

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, February 8, 2005
Leacock Council Room - L232**

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-04-19 to S-04-27 AC-04-118

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

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

601.1 Dean Shaver said that he would be making an important announcement after the adoption of the Agenda.

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

The motion carried.

601.2 Dean Shaver announced that Prof. Martin Grant, Chair of the Department of Physics, would be the new Dean of Science, starting June 1, 2005. He highlighted Prof. Grant's research and his administrative accomplishments. Dean Shaver said he would like to express his pleasure that Prof. Grant would be the new Dean of Science. He thanked Prof. Grant for agreeing to serve.

(2) CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

a) **Bachelor of Science** **S-04-20**

Associate Dean Leighton **moved**, seconded by Prof. GowriSankaran, 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-04-21**

Prof. Mucci **moved**, seconded by Associate Dean Leighton, that the above candidates be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Diploma in Environment.

The motion carried.

c) **Diploma in Meteorology** **S-04-22**

There were no students receiving this Diploma.

Prof. GowriSankaran further **moved**, seconded by Associate Dean Leighton, 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.

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

(3) MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2004 **S-04-19**

Prof. GowriSankaran **moved**, seconded by Prof. Ewing, 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) **Scholarship Committee**

- Sherman Family Scholarships **S-04-23**
- Science Alumni Prizes **S-04-24**

605.1 Associate Dean Leighton said that the Sherman Family Scholarships were the first awards for students in the B.A. & Sc. degree.

605.2 Associate Dean Leighton said that the purpose of the Science Alumni Prizes was to give recognition each year to the few students who achieve very high CGPAs at graduation, but who would not otherwise be awarded a major monetary prize.

605.3 Associate Dean Leighton said that the terms of the Science Alumni Prizes should be modified so that the second sentence reads "Recipients of this prize may not hold any other **major** Faculty of Science or University graduating student award."

605.4 Dean Shaver said that this would be accepted as a friendly amendment.

605.5 One member said that he was not really comfortable with the term "major," but was unable to suggest something better. He said that the Scholarships Committee should be free to exercise its discretion.

Associate Dean Leighton **moved**, seconded by Prof. Bennewitz, that the above new awards as amended be adopted.

The motion carried.

b) **Academic Committee**

S-04-25

The Academic Committee approved the following on Tuesday, December 14, 2004 and Tuesday, January 18, 2005:

SECTION A: NEW PROGRAMS

1) **BIOLOGY**

B.A. & Sc. New Minor Programs:

- Minor Concentration in Biology; Organismal Option **AC-04-75**
- Minor Concentration in Biology; Cell/Molecular Option **AC-04-76**

Prof. Levine **moved**, seconded by Prof. Mandato, that the programs be adopted.

The motion carried.

2) **McGILL SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT**

- B.Sc. New Programs:

- Major in Environment; Ecological Determinants of Health - Population **AC-04-106**

Major in Environment; Ecological Determinants of Health - Cellular
AC-04-107
 Major in Environment; Water Environments and Ecosystems - Biological
AC-04-108
 Major in Environment; Water Environments and Ecosystems - Physical
AC-04-109

605.6 A member pointed out that GEOG 303 (Health Geography), which deals with ecological determinants of health, was not prominent in the Ecological Determinants of Health - Population Program, and was not present in the Ecological Determinants of Health - Cellular Program.

605.7 Associate Dean Mendelson suggested that the programs be approved, but that the member's concern be transmitted to the MSE.

Prof. Levine **moved**, seconded by Prof. Baker, that the programs be adopted.

The motion carried.

Honours in Environment **AC-04-110**

Prof. Baker **moved**, seconded by Prof. Levine, that the program be adopted.

The motion carried.

- **B.A. & Sc. New Programs:**

Faculty in Environment **AC-04-115**

Honours in Environment **AC-04-116**

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

The motion carried.

3) **PSYCHOLOGY/NURSING/SOCIAL WORK**
 - Ph.D. in Psychology; Psychosocial Oncology Option **AC-04-117**

605.8 Associate Dean Mendelson mentioned that throughout the proposal EXMD 705 should be replaced by NUR2 705.

Prof. Donderi **moved**, seconded by Mr. Friedlander, that the program be adopted.

The motion carried.

SECTION B: MAJOR PROGRAM CHANGES - None

SECTION C: NEW COURSES

1) **BIOLOGY**
 BIOL 469D1/D2 Independent Studies 2 **AC-04-73**
 9 credits

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

The motion carried.

2) **PSYCHOLOGY**
 PSYC 499 Reading Project **AC-04-81**
 1 credit

Prof. Donderi **moved**, seconded by Prof. Ewing, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

- 3) **McGill SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT**
- | | | |
|----------|--|-----------------------|
| ENVR 490 | Independ. Study - Environment
3 credits | AC-04-95 |
| ENVR 491 | Independ. Proj - Environment
1 credit | AC-04-97 (Rev) |
| ENVR 495 | Honours Research
6 credits | AC-04-96 (Rev) |

Prof. Green **moved**, seconded by Prof. Baker, that the courses be adopted.

The motion carried.

SECTION D: MAJOR COURSE CHANGES - None

SECTION E: MINOR COURSE CHANGES (For Information Only)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) Report on Minor Course Changes | AC-04-79 (Revised) |
| 2) Report on Minor Course Changes | AC-04-93 |

SECTION F: MINOR PROGRAM CHANGES (For Information Only)

Report on Minor Program Changes	AC-04-P4
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SECTION G: OTHER (For Information Only)

1) **McGILL SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT:**

- **B.Sc. (AgEnvSC) Program Changes**

Major in Environment; Biodiversity and Conservation
 Major in Environment; Environmetrics
 Major in Environment; Food Production and Environment
 Major in Environment; Land Surface Processes and Environmental Change
 Major in Environment; Renewable Resource Management

- **B.Sc. (AgEnvSC) New Programs**

Major in Environment; Ecological Determinants of Health - Population
 Major in Environment; Ecological Determinants of Health - Cellular
 Major in Environment; Water Environments and Ecosystems - Biological
 Major in Environment; Water Environments and Ecosystems -Physical

- B.Sc. (AgEnvSC) Honours in Environment was **withdrawn**.

- **B.Sc. (AgEnvSC) Program Retirements**

Major in Environment; Ecological Determinants of Health - Population
 Stream
 Major in Environment; Ecological Determinants of Health - Cellular
 Stream
 Major in Environment; Water Environments and Ecosystems - Biological
 Stream
 Major in Environment; Water Environments and Ecosystems - Physical
 Stream

- **B.A. New Program**

Honours in Environment

- **B.A. Program Changes**

Faculty in Environment; Ecological Determinants of Health in Society
 Faculty in Environment; Economics and the Earth's Environment

Faculty in Environment; Environment and Development

2) **PSYCHOLOGY**

B.A. Minor Concentration in Behavioural Science

3) **BIOLOGY**

- Minor Concentration in Science for Arts Students

c) **Nominating Committee (for information)** **S-04-26**

605.9 Associate Dean Mendelson said that, as approved by Faculty, the Nominating Committee had the authority to make small changes to committee memberships, so Document S-04-26 was being presented for information. Prof. Gail Chmura would be the new representative of the Department of Geography on the Academic Committee.

d) **Other Reports or Academic Business**

(i) **Faculty Review Group: Academic Program Review**
Associate Dean Mendelson **AC-04-118**

605.10 Associate Dean Mendelson went through the document and described the structure of the review and its timeline.

605.11 Dean Shaver emphasized that the Faculty Review Group would be reporting regularly to the Academic Committee and to Faculty, to facilitate input from members into the process.

(ii) **Notice of Motion to amend the Constitution of the Faculty of Science - Associate Dean Leighton** **S-04-27**

605.12 The amendment was required as a result of the splitting of the position of Associate Dean (Academic & Student Affairs) into the positions of Associate Dean (Academic) and Associate Dean (Student Affairs). The actual Motion will be considered at the Faculty meeting of March 1, 2005.

(6) **REPORT ON ACTIONS OF SENATE**

Please note that the entire Minutes of Senate are available on the web at www.mcgill.ca/senate/minutes/.

- Senate Meeting of January 12, 2005 - Prof. N. Kamran

Report on the Senate meeting of January 12.

1. Resolution on the death of Professor Phyllis Shapiro.

The meeting began with a resolution on the death of Professor Phyllis Shapiro. It was noted in the resolution that Dr. Shapiro was "passionate about the power of teaching as a force for change and social improvement.

Indeed, she provided a powerful example as an inspirational teacher and public intellectual to all of her students and colleagues in the Faculty of Education". The resolution was adopted unanimously by Senate.

2. Principal's opening remarks:

The Principal expressed her sympathy for all those affected by the catastrophe. The Principal also described efforts undertaken at McGill to support members of the McGill community directly affected by the tsunami and its after-effects.

Principal Munroe-Blum provided updates on a number of matters including the planning process. She indicated that a draft of the University Academic Plan would be brought to an upcoming meeting of Senate.

2. Update on Health and Safety Review.

Vice-Principal Yalovsky (Administration and Finance) gave an update on the scope of the Health and Safety review, which was initially presented to Senate in 2003. Here are some highlights:

- A Comprehensive review of the health and safety organization structure.

A report was presented to Senate in February 2004 which led to the creation of JAHSC, the Joint Advisory Health and Safety Committee, that consolidates the work previously carried by two committees (Radiation, Biohazards).

- An assessment of both McGill campuses classified by level of potential risk with regards to Health and Safety. The initial analysis was conducted by a work group consisting of in-house academic and administrative and support personnel chaired by Dr. Ian Butler.

The scope included examining all health and safety risk factors including fire, safety, security, and the general work environment.

Dr. Yalovsky advised Senate that a draft report had been submitted by the Chair of the work group and was being reviewed and finalized by the other members of the work group. Dr. Yalovsky indicated his intention to bring the report to the February meeting of Senate. In response to a question prompted by the report, Dr. Masi indicated that members of the university community are welcome to communicate their concerns and input to the JAHSC through its web site.

3. Question on the annual MacLean's university rankings.

In response to a question regarding the annual MacLean's University rankings, Deputy Provost Masi advised Senate that for the past two years, his office developed extensive internal documentation to support McGill. Professor Masi also noted that, in general, large, urban, research intensive universities rank lower on the class size indicators and higher on research intensity indicators. An unsubstantiated inference underlying one interpretation of these indicators is that first and second-year students do not learn as well in large classes as they do in smaller classes. This is an interesting pedagogical question and one which the SCTL subcommittee of APCC is continuing to explore.

4. In response to a question on whether McGill is providing the U.S. Education Department with information on U.S. students currently a McGill, Dr. Masi replied that McGill University has not been asked to submit such information. He added that in conformity with Quebec's privacy legislation does McGill not provide nominative information for any student without the express written consent of the student in question.

5. Report of the ad-hoc committee on Professor/Librarian Emeritus.

Professor Vinet presented the Report and Response of the Ad Hoc Committee on Professor/Librarian Emeritus. A question was asked about the parking privileges for retired professors with respect to disabled parking, and the distinction between full library access and loan of books.

Professor Yalovsky replied that special parking privileges available prior to retirement would likely continue after retirement. Professor Vinet also noted that the "Regulations" provide that the scope of the privileges will be determined from time to time.

6. There were fairly routine reports from the APPC and the Nominating Committee.

7. Professor Miller presented the Seventeenth Annual Report of the Ombudsperson for Students. Professor Robaire noted that in the past, the last three individuals to hold the position of McGill Ombudsperson had recommended that a full-time position be established and asked why these suggestions had not been acted upon. Professor Vinet replied that the creation of the position of Harassment and Discrimination Awareness and Prevention Officer will provide more resources in connected areas.

In reply to a question from Professor Hodder regarding the number of cases that went to appeals, Professor Miller indicated that he had not explored this matter in his current report but would include it next year. He added that approximately 70% of the cases reviewed had in fact been resolved by the Ombudsperson.

- 606.1 In response to a member, Associate Dean Burns said that the Joint Advisory Health & Safety Committee was reviewing information relating to field work.
- 606.2 Another member mentioned that the Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences was conducting a Health & Safety Workshop for field work.
- 606.3 Dean Shaver said that the issue of health and safety in field work was important, and that a list of "best practices" should developed.

- Prof. D. Harpp will report on the Senate Meeting of February 2, 2005 at the next Faculty of Science meeting on March 1, 2005.

(7) **MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no members' questions.

(8) **OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.