

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, April 6, 2010
Leacock Council Room - L232**

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-09-22, S-09-23

Before the start of the meeting, **Prof. Derek Ruths from the School of Computer Science** gave a presentation on his research.

Dean Grant thanked Prof. Ruths for his well-done presentation.

Dean Grant called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Prof. Blanchette **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dudek, that the Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2010

S-09-22

Prof. Green **moved**, seconded by Dr. Besso, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

(3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

(4) REPORT OF COMMITTEE

- **Academic Committee**

S-09-23

The Academic Committee approved the following on Tuesday, March 23, 2010:

SECTION A: NEW PROGRAMS

None

SECTION B: PROGRAM CHANGES

- **Minor in Education for Science Students**

AC-09-70

804.1 Associate Dean Hendren explained that a new course, EDEC 249, had been added to the list of Complementary Courses.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the change be approved.

The motion carried.

SECTION C: NEW COURSES**(1) Geography**

GEOG 291	Independ Short Proj - Geog 1 credit	AC-09-71
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804.2 Associate Dean Hendren said that GEOG 291 was created to allow students to obtain a single credit that might be missing for graduation, and in so doing, allow students to explore a topic that would interest them.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) Mathematics & Statistics

MATH 547	Stochastic Processes 4 credits	AC-09-75
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Associated Course Changes:

MATH 447	Introduction to Stochastic Processes Changes in title, description & restriction 3 credits	AC-09-74
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804.3 Associate Dean Hendren explained that MATH 547 was being proposed as a course for Honours and graduate students. The current MATH 447 would continue to be taught to Majors students, with a title and other changes to distinction it from MATH 547.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Hurtubise, that the new course, MATH 547, and its associated changes be approved.

The motion carried.

Associated Program Changes:

- Honours in Applied Mathematics	AC-09-76
- Honours in Probability and Statistics	AC-09-77
- Honours in Mathematics	AC-09-78

804.4 Associate Dean Hendren explained that the changes to the three programs resulted from the creation of MATH 547. Several additional changes had been made to the Honours in Probability and Statistics program.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Hundemer, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

SECTION E: MINOR COURSE CHANGES (For Information Only)

- Report on Minor Course Changes	AC-09-69
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Associate Dean Hendren briefly described the Report on Minor Course Changes.

SECTION F: OTHER (For Information Only)

Chemistry

- **Minor in Chemistry (*for Engineering Students*)**

Associate Dean Hendren said the changes to the Minor in Chemistry for Engineering students were housekeeping changes.

(5) REPORT ON SUS PEER TUTORING

805.1 Mr. William Carroll, 2009-2010 Program Director of SUS Peer Tutoring, gave a presentation on the year's Peer Tutoring Program.

805.2 He said that the program had been instituted in 2002, and was now the largest free tutoring service at McGill. The program was run by a five-member executive under the portfolio of the SUS V.-P. (Academic).

For 2009-2010 the Executive was:

- Program Director:	William Carroll
- Tutor Coordinator:	Michael Walsh
- Tutee Coordinator:	Mathieu Gagnon
- Tutorial Coordinator:	Amy Gough
- Administrative Coordinator:	Matthew McIntosh

- SUS Vice President (Academic): Ayman Ashraf

805.3 The Peer Tutoring Program maintained a Website <http://peertutors.sus.mcgill.ca> which contained all relevant information about the program, including all forms.

- Website Management: Neil Issar

805.4 Mr. Carroll said that over the past year, the SUS Peer Tutoring Program had been very successful. In 2009-2010, the program had a record number of both tutors and tutees: 255 tutors, 648 tutees. The tutorial sessions had been expanded, with 12 weekly tutorial sessions in the Fall term, and 14 in the Winter. As well, the final examination review tutorial sessions had been expanded. Coverage of U1 Science courses had been greatly increased. The tutor to tutee ratio had been increased. Closer relations were being established with professors, and links on Webct helped to inform students about the Peer Tutoring Program. A partnership with the Faculty of Arts Peer Tutors Program had been instituted.

805.5 Satisfaction with the program was high: 90% of tutees satisfied, a rating of 4.4/5.0.

805.6 Challenges for the 2010-2011 year were to maintain and expand the services offered; to continue expanding the coverage of upper-level science courses; to increase further the exposure of the program; to create partnerships with more faculties; and to expand relationships with professors.

805.7 Mr. Carroll said he would like to thank:

- The 2009-2010 Peer Tutoring Executive
- SUS V.-P. (Academic) Ayman Ashraf
- SUS President Neil Issar
- Associate Dean (Academic) Laurie Hendren
- U0/U1 Mathematics & Statistics and Science Professors

805.8 Dean Grant thanked Mr. Carroll for the presentation, and thanked all involved in this very valuable service.

(6) REPORT ON ACTIONS OF SENATE

Please note that the entire Minutes of Senate are available on the Web at <http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/minutes/>.

- Senate Meeting of February 10, 2010 - Prof. K. GowriSankaran:

The Chair opened the meeting by informing Senators that THE MCGILL Daily requested permission to send text reports from within the Senate Meeting room during the meetings for the remainder of the term. The Principal announced that the matter will be referred to the Steering Committee at its next meeting. (background: Paperless Senate, consequently usage of electronic devices at the meetings)

There was a resolution on the death of James Lund who was the Dean of Faculty of Dentistry until about a year ago.

Chair's Remarks:

- 1) Her visit to India with the Charest delegation. Gail Chmura of the Department of Geography accompanied her, as well by Denis Therien and Chris Ragan.
- 2) She faced questions regarding the privatization of Executive MBA program.
- 3) She encouraged Senators to cheer for the 14 McGillians who were participating in the winter Olympics in B.C.
- 4) At the end Senator Janda (MAUT President) congratulated the Principal on her being made an Officer of the Order of Quebec.

Responding to a question by the student Senator Dooley (Office bearers of SSMU) the Principal agreed that in addition to her general practice of including major developments regarding Public Affairs and relationship with the two levels of Government in her remarks, the University will do its best to keep the community informed (of any important developments) and urged senators to bring questions forward to Senate in this regard. She further agreed on a suggestion by another student senator that such issues could be brought to Senate for open discussion as and when necessary.

There were some routine motions from the APC and Nominating Committee of Senate. The Deputy Provost (Mort Mendelson of our Faculty) presented "Report Card on Student Life and Learning".

806.1 Prof. GowriSankaran said that he would like to briefly mention two documents that did not come to Senate for approval. The first was the Policy on the Conduct of Research, which had been a contentious document. The Policy had been supposed to come to the Senate meeting for approval, but had actually been presented for consultation. The document would come to Senate for approval at the March 24, 2010 meeting.

806.2 The second document was that of Responsible Use of McGill Information Technology Resources. This was also contentious, and Prof. GowriSankaran said that he would like

to thank Senators Laurie Hendren and Renée Sieber for their efforts in precipitating changes to this document. The document would be brought to the March 24, 2010 meeting for approval.

- Senate Meeting of March 24, 2010 - Prof. K. Franklin:

Report tabled to the next Faculty of Science meeting.

(7) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

There were no members' questions.

(8) OTHER BUSINESS

808.1 Dean Grant said that earlier in the day, he had been at an event held for the \$5.1M donation to the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences by former student Robert Wares of the Osisko Mining Corporation along with some matching funds from the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation. Dean Grant emphasized the size of the donation and said it was all the more remarkable considering the recession.

808.2 Dean Grant said that during the time that Associate Dean Hendren would be on sabbatical, Professor Emeritus Nick de Takacsy of the Department of Physics would be appointed as a Special Advisor to the Faculty of Science, and would be taking over some of Associate Dean Hendren's duties as well as other duties. Dean Grant thanked Prof. de Takacsy.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.