

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, May 25, 2010
Redpath Museum Auditorium**

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-09-24 to S-09-34

Dean Grant welcomed members to the last — and the best — Faculty of Science meeting of the year, and called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. He invited everyone for drinks and hors d'oeuvres after the meeting.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

The motion carried.

(2) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a) Faculty of Science Excellence Award – Prof. A. Hynes, Chair

902.1 Prof. Andrew Hynes, Chair of the Faculty of Science Excellence Award Committee, said that the Faculty of Science Excellence Award provides an opportunity to recognize the outstanding contributions of the Faculty's administrative and support staff. The award is rotated yearly among "M," "C," and "T" classifications. For the current year, the award was being given to an "M."

902.2 The Committee consisted of:

Raffaella Bruno, Department of Mathematics & Statistics
Mario Della Neve, Department of Physics
Andrew Hynes (Chair), Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences
Giovanna LoCasio, Department of Psychology

902.3 Nominations were invited this year in the Managerial category, and the following people were nominated:

Anna Campana, Human Resources Specialist, Office of the Dean of Science
Anne Kosowski, Administrative Assistant, Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences
Diane Koziol, Administrative Officer, Department of Physics
Patricia Tuck, Administrative Officer, Department of Psychology

902.4 Prof. Hynes said it was his pleasure to announce that the current year's winner of the Faculty of Science Excellence Award was ***Diane Koziol***.

902.5 Prof. Hynes read the following citation for Diane Koziol:

All four nominations exhibited clear evidence of the quality of the nominees' work, of their devotion to the units they serve, and of the degree to which their efforts are appreciated. Any one of them would have been thoroughly worthy of the award. Diane Koziol stood out, however, not just because of these qualities, but also because of the many innovations she has instituted in her time at the Department of Physics. Most notable

among these has been her development, along with her colleague Lousie Decelles, of Homer's Physics Seminar Series, a lunchtime seminar-series by physics professors that seeks to de-mystify the research they conduct for the benefit of the support staff and other interested parties. This series was the germ that produced the Science Talks About Research for Staff (STARS) now a regular feature of the Faculty of Science, and won a national award from the Canadian Association of University Business Officers in 2007. It is illustrative of the qualities Diane Koziol has brought to the Department of Physics. She has immeasurably enriched the environment there.

902.6 The committee was unanimous in their choice, and it gives me great pleasure to recognize Diane Koziol as this year's recipient of the Faculty of Science Excellence Award.

902.7 On behalf of the Faculty of Science, Dean Grant congratulated Diane Koziol and presented her with a certificate and flowers.

902.8 Ms. Koziol thanked the Committee for choosing her, and said she would like to give a special thanks to Prof. Charles Gale, Chair of the Department of Physics, for supporting her throughout the years. She said she would also like to thank her staff as well as all the members of the Physics Department. It was an honour and a privilege to come to work each day.

b) Leo Yaffe Award

902.9 Prof. David Harpp, in place of Prof. Anthony Williams-Jones, said that the Leo Yaffe Teaching Award was the highest award for teaching in the Faculty of Science.

902.10 For 2009-2010, the Leo Yaffe Award Committee consisted of:

- Prof. A. Williams-Jones (Chair)(Earth & Planetary Sciences)
 - Prof. D.N. Harpp (Chemistry)
 - Prof. A. Hundemer (Mathematics & Statistics)
 - Prof. M. Lechowicz (Biology)
 - Prof. D. Levitin (Psychology)
 - Prof. C. Mandato (Anatomy & Cell Biology)
 - Prof. G. Moore (Physics)
 - Prof. W. Pollard (Geography)
 - Prof. E. Zorychta (Pathology)
- Students:
- Maya Kaczorowski (B.A. & Sc. Joint Honours Mathematics & Economics)
 - Ken Sun (B.Sc. Honours Chemistry; Bio-organic)

902.11 The current year's nominees were:

- Prof. Anthony Humphries, Department of Mathematics & Statistics
- Prof. Michael Langer, School of Computer Science
- Prof. Nicolas Moitessier, Department of Chemistry
- Prof. Laura Nilson, Department of Biology
- Prof. Kristine Onishi, Department of Psychology
- Prof. Kenneth Ragan, Department of Physics
- Prof. John Stix, Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences

902.12 Prof. Harpp said it was his pleasure to announce that Prof. Stix, Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences, was the Leo Yaffe Award winner for 2009-2010.

902.13 Prof. Harpp read the following citation for Prof. Stix, written by Prof. Williams-Jones:

Faculty of Science members, the Leo Yaffe Award for Excellence in teaching honours professors who have made an outstanding and long-lasting contribution to undergraduate education in the Faculty of Science. John Stix is such a professor.

Professor Stix joined the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences in 1999 after 10 years as a professor at l'Université de Montréal and a reputation as an outstanding teacher. John did not disappoint. He showed immediately that he was a born teacher, consistently obtaining scores of 4.5 or higher for his large enrolment course, Natural Disasters (EPSC 250), which under his helm has grown from roughly two hundred students to over 600 students. He has been equally successful in his upper level courses Volcanology (EPSC 530) and Advanced Volcanology (EPSC 551). The reasons for his extraordinary abilities as a teacher are not hard to find. According to one student "No professor conveys such excitement about his subject as John Stix". According to another student "I had heard wonders about his classes and teaching methods – but seeing was believing". Finally, this quote "I met John Stix on an early afternoon in October, 1999,...in an instant he manage to pass on to me his thirst and excitement, both for teaching and research in volcanology". That student is now a post-doctoral fellow in volcanology at the University of Munich.

John Stix is a teacher-scholar of the very highest calibre and a most worthy recipient of the honour that you are about to bestow on him.

- 902.14** Prof. Stix said that it was a complete surprise and thrill to receive the Leo Yaffe Award. He said it was a pleasure to be in the Faculty of Science, where teaching is considered such an important activity, no matter the course level or class size, or whether in the classroom or the field. He said there were many excellent teachers in the Faculty, and that he had learned a lot from them.
- 902.15** Prof. Harpp added that Prof. Leo Yaffe had continued teaching even during his tenure as Vice-Principal (Academic); John Stix, Chair of the Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences, continued to teach while Chair, setting a high standard and example.
- 902.16** Dean Grant, on behalf of the Faculty of Science, congratulated Prof. Stix and presented him with a bouquet of flowers.

(3) CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

a) Bachelor of Arts and Science S-09-25

903.1 Ms. Allard said that 71 students were graduating with the B. A. & Sc. degree, and that the CGPA cut-off for the Dean's Honour List (top 10%) for B.A. & Sc. students was 3.92. She said that the designation Distinction will apply to the next 15%, and the CGPA cut-off was 3.68.

903.2 Ms. Allard reminded members that the term Great Distinction was no longer used.

Ms. Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, 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-09-26

903.3 Ms. Allard informed members that there were 681 students graduating with the B.Sc. degree (an increase of more than 10%), the cut-off for the Dean's Honour List was 3.90, and the Distinction CGPA cut-off was 3.72

Ms. Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. GowriSankaran, 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-09-27

903.4 There were no candidates for the Diploma in Environment.

d) Diploma in Meteorology S-09-28

Ms. Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Fabry, that the above list be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Diploma in Meteorology.

The motion carried.

Prof. GowriSankaran further **moved**, seconded by Prof. Franklin, 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.

(4) MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2010 S-09-24

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

The motion carried.

(5) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

(6) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES (continued)

c) Committee on Student Standing S-09-29

906.1 Ms. Allard said that there had been an appeal for a tuition refund after the withdrawal deadline; the appeal was not approved.

d) Scholarships Committee S-09-30

906.2 Prof. R. Levine, in place of Associate Dean Grütter, presented the Scholarships Report. He said that one of two Governor General's Silver Medals had been awarded to a Science student, **Mr. Ilya Feige**, First Class Honours in Mathematics & Physics. He added that a Science student had received the Governor General's Silver Medal for 21 of the past 22 years.

906.3 Prof. Levine also mentioned that there had been a Scholarships Committee discussion concerning the lack of interest in applying for the Moyse Traveling Scholarship, which was worth \$10,000, and that it was important to improve the application rate.

Prof. Levine **moved**, seconded by Prof. Franklin, that the Scholarships Report be approved.

The motion carried.

e) Academic Committee

S-09-31

The Academic Committee approved the following on Tuesday, May 4, 2010:

906.4 Associate Dean Hendren said there were a number of items to be considered because over the year, the Academic Committee had examined orphan courses (courses with no prerequisites, and that did not lead into other courses), and had checked that courses were at the appropriate level. Units had done a very good job of reviewing and updating their course offerings. Additionally, new courses were being created by newly hired academic staff.

SECTION A: NEW COURSES

(1) GEOGRAPHY

GEOG 406

Human dimensions clim. change
3 credits

AC-09-83

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

The motion carried.

(2) PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 365

Cognitive Neurosci Attention
3 credits

AC-09-85

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

The motion carried.

PSYC 509

Diverse Clinical Populations
3 credits

AC-09-86

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

The motion carried.

SECTION B: MAJOR & MODERATE COURSE CHANGES

(1) MCGILL SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT

The following course is **cross-listed with CMPL 546**.

ENVR 519

Int Environ Law and Politics
Changes: title, description, prerequisites, restrictions
3 credits

AC-09-87

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

The motion carried.

(2) PSYCHOLOGY

PSYC 310

Human Intelligence
 Changes in title, description & prerequisites
 3 credits

AC-09-84

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

The motion carried.

(3) PHYSICS

PHYS 101

Intro Physics – Mechanics
 Change in description
 4 credits

AC-09-88

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

The motion carried.

PHYS 224

Physics of Music
 Consolidation of PHYS 224 and PHYS 225, changes
 in title, description, restriction
 3 credits

AC-09-89

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

The motion carried.

PHYS 340

Majors Electricity & Magnetism
 Changes in description, prerequisites, corequisites
 3 credits

AC-09-90

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

The motion carried.

PHYS 351

Honours Classical Mechanics
 Changes in number [from 451] and restriction
 3 credits

AC-09-91

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

The motion carried.

PHYS 357

Honours Quantum Physics 1
 Changes in prerequisites
 3 credits

AC-09-92

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

The motion carried.

PHYS 432

Physics of Fluids
 Changes in number [from 332] and restriction

AC-09-93

3 credits

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

The motion carried.

Associated Program Changes for PHYS 432:

- Joint Honours Program in Mathematics & Physics

AC-09-95

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

The motion carried.

PHYS 534	Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Change in restrictions 3 credits	AC-09-94
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gale, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

(4) ANATOMY & CELL BIOLOGY

ANAT 214	Systemic Human Anatomy Changes in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-09-96
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Crepeau, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

ANAT 321	Circuitry of the Human Brain Changes in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-09-97
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Levine, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

ANAT 365	Cellular Trafficking Changes in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-09-98
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Crepeau, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

(5) NEUROLOGY & NEUROSURGERY

NEUR 310	Cellular Neurobiology Changes in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-09-99
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Crepeau, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

SECTION C: MINOR COURSE CHANGES (For Information Only)

- Report on Minor Course Changes

AC-09-82 (Revised)

906.5 Associate Dean Hendren said that the courses just dealt with impacted other courses. However, there were a lot of additional changes, in order to update Calendar descriptions and to clarify prerequisite structures; these were listed in the Report on Minor Course Changes.

906.6 Associate Dean Hendren thanked the Academic Committee for their work during the year. She also thanked Josie D'Amico and Malek Yalaoui for their hard work and effort in managing so many documents.

(7) DEAN'S BUSINESS

a) Dean's Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research List (DMURL) S-09-32

907.1 Dean Grant explained that the DMURL highlighted undergraduate students who had done research in a field other than their primary area of study. He read out the names on the DMURL, and congratulated the students. He encouraged other students to undertake multidisciplinary research.

b) David Thomson Award for Graduate Supervision and Teaching

907.2 Dean Grant announced that **Prof. Masad Damha** from the Department of Chemistry was the year's recipient of the **David Thomson Award for Graduate Supervision and Teaching**.

Dean Grant, on behalf of the Faculty of Science, congratulated Prof. Damha for this achievement.

c) Research Innovation and Commercialization

907.3 Dean Grant announced that the following Faculty members had filed first patent applications over the past year.

Prof. Muthucumar Maheswaran, Computer Science
 Prof. Zaven Altounian, Physics
 Prof. David Burns, Chemistry
 Prof. R. Bruce Lennox, Chemistry
 Prof. James Gleason, Chemistry
 Prof. Parisa Ariya, Chemistry
 Prof. Michael Hallett, Computer Science
 Prof. Tak-Hang Chan, Chemistry
 Prof. Peter H. Grütter, Physics

907.4 Dean Grant further announced that the following members had had new licenses signed over the year.

Prof. Isztar Zawadzki, Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences
 Prof. Hong Guo, Physics

Dean Grant congratulated all the above successful members of the Faculty of Science.

d) Fessenden Prizes and Professorships

907.5 Dean Grant said that Fessenden Prizes recognize research with commercialization potential. Three prizes were awarded for 2010:

Aleksander Labuda, Physics
Theresa Dankovich, Chemistry
Andrew McCann, Physics

907.6 Dean Grant announced that two Fessenden Professorships had been awarded for 2010. They were:

Prof. Masad Damha, Department of Chemistry
Prof. Greg Dudek, School of Computer Science

On behalf of the Faculty of Science, Dean Grant congratulated the Fessenden Prize winners and the new Fessenden Professors.

e) McGill University Medals for Exceptional Academic Achievement

907.7 Dean Grant further announced that for the first time McGill University Medals for Exceptional Academic Achievement will be awarded. Two Science professors (**Prof. Adi Eisenberg**, Department of Chemistry, and **Prof. Lawrence Mysak**, Department of Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences), and one professor from the Faculty of Medicine will be the first three recipients.

907.8 The McGill Medal will recognize exceptional contributions made during their careers by retired members of the academic staff. The award will be inaugurated at the Spring 2010 Convocations consequent to the change in the use of 'emeritus' for retiring full professors. Prof. Mysak and Prof. Eisenberg will receive their awards at the Science Convocations on May 31, 2010 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Dean Grant congratulated the two medal winners.

f) Associate Dean (Academic)

907.9 Dean Grant thanked Associate Dean Laurie Hendren for her great work as Associate Dean (Academic) over the last five years. Associate Dean Hendren will be going to Oxford University for a year's sabbatical leave. She will, however, continue to guide the admissions process for the Faculty during that year, and will return to full Associate Dean's duties the following year. Prof. Nick de Takacsy will be taking over some of Associate Dean Hendren's portfolio for the year.

g) Outgoing/Incoming Chairs/Directors

907.10 Dean Grant announced the following changes in departmental Chairs and Directors in the Faculty. He said that he had enjoyed working with the outgoing people.

Bellairs Research Institute:

Judith Mendes has been reappointed as Director.

Biology:

Prof. Paul Lasko will be Director of the CIHR Institute of Genetics for five months. Prof. Gregory Brown will be Interim Chair.

Canadian Field Studies in Africa Program:

Prof. Thom Meredith has been reappointed as Director.

Earth & Planetary Sciences:

Prof. John Stix will be stepping down and will be replaced by Prof. Andrew Hynes.

Geography:

Prof. Tim Moore will be going on a sabbatical leave. Prof. Michel Lapointe will be Interim Chair.

Physics:

Prof. Charles Gale will be on leave for four months. Prof. Andreas Warburton will take over as Interim Chair.

Psychology:

Prof. Keith Franklin will be stepping down. Prof. David Zuroff will be the new Chair.

Redpath Museum:

Prof. David Green will continue to be Director for another five years.

(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 March 24, 2010 - Prof. K. Franklin

The meeting began with a resolution by Senator Driscoll on the death of Professor Roger Knowles and a resolution by Dean Pierre on the death of Professor Jeanne M. Wolfe.

Principal Munroe-Blum commented on the recent federal budget which provided modest financial increases (on the order of 2%) to the three federal granting councils. One surprise in the budget was an announcement regarding the taxation of postdoctoral fellowships. Canadian universities will try to persuade the government to phase it in because of the hardship it will cause to postdoctoral fellows.

The business of most interest to the Faculty of Science were the new Policy on the Conduct of Research and Policy of Responsible use of McGill information technology Resources. These policies have been long in preparation and both were passed after short discussion of minor points of wording.

One other item which may be of interest was a motion to delegate to nominating committee the selection of a pool of candidates to serve on Statutory Selection Committees. With the amendment that Senate approve the list put forward by Nominating Committee the motion was passed. In future Selection Committees will be formed from persons on the list rather than voted on individually in Senate and it should speed up the process of promotion to Full Professor considerably.

Senate Meeting of April 28, 2010 - Prof. R. Sieber (Report to be tabled)

- 908.1** In response to a member who questioned the necessity of academic staff being required to submit deferred exams at the same time as submitting regular exams irrespective of

the requirement for deferred exams, Prof. Sieber said that the issue of having to prepare both deferred and supplemental exams should be brought up at Senate.

(9) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

909.1 A member said he wished to make two points regarding the closure of Roddick Gates to all but emergency vehicles, and the restriction of other legitimate vehicles to the Milton Gates. First, would this allow an appropriate degree of access to university buildings for legitimate but non-emergency vehicles? Second, with both Milton Street and University Street being one-way, entrance to and exit from the University via the Milton Gates presented only limited turning choices, which was not the case with the Roddick Gates. The member said he had already written to Prof. Jim Nicell, Associate Vice-Principal (University Services), expressing his concerns, and he asked for the Dean's support. Dean Grant said that he would look into the issue.

909.2 In reply to a question concerning problems with the new room-scheduling system, Dean Grant said that he would see what he could do to alleviate any difficulties the problems may have caused to students and staff. Associate Dean Hendren added that it was important that all relevant constraints on potential class conflicts be reported to the Timetabling Office, and that these be inputted into the timetabling program.

(10) RESULTS OF SCIENCE ELECTION FOR SENATE

S-09-33

910.1 Dean Grant announced the results of the recent election to Senate. The newly elected Senators are:

Prof. Gregory Dudek (Computer Science)
 Prof. Charles Gale (Physics)
 Prof. John Gyakum (Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences)
 Prof. Jacques Hurtubise (Mathematics & Statistics)

Their terms will end on August 31, 2013.

Continuing Faculty representatives on Senate, and remaining years to serve, are:

Prof. Keith Franklin (Psychology)	- one year
Prof. Peter Grütter (Physics)	- one year
Prof. David Harpp (Chemistry)	- two years
Prof. Paul Lasko (Biology)	- one year
Prof. Renée Sieber (Geography/McGill School of Environment)	- one year

Dean Grant congratulated the newly elected Senators, and thanked the continuing Senators.

(11) SCHEDULE OF MEETING DATES

S-09-34

911.1 Dean Grant drew members' attention to the schedule of meeting dates for the 2010-2011. The schedule will be posted on the Faculty's Website.

(12) OTHER BUSINESS

912.1 Dean Grant invited everybody to end-of-year Reception in the foyer of the Redpath Museum auditorium. He reminded members that the band "Le Moondog" would be playing.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.