

FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, February 9, 2010
Leacock Council Room - L232

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-09-14 to S-09-21

Before the start of the meeting, **Prof. Eric Galbraith from the Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences** gave a three-minute presentation on his research.

Dean Grant thanked Prof. Galbraith for his impressive presentation.

Dean Grant called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Prof. Lasko **moved**, seconded by Prof. Hurtubise, that the Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) MITACS ACCELERATE PROGRAM (STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM WITH INDUSTRY)

- 602.1** Ms. Mary-Margaret Klempa, Associate Director, Foundations and Grants, said that being at a Faculty of Science meeting was a good opportunity to target people and to let them know about various programs. She said that Mr. Jesse Vincent-Herscovici, Director of Business Development for MITACS (Mathematics of Information Technologies and Complex Systems), would be talking about partnerships between university research and industry. Ms. Klempa mentioned that in addition, NSERC had recently announced several new programs designed to build relationships between universities and industry.
- 602.2** Mr. Vincent-Herscovici said that MITACS (www.mitacs.ca) was a private, non-profit organization that ran many programs, one of which was MITACS NCE (Network of Centers of Excellence). MITACS NCE was functioning well, and Mr. Vincent-Herscovici asked members to contact him (jvh@mitacs.ca) for more information regarding that particular wing of MITACS.
- 602.3** Mr. Vincent-Herscovici said that he would like to talk about MITACS Accelerate, which was a program created in response to high demand, and which concerned applied research internship projects between industrial partners and university researchers. The research was carried out by graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. Mr. Vincent-Herscovici said that he would be going through the presentation quickly, but that the presentation would be available (from Josie D'Amico, josie.damico@mcgill.ca).
- 602.4** Mr. Vincent-Herscovici said that MITACS Accelerate Québec was offered by MITACS and by FQRNT. He said the objective was to initiate collaborations between university researchers and industrial partners. He then described some key aspects of MITACS Accelerate Québec, and mentioned the large number of industrial partners involved with MITACS.
- 602.5** Mr. Vincent-Herscovici said that he would be pleased to provide information to any members interested in the MITACS Accelerate program (jvh@mitacs.ca).

(3) RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR RONALD SINCLAIR

Prof. Paul Lasko, Chair of the Department of Biology, read a formal resolution on the death of Prof. Ronald Sinclair (Appendix A, attached to the permanent copy of the minutes).

The resolution carried unanimously.

(4) CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

604.1 Ms. Allard reminded members that because of a new policy, Great Distinction no longer existed. Rather, Dean's Honour List and Distinction will be used in the future. The designation Dean's Honour List will apply to the top 10% of the Faculty, and Distinction will apply to the next 15%. Because the cut-offs for the designations are decided after all grades have been submitted, the current degree lists did not contain any mention of Dean's Honour List or Distinction.

a) Bachelor of Arts and Science S-09-15

604.2 Ms. Allard said that 15 students were graduating with the B.A. & Sc. degree, which was slightly more than the previous year.

Ms. Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Franklin, that the above degree list be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Bachelor of Arts and Science degree.

The motion carried.

b) Bachelor of Science S-09-16

604.3 Ms. Allard said that 119 students were graduating with the B.Sc. degree, which was very close to the previous year.

Ms. Allard **moved**, seconded by Mr. Barry, that the above degree list be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Bachelor of Science degree.

The motion carried.

c) Diploma in Environment S-09-17
d) Diploma in Meteorology S-09-18

604.4 There were no candidates for the Diploma in Environment and for the Diploma in Meteorology.

Ms. Allard further **moved**, seconded by Prof. Levine, 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.

(5) MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2009 S-09-14

Prof. Hurtubise **moved**, seconded by Prof. Lasko, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

(6) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

(7) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**a) Academic Committee S-09-19**

The Academic Committee approved the following on Tuesday, December 8, 2009 and Tuesday, January 26, 2010:

SECTION A: NEW PROGRAMS**(1) Geography & McGill School of Environment*****B.A. & Sc. Program:***

- Interfaculty Program in Sustainability, Science and Society **AC-09-51**

Associated Courses:***Course Revisions:***

ENVR 201	Soc Environ and Sustainability Changes in title & description 3 credits	AC-09-48
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New Course:

GEOG 360	Analyzing Sustainability 3 credits	AC-09-49
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New Course:

GEOG 460	Research in Sustainability 3 credits	AC-09-50
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607.1 Associate Dean Hendren introduced the above new program and its associated courses. She said that previously there had been only two B.A. & Sc. Interfaculty Programs. However, due to the efforts of the Department of Geography and the McGill School of Environment, the above Interfaculty Program in Sustainability, Science and Society had been created. She said the existing course ENVR 201 had been modified to increase the content of sustainability. GEOG 360 would prepare students for the more advanced course GEOG 460, which would serve as the capstone course of the program. The program provided students with both breadth and depth.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the above courses and program be approved.

The motion carried unanimously.

607.2 Associate Dean Hendren thanked all involved for their efforts in putting together the new Interfaculty Program. She added that if members had any ideas for new programs in the Faculty, they would be welcome to contact her.

(2) School of Computer Science***B.Sc. Program:***

- Honours in Software Engineering **AC-09-54**

Associated Course:***Course Revisions:***

COMP 361D1/D2	Software Engineering Project	AC-09-53
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Spanned course, credit weight [from 3 to 6], title, description, course activities, prerequisites, corequisites & restrictions

- 607.3** Associate Dean Hendren said that the Honours in Software Engineering Program was based on the existing Honours in Computer Science, but with specialization towards software engineering. She added that it had been agreed that undergraduate students in the program could take 600- and 700-level courses with permission (permission could be applied for at the SOUSA Website).

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Precup, that the above course revisions and program be approved.

The motion carried unanimously.

(3) Redpath Museum

- Minor Program in Natural History

AC-09-62

- 607.4** Associate Dean Hendren introduced the new 24-credit Minor Program in Natural History. It will be the first undergraduate program offered by the Redpath Museum.

Secretary's Note: *The required course for the program, REDM 400, will be offered every year, to accommodate the needs of students taking the Minor. Prof. Claire de Mazancourt will be the advisor for the Minor in Natural History, and will also be responsible for graduation approvals. The name of the advisor will be listed in the Calendar.*

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Green, that the new Minor program be adopted.

The motion carried unanimously.

SECTION B: MAJOR PROGRAM CHANGES

School of Computer Science

- 607.5** Associate Dean Hendren said that in response to the revisions to COMP 361, the other programs in Software Engineering were being modified.

(i) B.Sc. Program:

- Major in Software Engineering

AC-09-55

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

The motion carried unanimously.

- Core Science Component in Software Engineering

AC-09-56

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

The motion carried unanimously.

(ii) B.A. & Sc. Program:

- Major Concentration in Software Engineering

AC-09-57

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

The motion carried unanimously.

SECTION C: NEW COURSES

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| (1) | Biology
BIOL 645 | Biodiversity Science
3 credits | AC-09-47 |
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607.6 Associate Dean Hendren said that Biodiversity Science would be offered in the Summer.

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

The motion carried.

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|------------|------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| (2) | Geography
GEOG 493 | Health & Environment in Africa
3 credits | AC-09-52 |
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

607.7 Associate Dean Hendren said GEOG 493 would be added to the African Field Study Semester as a Complementary Course. She said that since this is a minor change in the program, the course proposal will serve to change the AFSS.

SECTION D: MAJOR COURSE CHANGES

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|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Mathematics & Statistics | | |
| MATH 139 | Calculus 1 with Precalculus
Changes in title, description, restrictions,
supplementary information
4 credits | AC-09-58 |

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

The motion carried.

SECTION E: MINOR COURSE CHANGES (For Information Only)

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| (i) Report on Minor Course Changes | AC-09-46 |
| (ii) Report on Minor Course Changes | AC-09-69 |

Associate Dean Hendren briefly described the above minor course changes.

SECTION F: MINOR PROGRAM CHANGES (For Information Only)

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| - Report on Minor Program Changes | AC-09-P3 |
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Associate Dean Hendren said that the changes were housekeeping changes.

SECTION G: OTHER (For Approval)**(i) Guidelines for Course Levels****AC-09-59 (Draft 2)**

607.8 Associate Dean Hendren introduced the above item. She said that the previous year, all General Interest courses had been renumbered to 18X. Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs) had specific course numbers, as did First Year Seminar (FYS) courses. Document AC-09-59 (Draft 2) outlined the basis for the distinction in course levels. She said that the proposal consisted of a set of guidelines.

607.9 Dean Grant emphasized that the proposal contained guidelines, and not rules.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Levine, that the Guidelines For Course Levels, Document AC-09-59 (Draft 2), be adopted.

The motion carried.

(ii) Proposed Curriculum of the Med-P Year**AC-09-60(Version 2)**

607.10 Ms. Allard said that in consultation with the Faculty of Medicine, the Med-P Curriculum had been revised to provide a deeper science experience for students, and as well to prepare students for the fall-back option of taking a B.Sc. in the event that they did not maintain the Faculty of Medicine's required GPA.

Ms. Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Lasko, that the proposed Curriculum of the Med-P Year be approved.

The motion carried.

SECTION H: OTHER (For Information Only)

- (i) Dean's Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research List (DMURL):
- AGRI 519 Sustainable Development Plans (6 credits)
 - PHAR 599 Research Projects in Pharmacology (6 credits)

607.11 Associate Dean Hendren informed members that in a yearly review of the DMURL courses, it had been decided that the above two courses should be included.

- (ii) School of Computer Science B.A. Program Changes:
- (i) Major Concentration in Software Engineering
 - (ii) Supplementary Minor Concentration in Computer Science

607.12 Associate Dean Hendren briefly described the above changes in B.A. programs.

b) Scholarships Committee

- (i) **New Awards:**
- (a) Osisko Scholarships in Earth and Planetary Sciences – Value: Varies
 - (b) J.E. Clark – 'Best in the West' Scholarship – Value: \$3000 each

607.13 Associate Dean Grütter briefly described the above new awards.

607.14 Dean Grant thanked Carole Kleingrib (Director of the Development Office in the Faculty of Science), and her team for the effort and work in raising over \$55 million.

(ii) **Dean's Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research List (DMURL) S-09-21**

607.15 Associate Dean Hendren said that three students from the February graduation lists would be placed on the DMURL.

(8) **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 December 1, 2009 - Prof. P. Lasko

To be tabled at a future Faculty meeting.

Senate Meeting of January 20, 2010 - Prof. P. Grütter

Chair's Remarks:

A 35 minute report on her impressions of the climate conference in Copenhagen. It was chaotic and many things different than portrayed in the media.

CERC site visits happened – went very well, results will be out Feb 15th.

Q&A session:

(1) Snow removal: info on web to find out what has been removed where? Priority stairs (some seem unsafe)?

Answer (Roy): resources in place, process better than ever. Call facilities call center (tel. on front page of facilities web page) if one spots unsafe conditions.

(2) Issues with wait times and capacity with MacDonald shuttle, in particular during 'rush hours'.

Answer (Mendelson): no plans for increasing number of buses, study planned to find out who takes the shuttle (seems 22% of users do not take courses at Mac, but the free ride).

(3) What is the mandate of the athletics board, has yet to meet this year.

Answer (Mendelson): efforts under way to find a new chair, mandate under revision.

Motion was **passed** to disallow recording devices in senate. (This was necessary to allow computers in senate).

Presentation on Physical Development of McGill:

Priorities : (1) health and safety, (2) Prevention of degradation, (3) Academic priorities, summary of activities in 2009, deferred maintenance. Deferred maintenance: \$647M\$ MELS funded buildings and 183M\$ residences for a total of 830M\$. Since 2007 25M\$ p.a. for the next 15 years. Since we are still accumulating deferred maintenance we will have roughly the same problem in 15 years as now, we are not catching up, just retaining status quo.

Annual report of the Committee on Student Discipline:

262 alleged violations, 250 adjudicated, 7 heard by committee on student discipline.

16:08 meeting closed!

(9) **MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no members' questions.

(10) OTHER BUSINESS

- 610.1** Dean Grant announced that Prof. Nick de Takacsy of the Department of Physics, and a former Dean (Acting), would be appointed as a Special Advisor to the Faculty of Science during the upcoming Oxford sabbatical of Associate Dean Laurie Hendren.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.