

FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, October 12, 2004
Leacock Council Room - L232

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-04-8 to S-04-12

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

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- Item 5(b), Nominating Committee Report, and Prof. Sutton's Report on the Senate meeting of October 6, 2004, to be postponed to a future meeting.

Prof. Green **moved**, seconded by Prof. GowriSankaran, that the amended Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

- a) Bachelor of Science S-04-9

Prof. Green **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the above candidates be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Bachelor of Science degree.

The motion carried.

- b) Diploma in Environment S-04-10

There were no students receiving this Diploma.

- c) Diploma in Meteorology S-04-11

There were no students receiving this Diploma.

Prof. GowriSankaran further **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the Dean be given discretionary power to make such changes in the degree list as would be necessary to prevent injustice.

The motion carried.

202.1 Associate Dean Leighton mentioned that there were 91 Science degrees on the degree list.

202.2 Associate Dean Leighton thanked the departmental advisors and the Student Affairs Office for their work in preparing the degree list.

(3) MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2004 S-04-8

Prof. GowriSankaran **moved**, seconded by Associate Dean Burns, that the minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

(4) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

(5) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a) Academic Committee

S-04-12

SECTION A: NEW PROGRAMSATMOSPHERIC & OCEANIC SCIENCES, EARTH & PLANETARY SCIENCES,
AND GEOGRAPHY

- B.Sc.; Major in Earth System Science (AC-04-5)

205.1 Prof. Mucci gave a brief description of the above program. He said that the program had been the result of an initiative by the three departments involved, and had been designed in consultation with the McGill School of Environment.

Prof. Mucci **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gyakum, that the program be adopted.

The motion carried.

Associated New Courses:

ESYS 200 Earth System Processes (AC-04-6)
3 credits

Prof. Peterson **moved**, seconded by Prof. Sengupta, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

ESYS 300 Investigating the Earth System (AC-04-7)
3 credits

Prof. Green **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gyakum, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

ESYS 301 Earth System Modelling (AC-04-8)
3 credits

Prof. Guo **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

ESYS 500 Earth System Applications (AC-04-9)
3 credits

Prof. Mucci **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

SECTION B: MAJOR PROGRAM CHANGES

- MINOR IN KINESIOLOGY FOR SCIENCE STUDENTS (AC-04-4)

205.2 Associate Dean Leighton voiced concern that the prerequisite course, EDKP 391, for the Complementary Course, EDKP 542, was not a Science course, and said that if EDKP 391 and EDKP 542 were taken, Science students doing the Minor would exceed the number of

credits Science students can take outside the Faculties of Arts and of Science.

- 205.3 Prof. GowriSankaran **moved**, seconded by Associate Dean Leighton, that the changes be adopted, with the proviso that Associate Dean Leighton's concern be communicated to the Faculty of Education.

The motion carried.

SECTION C: NEW COURSES

(1) MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS

MATH 335 Computational Algebra (**AC-04-2**)
3 credits

Prof. GowriSankaran **moved**, seconded by Prof. Schmidt, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) COMPUTER SCIENCE

COMP 417 Intro Robots & Intelligent Sys (**AC-04-10**)
3 credits

Prof. Whitesides **moved**, seconded by Prof. Schmidt, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

COMP 512 Distributed Systems (**AC-04-12**)
4 credits

Prof. Whitesides **moved**, seconded by Prof. GowriSankaran, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

COMP 614 Distributed Data Management (**AC-04-17**)
4 credits

Prof. Crepeau **moved**, seconded by Prof. Whitesides, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

COMP 680 Mining Biological Sequences (**AC-04-18**)
4 credits

Prof. Whitesides **moved**, seconded by Prof. Crepeau, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

COMP 692 Approximation Algorithms (**AC-04-19**)
4 credits

Prof. Crepeau **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dudek, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

SECTION D: MAJOR COURSE CHANGES - None

SECTION E: MINOR COURSE CHANGES (For Information Only)

- Report on Minor Course Changes (AC-04-1/AC-04-1A)

SECTION F: MINOR PROGRAM CHANGES (For Information Only)

- Report on Minor Program Changes (AC-04-P1)

205.4 Associate Dean Mendelson reminded members that Faculty had recently adopted procedures to expedite approval of the Academic Committee Report. Both Minor Course Changes and Minor Program Changes would now come to Faculty for information only.

205.5 Associate Dean Mendelson said that Academic Committee documents for each Faculty meeting would be placed on the Science Web page in PDF format, allowing members to look at the documents prior to each Faculty meeting, and he thanked Josie D'Amico for her work in doing this.

SECTION G: OTHER (For Information Only)

- (1) Online Course Evaluations

205.6 Associate Dean Mendelson said that a work group had been struck to review the MOLE (McGill Online Evaluation) course evaluation project, and to make recommendations regarding the Faculty of Science's concerns about the project. The work group would also be looking into the issue of posting the results of course evaluations on the Web. He invited members' comments, and said that he would report back at the next Faculty meeting. The members are:

Associate Dean Mendelson, Chair
 Prof. James Cline
 Prof. Bettina Kemme
 Rhonda Amsel
 Christopher Lee
 Jennifer Hunter

- (2) Minor Concentration in Computer Systems (Documents Available Upon Request)

b) Nominating Committee

205.7 A Nominating Committee Report will be presented at the next Faculty of Science meeting.

c) Other Reports or Academic Business

There were no other reports or academic business.

(6) DEAN'S BUSINESS

206.1 Dean Shaver said that he and Associate Dean Leighton, on behalf of the Faculty of Science, had expressed condolences to the family of the late Ms. Kathleen Anne Currier.

(7) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

(8) REPORT ON ACTIONS OF SENATE

Prof. K. GowriSankaran reported on the Senate Meeting of May 19, 2004. The minutes can be found at www.mcgill.ca/senate/minutes/

Senate Meeting of September 22, 2004 - Prof. S. Whitesides

Summary of Senate Meeting of September 22, 2004

The numbers on the items correspond to the numbers on the minutes of Senate. Only items of particular interest to the Faculty of Science appear below.

3. Chair's opening remarks: These touched on the positive response to convocation ceremonies in June, 2004; the Centraide campaign; government relations activities; the Shriner's Hospital and MUHC; and the Universitas 21 Presidents' meeting at McGill. She expressed the sorrow of the McGill community for the death of entering Science student Kathleen Currier. She announced that VP Research Louise Proulx is leaving, to be replaced by Prof. Jacques Hurtubise as an interim VP Research until a replacement is found. A new Director of Libraries, Janine Schmidt, will join McGill on February 1, 2005.

4. Student Senator Bryan asked what steps the Administration will take to prevent the future occurrence of the kind of problems experienced with Physiology course PHGY 209, which suffers from substantial over enrolment this term.

V.-P. Vinet's response noted the need for better communication and coordination and for better tools for room scheduling. He also noted the lack of classrooms in the 300-400 seat range.

6-7. The Principal delivered a report ``Institutional Strategies: Vision, Goals and Priorities''.

V.-P. Vinet delivered a presentation ``Pushing Excellence:

An Agenda for Developing Tradition and Innovation''.

Themes highlighted were the goal to be among the leading publicly funded research intensive universities; the challenge, in view of this goal, of the competition for resources and people; the need for academic plans, excellence benchmarks, optimized physical assets, leadership; the restructuring of the university by reorganization of the Board of Governors, and by the arrival of several new deans and vice-principals and the director of libraries; the ongoing saga of Shriner's Hospital and the MUHC; the establishment of a campuses Master Plan Task Force. Specific academic priorities noted included an academic program review; summer offerings; review of course evaluation policies; closer monitoring of appointments, renewals and resignations to facilitate planning and budgeting; updating tenure regulations, performance review; review of research centres. Research priorities noted included the relationship to the Canada Foundation for Innovation, getting support from foundations, commercialization of research, raising our image through communication of news; review of research policy with regard to conflict of interest.

In the question period, V.-P. Vinet noted that the ``compacts'' would be posted on the Provost's website once finalized.

Also, he promised to bring to Senate a time-frame for improving the scheduling of classes (in response to a question from Prof. Mendelson).

8. V.-P. Yalovsky presented the budget, noting that the deficit for 2003-04 will be \$3.3 million, up from the \$1.7 million projection of last year. The current year 2004-05 has a budgeted deficit of \$8 million. Questions touched on how plans to increase enrolment would be coordinated with increased demand on resources

such as laboratory space and how increased enrolment would affect the quality of teaching.

9. 361st report of the Academic Policy and Planning Committee: B.A.&Sc. Joint Honours Psychology Component, and Psychology Component Option were approved, among other approvals.

10-12. Annual reports for the following committees were received: Coordination of Student Services; Student Affairs; Scholarships and Student Aid.

13. The Fall 2003 Enrolment Report was received. In response to a question from Prof. Mendelson, V.-P. Masi noted that enrolment reports would be posted on the web, and that they would include detailed breakdown by categories, including gender.

Prof. M. Sutton will report on the Senate Meeting of October 6, 2004, at the next Faculty of Science.

(9) **OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.