

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

The November 10, 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.

A copy of the presentation is available in the Dean's office.

There were two introductions.

Césarée Morier-Gxoyiya, VP External, introduced herself as the representative for MCSS.

Guillermo Portillo introduced himself as the representative for MCGSS, he is doing his Ph.D. in the department of Bioresource Engineering.

3.01 Adoption of the Agenda

There was one addition to the agenda.

3.07 a) Dean's report

Professor Clark moved adoption of the Agenda, as modified, seconded by Professor Faucher.

CARRIED

3.03 Minutes of the meeting of October 6, 2017.

There were no corrections.

A motion to adopt the minutes was made by Professor Charron seconded by Professor Orsat.

CARRIED

3.04 Business arising from the minutes of the October 6, 2017 meeting.

There was no business arising.

3.05 Committee Reports to Faculty

a. Academic Program Committee – D1673 – Professor Scott

Professor Scott presented the report, D1673, from the FAPC meeting of October 30th.

Professor Scott moved adoption of a new course in the Department of Bioresource Engineering, BREE 329, Precision Agriculture.

CARRIED

Professor Scott moved adoption of a new course in the Department of Animal Science, ANSC 637, Livestock Breeding Systems.

CARRIED

Professor Scott moved adoption of a course revision in the Department of Animal Science, ANSC 622, Experimental Techniques in Animal Science – title and description.

CARRIED

Professor Scott moved adoption of a program revision in the Department of Plant Science, B.Sc. (Ag.Env.Sc.), Plant Production Specialization.

CARRIED

Professor Scott moved adoption of her report.

CARRIED

b. Academic Standing Committee – D1674 – Professor Faucher

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

Professor Faucher presented the Academic Standing Committee report, D1674.

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

Professor Faucher moved acceptance of his report.

CARRIED

3.06 Senate Report – Professor Bayen

Professor Bayen reported on the October 25th Senate Meeting.

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

Professor Bayen moved acceptance of his report.

CARRIED

3.07 Other Business

a) Dean's Report

Dean Geitmann commenced with kudos:

Congratulations go out to Professor Michael Ngadi who was conferred as a Fellow of the Nigeria Institution of Agricultural Engineers (NIAE) and to Professor Joann Whalen who was conferred as a Fellow of the Soil Science Society of America.

Congratulations also to Mélanie Guigueno, a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Natural Resource Sciences who has been awarded the L'Oréal-UNESCO Award For Women in Science.

Dean Geitmann mentioned the Macdonald Campus Award of Excellence for Administrative and Support Staff. The deadline to submit a nomination to the Dean's office is November 30, 2017. The Dean encouraged all faculty to nominate someone they think is deserving of this award. Without administrative and support staff, nothing would happen, so it's time to reward someone with this award.

Dean Geitmann talked about the fact that the Post-docs have unionized and have signed an agreement thus resulting in additional costs for research. In the transition period the Provost has made available a fund that will help to mitigate somewhat, the increase in costs associated with hiring post docs. Additional costs for post docs that were employed under a grant awarded prior to April 1, 2017, will be subsidized at a 50% contribution, not to exceed \$3500. An allocation will be made to the researchers to cover the additional costs.

The Dean said that she hopes to receive a memo soon that will explain any questions in this regard.

The Dean discussed the Capital Campaign which was mentioned by Professor Bayen earlier as part of his Senate report. The University is conducting a feasibility study at the moment to crystalize their message. Where is McGill going in the next five or ten years. What does McGill need money for? Why should a donor give money to McGill? That message needs a strong case for support. We are getting constant feedback from advisory groups, alumni and donors.

A preliminary list of scientific themes that will be addressed are:

1. The Sustainability Initiative (MSSI)
2. Neuroscience, the "Healthy Brain for Healthy Lives" project. It's important that the School of Nutrition stay in contact with that group.

Four new themes have been recently identified:

1. Building Inclusive Societies – this will be led by the Faculties of Medicine and Law.
2. Indigenous Success – increasing the success rate for indigenous students led by the Faculty of Arts and Education.

3. Infection and Immunity – led by the Faculty of Medicine but we are involved at the level of the Institute of Parasitology (Professor Geary talked a little about the Institute's involvement).
4. Food and Water for Life – we have the expertise for this along with Engineering etc. We have to build a narrative as to why McGill has an expertise in this and discuss how to take this to the next level. Professor Hickey and Associate Dean Karboune will be building an inventory.

The CEO of Agropur, Mr. Robert Coallier, was on campus last week, it took us a year to get him here. There are multiple reasons to have met with him but mainly to establish research collaborations. Associate Dean Salwa Karboune will organize a brain storming session together with researchers from Agropur.

The Dean wanted to end her report with thanking those who go above and beyond but especially those that recently contributed to Homecoming, the Scholastic reception and Remembrance Day.

The Dean mentioned that Founder's Day will be held on February 8th. We are changing the time to early afternoon in the hope of getting a better turnout from staff and students.

- 3.08 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Professor Orsat seconded by Professor Scott.

CARRIED

- 3.08 The Faculty meeting followed with Dean Geitmann in the Chair.

Dean Geitmann mentioned that on Thursday, next week, the Federal Minister of Science, Kirsty Duncan, will be visiting our campus for a tour, she will be accompanied by Francis Scarpaleggia and others.

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

CARRIED

- 3.10 There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.