

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on September 25, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. in Arts Council Room, Arts 160.

PRESENT: Dean Martin Grant (Chair), Associate Dean Laurie Hendren (Vice-Chair), Director Nicole Allard, Professors Frédéric Guichard, Barbara Hales, Axel Hundemer, Bettina Kemme, Daniel Kirshbaum, Craig Mandato, Greg Marczynski, Guy Moore (in place of Kenneth Ragan), Ana Nyzhnyk, Gillian O'Driscoll, Linda Reven, Kathy Roulet, Julie St-Pierre; L. Houle; Esther Bogorov, Chandra Curry, Eugene Kang, Kelsi Lix, Pinkal Patel, Melissa Xie, Kate Zhang; Josie D'Amico and Malek Yalaoui.

VISITOR: Victor Chisholm, Undergraduate Research Officer

REGRETS: Professors Lea Berrang Ford, Galen Halverson

DOCUMENTS: AC-11-60, AC-12-1 to AC-12-7

Dean Grant called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Prof. Moore **moved**, seconded by Prof. Guichard, that the Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2012

Prof. Mandato **moved**, seconded by Ms. Curry, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

(3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

(4) COURSES ON DEAN'S MULTIDISCIPLINARY UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH LIST (DMURL)

AC-12-1

104.1 Mr. Victor Chisholm, Undergraduate Research Officer, briefly described the DMURL, and highlighted the requirements for students to be placed on the DMURL at graduation time. Mr. Chisholm asked members to review the courses on the list in Document AC-12-1, to check whether any courses should be added or removed from the DMURL. If members had any comments, they were welcome to express them.

104.2 New courses added to the DMURL over the past year were:

- BIOC 462, Research Lab in Biochemistry, 6 cr: added 2011-09
- BIOL 451, Res. In Ecol&Develop in Africa, 3 cr: added 2011-09
- GEOG 451, Res. In Society & Dev in Africa, 3 cr: added 2011-09
- PSYT 400D1/D2, Research Project in Psychiatry, 6 cr: added 2012-04
- HGEN 396, Undergraduate Research Project, 3 cr, pending final approval

- 104.3** As well, a number of courses had been removed from the list due to retirements, revisions, etc., as specified in Document AC-12-1.
- 104.4** On Page 4 of the document, the credit weight for MIMM 501, Hons Research Project – Immunology, should be **12 credits**, and not 6.
- 104.5** Dean Grant said that the list of courses qualifying for the DMURL was reviewed on a yearly basis. He said that for the current year there was an agreement in principal that students from l'Université de Montréal/Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal could take 396 courses (and be supervised by Science instructors), and in turn, Science students could register for undergraduate research courses at l'Université de Montréal/Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal (the list of courses to be defined). Dean Grant said that Associate Dean (Research and Graduate Education) Peter Grütter, Associate Dean (Academic) Laurie Hendren, Director (Advising Services) Nicole Allard and Victor Chisholm, Undergraduate Research Officer, would be involved in implementing the process.
- 104.6** Dean Grant thanked Mr. Chisholm for his valuable work with the DMURL.
- 104.7** Mr. Chisholm also announced that the 2012 Undergraduate Research Conference would be held on October 4th in the Arts Building Lobby. He said that at this event, B.Sc. students from across the Faculty have the opportunity to present their research projects, and that a panel of McGill judges would adjudicate the projects. This year, the keynote speaker will be Dr. Suzanne Fortier, and the title of her talk will be "Exploring the Borderless World of Science and Innovation."

(5) AD HOC HONOURS PROGRAM IN PHYSICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE AC-12-2

- 105.1** Director Nicole Allard introduced and described the above ad hoc program for two Science students. She said the ad hoc program was modeled after the current Major Program in Physics and Computer Science. She said that a maximum of 81 credits for a program had previously been approved by the Academic Committee. She said both students have been taking the courses towards the proposed ad hoc, and maintaining the requirements for the program.
- 105.2** Ms. Curry pointed out that there was no mathematics course covering partial differentials, although Honours students in Physics were strongly advised to take such a course.
- 105.3** Prof. Moore, the Physics departmental representative, agreed that for many, although not all, Honours Physics programs, a course on partial differential equations was highly recommended (PHYS 375).
- 105.4** Associate Dean Hendren pointed out that students were required to take only three credits from the Physics component of the Complementary Course list. However, if a course on partial differential equations was recommended, the Department could include it in the list. But, if a course on partial differential equations was listed as a prerequisite, another course would have to be removed so that the total number of credits for the program remained the same.
- 105.5** Dean Grant said that if the ad hoc program was approved, an official program could be forthcoming, modeled after the ad hoc program, but the issue of the partial differentials course would have to be addressed.

Director Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Kemme, that the above ad hoc program be adopted.

The motion carried.

(6) ANATOMY & CELL BIOLOGY

ANAT 316	Human Visceral Anatomy Changes in credits [from 2 to 3], restrictions	AC-12-3
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106.1 Prof. Mandato said the proposed changes for ANAT 316 would include a two-hour laboratory to complement the lecture. The course was specifically for students in the Physical and Occupational Therapy Program and Kinesiology Program. He added that ANAT 315, also for P&OT and Kinesiology students, would in the future be modified to 3 credits (from 4).

Prof. Mandato **moved**, seconded by Ms. Lix, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

(7) PSYCHOLOGY

New Course:

PSYC 661	Psychology Theory 3 credits	AC-12-4
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107.1 Prof. O'Driscoll said that the proposed course, PSYC 661, was created for students in the Integrative Program in Neuroscience-Psychology. The IPN students required only the second half of PSYC 660D (i.e., PSYC 660D2).

107.2 In reply to a question concerning the possibility of splitting PSYC 660D into two separate courses, Prof. O'Driscoll said that two separate courses would not be appropriate for the Psychology graduate program.

Prof. O'Driscoll **moved**, seconded by Ms. Bogorov, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

(8) CHEMISTRY

CHEM 593	Statistical Mechanics Change in description 3 credits	AC-12-5
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108.1 Prof. Reven said that the course description was being updated.

Prof. Reven **moved**, seconded by Prof. Mandato, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried

(9) B.SC. (GLOBAL) OPTION

- Global Courses		AC-12-6
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- 109.1 Associate Dean Hendren reminded members that in May 2012 there had been a discussion about the possibility of introducing a B.Sc. (Global) Option. Three suggested components for the Option were: (1) a language course; (2) a research course; (3) various other components, including taking a course with a "Global" theme. Associate Dean Hendren said that she would be presenting a formal proposal later in the year.
- 109.2 Regarding the course with a Global theme, suggestions from Associate Dean Hendren were listed under "Laurie's Suggestions" in Document AC-12-6. Also in the document, under "Other Options," was a list of possible courses from across the university, compiled by Malek Yalaoui.
- 109.3 Associate Dean Hendren asked members to e-mail her (**Deadline: October 8, 2012**) specifying courses from the two lists that they think should/should not (with a brief reason for "should not") be in the list of Global courses, as well as suggesting other possible Global courses.
- 109.4 Prof. O'Driscoll, the departmental representative for Psychology, had also compiled a list of potential Global courses.

(10) **UPDATE: RETIREMENT OF ZERO ENROLMENT COURSES** **AC-12-7**

- 110.1 Associate Dean Hendren drew members' attention to Document AC-12-7, a listing of zero enrolment courses recently retired. She asked members to check courses for their units, and to let her know if they wished to reverse any of the retirements. Units should take special note of written "flags," and in cases where a course was flagged as "Required," units should review the relevant program(s) and take appropriate action.

(11) **SUS ACTIVITIES**

- 111.1 Kate Zhang, V.-P. (Academic) of SUS, announced the following SUS events:
- SUS Graduate and Professional Schools Fair - Nov. 7th
 - Health Careers Symposium - Nov. 13th
 - Physical Sciences Careers Seminar (a better name to be announced) - Nov. 27th
- Secretary's Note:** *This item has been postponed to Winter term.*
- Academia Week - Jan. 21st - 25th, 2013
- 111.2 Dean Grant thanked Ms. Zhang for the above announcements on the activities of the Science Undergraduate Society.

(12) **OTHER BUSINESS**

- 112.1 Dean Grant reminded student members that if they wished to take initiatives regarding modifications to or creation of courses or programs, the best place to start was a discussion with the advisor of the various units.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.