mr. Enright moved acceptance of the report.

CARRIED

c. Nominations Committee – D1665 - Professor Geary

Professor Geary presented the first part of his report, mainly the proposed changes in the Terms of Reference.

Item A - Professor Geary proposed, seconded by Professor Raghavan, that it shall be required of every committee Chair to submit an annual report to the Nominations Committee by April 1st of each year. This report, which does not need to be more than one page, will provide information on the number of times the committee met or acted during the preceding twelve months, the major aims accomplished and the major goals for next year. Professor Geary added that the Nominations Committee will be surveying the committees to ascertain which committees are no longer functioning.

CARRIED

Item B - Professor Geary proposed a motion, seconded by Professor Driscoll, that the Faculty Promotions Committee be dissolved and be replaced by the establishment of three committees, namely the Awards Committee, the Promotion to Full Professor Committee and the Faculty Appointments Committee.

CARRIED

Mr. Wees had a question regarding the Awards Committee, he wanted to know what was included under “identify awards for research and other scholarly achievements”? Professor Geary replied that it would include teaching and service awards amongst others.

Professor Wade said he hoped that now that there is a committee dedicated to Appointments that they will meet more often to process the Adjunct Professor appointments.

Professor Raghavan enquired as to what role the Senators would play as they were part of the Faculty Promotions Committee.

Dean Geitmann said that she thought the Senators were quite busy already and that she didn't see any rationale to have Senators, per se, on the Promotions Committee. She thought that it created complications especially when it came to re-appointments. She didn't think it was appropriate to have pre-tenure staff judging other pre-tenure staff on their re-appointments. Bringing it to Faculty is a way of formalizing the rationale that no pre-tenure staff serve on re-appointments.

Professor Driscoll explained that in his view Senators used to consist mostly of older established professors who were tenured and who were voted in by Faculty through an election. In the past ten years or so not many people run for the position of Senator.

Professor Cue called the question of abolishing the Faculty Promotions Committee and replacing them with three new committees.

CARRIED

Professor Geary motioned, seconded by Professor Driscoll that the International Development Committee be dissolved in lieu of a clearly defined role. The Committee has never met in the last few of years.

CARRIED

Professor Monardes said that he had been a member of this committee for a long time in the good old days and he felt that since our faculty participated in a lot of international activities he felt strongly that this committee should not be abolished. Professor Raghavan seemed to have similar thoughts.

Dean Geitmann noted that she tried to communicate with the Chair of the Committee in regards to International Development but had no feedback what so ever.

Professor Monardes said that they had seen many benefits in the past from involvement with this committee, they liaised with international agencies and the McGill Office of International Research and advised staff on international opportunities.

Dean Geitmann said that she had appointed Professor Jabaji as the International Liaison person to take care of a lot of the same functions, as well as to host a lot of international delegations that visit our campus. In the Dean's view it was much more efficient to have one person do this rather than a committee.

Professor Monardes wondered why we couldn't change the terms of reference instead of abolishing the committee.

Professor Geary thought that there would have to have a concrete plan for this. He was sympathetic to the cause but noted that everyone gets busy as the semester progresses and committee business tends to fall by the wayside.

Professor Wade thought that interested parties could approach Professor Jabaji and offer their assistance with the international tasks. The Dean wanted to ensure that Professor Jabaji stayed as an independent.

Professor Driscoll reiterated that he saw this not as a 'murder' of a committee but rather a 'burial' as the committee has been dead for a long time and it's time to move on.

Professor Koski said that the International Development Committee was established to increase our visibility when it came to international development activities and give us an international

face as we were being lost down town. She felt that it was still important to have that visibility as we have a lot of faculty involved with international activities which get lost in the foray of projects and grant initiatives. She realized that the committee has not done this for the last several years but it is important to somehow share the knowledge and visibility and have some sort of electronic communication about international activities.

After much discussion Professor Cue called the question that the International Development Committee be dissolved.

CARRIED

Professor Geary presented the second part of his report, namely the changes in terms of reference of existing committees.

The Faculty Planning Committee will play a more prominent role going forward and therefore it is proposed that the membership be expanded.

Professor Geary proposed, seconded by Professor Begg, changes to the membership of the Faculty Planning Committee.

CARRIED

Professor Geary proposed, seconded by Professor Driscoll changes to the membership of the Library Committee. It was proposed that instead of five elected members, the membership of the Library Committee will consist of one member from each FAES academic unit, and the Associate Dean, User Services, McGill University.

Ms. MacKenzie explained that this was brought forward by the previous head librarian, Natalie Waters. Ms. Mackenzie read a portion from the minutes of a previous meeting. Natalie Waters moved that “the composition of the Macdonald Campus Library Advisory Committee be changed to include one (1) representative from each of the Faculty’s departments/units to serve on the Committee for a three year term”. This revision would ensure a greater and more effective exchange of ideas between the Library and all departments/units within the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. After discussion, the motion was duly seconded and unanimously carried.

It was also proposed that the frequency of meetings be changed from a minimum of three per year to one per semester.

CARRIED

Professor Geary proposed, seconded by Professor Driscoll the proposed changes to the membership of the Nominations Committee. There was a friendly amendment to add a representative from MCGSS to the membership.

CARRIED

Professor Geary presented the final part of D1665: Nominations to Faculty Standing Committees. Professor Geary explained that this is a complicated process and that all volunteers were considered but couldn't always be matched to the desired positions.

It was agreed that all the nominations be moved as a block.

Academic Program Committee: H. Ramaswamy and V. Orsat are nominated to serve one-year terms as sabbatical leave replacements.

Academic Standing: S. Faucher is nominated to serve one more year as Chair; A. Cherestes is nominated to serve a one-year term as a sabbatical leave replacement; A. Akbarzadeh and J. Cardille are nominated to serve three-year terms.

Admissions: K. Koski is nominated to serve a three-year term J. Singh is nominated to serve as Chair

Centennial Centre: G. Dunphy is nominated to serve another term.

Development of Teaching Excellence: C. Begg is nominated to serve a three-year term.

Environment: M-J. Dumont is nominated to become Chair; K. Elliott is nominated to serve a three-year term.

Grantsmanship: S. Kimmins is nominated to serve a three-year term.

Farm Management Committee: C. Madramootoo is nominated to serve a one-year term as a sabbatical leave replacement.

Information Technologies: R. Cue, E. Cuenca, H. Ramaswamy and J. Xia are nominated to serve three-year terms. Z. Qi is nominated to assume the role of Chair.

Library Committee: J. Ronholm and A. Harou are nominated as new members independent of the change in terms of reference for three-year terms.

Research Ethics: S. George is nominated to serve a three-year term.

Safety: S. Kubow and N. Basu will serve alternating terms as the representative from DHN. The new Chair is proposed to be P. Rohrbach. R. Salavati is proposed to serve the remainder of the term of Prof. P. Ribeiro as Radiation Safety liaison.

Student Recruitment: J. Ronholm is nominated to serve a one-year term as a sabbatical leave replacement

Physical Facilities: E. Cuenca is nominated to serve a one-year term as a sabbatical leave replacement.

Professor Driscoll moved that nominations cease.

CARRIED

The nominees have been duly elected to the various positions by acclamation.

Professor Geary moved acceptance of his report.

CARRIED

d) Scholarships Committee Report – D1666 – Professor Faucher

Professor Faucher presented D1666 on behalf of Professor Fyles. He explained that report was for information only:

For information:

Current Award Parameters	Proposed Award Parameters
<p>Stewart Brown Bursaries</p> <p>Awarded by the Macdonald Scholarships Committee to Canadians and Permanent Residents who are students in the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. The value of the bursaries depends on financial need. It is the donor's wish that recipients will, in turn, help others as their life's circumstances permit.</p>	<p>Stewart Brown Bursaries</p> <p><u>Established by G. Stewart Brown, a long-time friend and benefactor of the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.</u></p> <p>Awarded by the <u>Scholarships and Student Aid Office</u> to Canadian and Permanent Resident students in the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, <u>on the basis of financial need.</u> It is the donor's wish that recipients will, in turn, help others as their life's circumstances permit.</p>

Professor Faucher moved acceptance of his report.

CARRIED

9.05 Senate Reports – Professor Yaylayan

Professor Yaylayan reported on the April 20th Senate meeting on behalf of Professor Goodridge.

Professor Yaylayan moved acceptance of his report.

CARRIED

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

9.06 Other Business

a. Dean's Report

The Dean started with kudos:

Our very own Pascal Thériault has been elected as the Vice-President of the Ordre des Agronomes du Québec. Dean Geitmann pointed out that this will give us improved visibility in that realm of professionals.

Professor Shiv Prasher will be receiving an honorary doctorate from the Guru Kashi University, India.

John Lindsey, an undergraduate student in Environmental Sciences won the Emerald Key Award.

Dean Geitmann expressed her thanks and appreciation to the individuals who contributed to the organization of ACFAS, notably two individuals in particular who spearheaded initiatives, Murray Humphries and Elsa Vasseur as well as Stephane Bayen who organized a half day symposium. The symposiums were very well attended. Also thanks to everyone who volunteered.

The Dean mentioned Allyson Menzies, a graduate student at NRS who created a "Mac Campus Women in Science" group consisting of mainly female graduate students and postdocs but also young faculty members. Kudos to her for starting this initiative. The Dean attended their meeting last week and there were at least thirty women around the table. It is great peer support to just share your experiences.

The Dean mentioned a couple of news items, one regarding the Federal Government giving a financial boost to industry driven super clusters, Agri-food sector being one of them. The University of Guelph is trying to put together a group to spearhead one of these initiatives and we have been involved in the initial embryonic talks with them. Dean Geitmann said that she will keep everyone posted.

A call had been issued for faculty to submit some super, overarching 200 million dollar "hairy" ideas, which many of you did. The Faculty Planning Committee met to go over and integrate some of these ideas. Everyone that submitted ideas will get feedback.

The Dean was invited by Novolait to meet them in Quebec City, she made a presentation helped by Professor Karboune. Novolait is very interested in reestablishing contact with our campus so they will likely come for a visit.

Dean Geitmann reiterated the need for faculty to provide bio sketches as she uses these whenever she is approached by various groups. The bio sketches are incredibly useful when they are tailored for specific topics.

The Provost will visit our campus of the 18th, it will be shorter than initially planned. He will visit the Mary Emily Clinic, the Herbarium and the Lyman Museum. There are no curators at the moment at neither the Herbarium nor the Lyman Museum and we hope to get some support from him in this regard.

b) Announcement – Development of Teaching Excellence – Dr. Cherestes

On behalf of the Committee, Dr. Cherestes was delighted to announce that the recipient of the 2016-2017 Macdonald Campus Award for the Development of Teaching Excellence is Professor Faucher.

9.07 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Professor Driscoll seconded by Professor Singh.

CARRIED

9.08 The Faculty meeting followed with Dean Geitmann in the Chair.

Dean Geitmann said that she hoped that people take some time off this summer.

A motion to ratify the business at the Staff Meeting was proposed by Professor Driscoll seconded by Professor Faucher.

CARRIED

9.09 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

CARRIED