

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
Meeting of Faculty  
Tuesday, April 11, 2006  
Leacock Council Room - L232**

**ATTENDANCE:** As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

**DOCUMENTS:** S-05-31 to S-05-34, S-05-34A

Dean Grant called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

**(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

- Document S-05-34A, Faculty of Science Survey – Implications and Initiatives, to be considered under Item #6, SUS Science Survey Report.
- Due to Associate Dean Burns's absence, Item #7, Committee of the Whole discussion, to be postponed to a future meeting.

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

**The motion carried.**

**(2) RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF PROF. PHILIP R. WALLACE, DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS**

Prof. Charles Gale presented the Resolution on the Death of Prof. Philip R. Wallace.

Members of the Faculty of Science,  
I wish to inform you of the passing of Emeritus Professor of Physics Philip R. Wallace, F.R.S.C., F.N.A.S., on Monday March 20, 2006, in Victoria, BC. Phil obtained his PhD from the University of Toronto in 1940 working with Leopold Infeld, one of Albert Einstein's close collaborators. After holding appointments at the University of Cincinnati, at MIT, and at the Atomic Energy Division of the Research Council of Canada, he came to McGill in 1946 as an Associate Professor of Mathematical Physics, in the (then named) Department of Mathematics. He was promoted to Professor of Mathematical Physics in 1949, and then came over to the Department of Physics as a Professor in 1961. He was appointed Macdonald Professor of Physics in 1976. After his retirement, Phil Wallace was made Emeritus Professor of Physics, in 1981. Shortly afterwards, he became Principal of the Science College at Concordia (1984-87).

His conception of theoretical physics, as a discipline that transcends and unifies the other branches of physics, defined his scientific career. His first papers were on relativity; he then established his reputation as a nuclear physicist through a series of papers on neutron diffusion and on the theory of electromagnetic transitions in nuclei. He then wrote a classic paper on the band theory of graphite: a pioneering calculation in solid state physics. In the early sixties, his interest turned to the study of the newly discovered phenomenon of positron annihilation in matter, and he wrote what became the standard reference in that field. The last part of his research career established him as a world authority on semiconductors and semimetals, and on their behaviour under intense magnetic fields.

As a Professor, Phil Wallace was one of the pioneers in the development of outreach physics courses. His experience there led to his writing of the book: "Physics: Imagination and Reality". He is also the author of "Mathematical Analysis of Physical

Problems”, and “Paradox Lost: Images of the Quantum”. Like all physicists, Phil could not resist the allure of a bad pun.

As a leader of the scientific community, Phil's contributions are too numerous to list. Among other achievements, he was the founder and first Chair of the Theoretical Physics Division of the CAP. Locally, he built a strong research group on Mathematical Physics first in the Department of Mathematics, and then moved it to the Department of Physics. He also created McGill's Institute of Theoretical Physics and served as its Director, before theoretical physics was finally integrated in the Department of Physics, as it is today. It is fair to say that Phil Wallace was one of the defining figures of Canadian physics, and was one of the key individuals that contributed in making our Department what it currently is.

The Faculty of Science extends its condolences to Prof. Wallace's sons, Michael and Robert, daughter Joan Nadeau, and his grandchildren Ian (Nicole), Heather, Valerie and Nicola. Prof. Wallace was predeceased in 2003 by his beloved wife of 63 years, Jean Elizabeth (née Young).

We have lost a colleague who greatly enriched the life of this university.

**The Resolution was adopted unanimously.**

**(3) MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2006 S-05-31**

Prof. Gyakum **moved**, seconded by Ms. Filipski, that the Minutes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

**(4) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**- Minute 606.8, Tenure Rates**

**804.1** Dean Grant said that across McGill, tenure was denied in about five or six percent of cases.

**(5) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**a) Committee on Student Standing S-05-32**

Associate Dean Leighton highlighted the Report of the Committee on Student Standing.

Associate Dean Leighton **moved**, seconded by Prof. Mucci, that the Report be approved.

**The motion carried.**

**b) Academic Committee S-05-33**

**SECTION A: NEW PROGRAMS**

None

**SECTION B: MAJOR PROGRAM CHANGES**

None

**SECTION C: NEW COURSES****Biology**

BIOL 310	Large-scale Ecology 3 credits	<b>AC-05-71</b>
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Green, that the course be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

BIOL 583	Advanced Biometry 3 credits	<b>AC-05-72</b>
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gale, that the course be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

**SECTION D: MAJOR COURSE CHANGES**

None

**SECTION E: MINOR COURSE/PROGRAM CHANGES (For Information Only)**

- Report on Minor Program Changes	<b>AC-05-P5</b>
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**SECTION F: OTHER (For Information Only)****(1) Undergraduate Research Course**

COGS 396 (Cognitive Science)	<b>AC-05-32P</b>
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**805.1** Associate Dean Hendren explained that COGS 396 had been among a number of 396 courses that had been pre-approved.

**(2) Mathematics & Statistics Calendar Note** **AC-05-90**

**805.2** Associate Dean Hendren explained that the Calendar note related to equivalencies in mathematics courses. She said that other units could also add their own Calendar notes.

**(6) SUS SCIENCE SURVEY REPORT S-05-34**  
**- Faculty of Science Survey – Implications and Initiatives S-05-34A**

**806.1** Mr. Christopher Lee first provided a brief background to the survey. He then described the results of the survey (S-05-34), and various implications and initiatives relating to the results (S-05-34A).

**806.2** A copy of the documents will be distributed to the heads of Science units.

**806.3** Mr. Lee answered members' questions, most of which centred around problems with freshman advising.

**(7) DEAN'S BUSINESS****- Role of Research Papers versus Patents**

**Discussion: Committee of the Whole**

**Chair: Associate Dean (Research) David Burns**

**THE ABOVE ITEM WAS POSTPONED TO A FUTURE MEETING.**

**(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 January 11, 2006 - Prof. Nigel Roulet**

Report to be presented at a future meeting.

**- Senate Meeting of February 15, 2006 - Prof. Sue Whitesides**

Report to be tabled.

**- Senate Meeting of March 8, 2006 - Prof. Ronald Chase**

The meeting was chaired by Dean Madramootoo.

Dean Fuks gave an update on talks aimed at settling the issue of 'complementarity' at Montreal teaching hospitals. A committee comprised of administrators and clinicians from McGill and the Université de Montréal has held two meetings. Several working groups have been struck to consider specific areas where collaboration or other forms of complementarity may be effected. Dean Fuks expressed optimism, based on the collegial nature of the meetings to date.

Ms. Finn Upham asked a question about security on campus. Vice-Principal Yalovsky answered by confirming an increase in thefts since the fall of 2005. Hardest hit have been the libraries, the Student Centre and the Bronfman Building. The University's response has been to increase the frequency of foot patrols and to post additional displays calling for vigilance.

The 378<sup>th</sup> Report of the Academic and Policy Planning Committee was presented. Senate approved the recommendation to establish an inter-disciplinary Centre for Research on Religion.

An amendment to the Regulations was approved pertaining to the substitution of chairs of tenure committees when the chair is unable to serve or is disqualified for cause. In the case of Departmental Tenure Committees, a substitute will be selected from amongst the members of the tenured staff of the department. For University Tenure Committees, each dean will propose, at the beginning of the academic year, an alternate chair from amongst the members of the committee. These alternate chairs will be subject to approval by the Senate Nominating Committee.

Senate entered into Committee of the Whole to discuss 'Sustainability at McGill'. First, Ms. Kathleen Ng gave a PowerPoint presentation on behalf of the Sub-Committee on Environment, a working group of the Senate Committee on Physical Development. She emphasized that policies in support of sustainability enhance the quality of campus life, increase productivity and improve finances. Several University initiatives were highlighted including the introduction of e-pay stubs, washroom upgrades to improve energy efficiency, plans for an overhaul of recycling services, MOARD for redeploying used assets, the McGill Market Place for direction to sustainable purchases, the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Rethink Forum to be held on March 17<sup>th</sup>, and the monthly meetings of the Sub-committee on Environment, to which everyone was invited. Ms. Ng emphasized that the University administration fully supports sustainable policies, a point confirmed by Vice Principal Yalovsky's participation in the ensuing discussion. The discussion also highlighted some

of the work that remains to be done. The current recycle collection bins are inadequate in number and kind. Janitors do not always properly dispose of recycled materials. Not all of McGill's photocopiers are able to produce 2-sided papers. Many buildings lack windows that open, and their installation on new buildings is expensive.

The meeting ended at approximately 3:45.

## **- Senate Meeting of March 29, 2006 - Prof. Malcolm Baines**

### **McGILL UNIVERSITY SENATE – March 29, 2006**

Minutes of a meeting of Senate held on Wednesday, March 29, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. in the Robert Vogel Council Room (Room 232), Leacock Building.

#### **1. RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF MR. FRED SAGEL**

The following resolution on the death of Mr. Fred Sagel, a former student and member of Senate Steering, was presented by Mr. Reed and adopted unanimously by Senate.

#### **2. REPORT OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE**

The report of the Steering Committee (05-06:10) was received.

#### **3. AGENDA**

On motion by Dean Lund, seconded by Professor GowriSankaran, the Agenda was approved.

#### **4. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

The Principal announced the appointment of Professor Christopher Manfredi as the new Dean of the Faculty of Arts. She noted that the search for a Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, is well developed and in its final stages, with a conclusion expected very soon. The Principal added that five new advisory searches have been launched under the Provost's leadership.

Reporting on government relations, the Principal expressed disappointment with the absence of firm commitment to new investment in universities in the provincial government budget. She stated that a communiqué has been developed with CREPUQ to express the urgent need to reinvest in Quebec universities and education. She added that the university will continue its endeavours in working to adjust McGill's under-funding.

#### **5. QUESTION REGARDING THE SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Ms. Rhéaume presented the following question:

- 1- *Would it be possible to add a week of holiday at Christmas?*
- 2- *Would it be possible to add a week of break during the fall semester?*
- 3- *Could the fall semester always start following Labour Day?*

The principles approved by Senate on December 3 2003 governing the calendar were based on recommendations by the Senate Committee on Student Affairs (CSA) and were the result of a workshop that included faculty and students. The answers to Senator Rhéaume's questions are based on the Senate-approved set of guidelines.

*The policy calls for classes to begin in September rather than August, and to conclude in April. It also calls for 13 weeks of classes, 12 days of examinations in December and April, a one-week break in February, and wherever possible a one-day break or a weekend between the last day of classes and the first day of examinations in each term.*

*Senate approved the CSA recommendation that "the Fall semester should normally start on the first day of September that is not a weekend or Labour Day, that is September 1st, unless a later start can also ensure that the following priorities are met, in this order:*

- (a) That there is a full 13 week semester (equivalent to 39 contact hours for a 3-credit course);
- (b) That the 12-day examination schedule can be provided, without weekends;
- (c) That a one-day study break or a weekend separates the end of classes and beginning of examinations;
- (d) And that the semester should be contained within the four months from September to December, with the exception of new student orientation activities at the end of August.

*In about half the years it is possible to meet these criteria with the start of classes beginning after Labour Day, in the others not. For example, if September 1 falls on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, then it is more likely that classes could be scheduled to start after Labour Day. It is not always possible for the fall semester to start after Labour Day. For a fuller description on the set of guidelines approved by Senate, Professor Masi referred to the following link <http://www.mcgill.ca/studentservices/dates/>.*

## **6. QUESTION RE SPACE FOR THE SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTRE OF THE MCGILL STUDENTS' SOCIETY**

- 1) *Why is SACOMSS being asked to leave their confidential night office space?*
- 2) *Will the administration publicly commit to support SACOMSS, and more specifically its need for a 70 sq ft confidential night office on campus?*
- 3) *What is the administration's reaction to the May 2001 memo from then Dean of Students Rosalie Jukier which reads "It is the intention of the Office of the Dean of Students, as well as the planning office, that SACOMSS continue to be located on University premises, with space equivalent to that originally accorded to it in the William and Mary Brown Student Services building."? Does the University feel that its prior commitment is now being broken?*
- 4) *How can McGill claim to be a student-centered university when it is taking away space from an essential award-winning student-run services?*

*The Principal called on the Provost for a response. With regard to allocation of space for student groups, McGill's recognized students' associations, whether at the University level and faculty level—are the interlocutors with the University for all but four activities: The Daily, CKUT, QPIRG and McGill Legal Information Clinic. Of these four, two have leased premises with the SSMU in the University Centre, and the remaining two have leased premises with the University. For all other student groups and activities, the space allocation is derived from their parent group.*

*The University is currently experiencing a scarcity of space. For a short time, the University did allocate space to SSMU outside the University Centre. It was made clear to both the SSMU and SACOMSS and to these student groups that the space was only allocated to them temporarily. Last year, when the basement of Peterson Hall was required for an archaeology laboratory, SSMU was informed that the temporary space would no longer be available as of May 31, 2005. SSMU did accommodate the day office for SACOMSS in the University Centre, and will continue to do so, which is appropriate for a student activity that receives such wide support. SSMU allocated that space to SACOMSS, which it has been using for its night office. There are other considerations:*

- 1. *If the Administration were to make space outside the University Centre available to this SSMU activity, it might be called upon to do so for other deserving SSMU services or clubs, and other services and clubs that fall under the auspices of PGSS, MACES, or other faculty-level student associations. **Nightline** and **Queerline** are also phone-in support services offered by student groups under the auspices of SSMU that manage without access to University space.*

2. *In allocating University space either directly or indirectly to SACOMSS, McGill may face potential liability in the event that the advice offered or services rendered are inappropriate or otherwise problematic. Should SACOMSS work within the structure of the Student Health Services?*

#### **7. CONFIDENTIAL REPORT OF THE HONORARY DEGREES AND CONVOCATIONS COMMITTEE**

Senate moved into confidential session to discuss the Confidential Report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee D05-56 (this minute is not published or circulated but is attached to the permanent minutes of Senate as Appendix "A").

#### **8. 379<sup>TH</sup> REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Provost presented the 379<sup>th</sup> Report of the Academic Policy and Planning Committee. *Regarding item I. D, Academic Performance Issues/Policies/Governance*, Senate approved the elimination of the Dean's Honour's List for doctoral programs after the June 2006 Convocation.

#### **9. REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Provost presented the Report of the Nominating Committee (D05-55).

#### **10. THE 2004-2005 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE**

The 2004-2005 Annual Report of the University Admissions Committee (D05-57) was received.

#### **(9) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no members' questions.

#### **(10) OTHER BUSINESS**

- 810.1** (i) Marta Filipski announced that the SUS in collaboration with the Office of Undergraduate Research in Science and with the support of Dean Grant, had produced the first issue of the McGill Science Undergraduate Research Journal.
- 810.2** (ii) Marta Filipski, as outgoing President of SUS, introduced her successor, Lili Gao, who would be President of SUS for the 2006-2007 academic year.
- 810.3** (iii) Mehdi Ouali, President of PGSS, announced that the three graduate-student representatives to the Faculty of Science were:
- Danielle Fraser (Physics)
  - Erin Reardon (Biology)
  - Sarah J. Wilson (Biology)

The postdoctoral representative was:

- Jodene Baccus (Psychology)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.