

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 April 2023 at 3:00 p.m. by Zoom Videoconferencing.

DOCUMENTS: AC-22-210 to AC-22-215; AC-22-225 to AC-22-233

Associate Dean Axel Hundemer called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. and welcomed members to the last Academic Committee meeting of the 2022-2023 academic year.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Barry **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the Agenda be approved.

The motion carried.

2. Minutes of 7 March 2023

AC-22-225

Mr. Barry **moved**, seconded by Ms. Roulet, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

4. Bieler School of Environment

B.Sc. Program Changes:

- B.Sc. Major Environment, Biodiversity and Conservation Concentration

AC-22-226

Ms. Roulet explained that the changes to the program were relatively minor. Specifically, the credit weight of one of the field courses was reduced from four to three credits, the language in the program was clarified, and new courses were added while some were removed because they are either no longer offered or were infrequently offered. The total program credit weight remains unchanged.

Ms. Roulet **moved**, seconded by Ms. Barry, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

For Information Only:

- B.Sc.; (Ag.Env.Sc.) Major Environment, Biodiversity and Conservation Concentration

- B.A.; Faculty Program Environment, Environment and Development Concentration

Associate Dean Hundemer encouraged members to review the provided summary of changes on Page 7 of the circulated meeting documents (AC-22-226). He commended the summary for its clarity in explaining the changes.

5. Mathematics & Statistics

New Course:

MATH 451

Introduction to General Topology

AC-22-227

3 credits

Prof. Kelome introduced a new introductory course to general topology, MATH 451, which was lacking within the Department of Mathematics & Statistics. MATH 451 is a standard component of the undergraduate curriculum in mathematics in many other universities. Therefore, this proposal aims to address the existing gap.

Prof. Kelome **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

6. Faculty of Science

- Changes in Supplementary Calendar Information:

FSCI 200	Industrial Practicum 1	AC-22-228
FSCI 300	Industrial Practicum 2	AC-22-229

Associate Dean Hundemer explained that the minor revisions made to FSCI 200 and FSCI 300 courses involved updating the contact information to include a generic email address. He emphasized the importance of avoiding the use of personal name emails to prevent the need for course revisions solely related to contact information updates.

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Mr. Barry, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

7. Earth & Planetary Sciences

- Course Retirement:

EPSC 513	Carbon and the Climate Cycle 3 credits	AC-22-230
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Prof. Paquette said that EPSC 513 is being retired as the instructor is no longer interested in teaching it, and there are no other members of the Department who are interested in taking it over. She added that this course will not have any impact on other programs. Consequently, it has been decided that EPSC 513 will be retired.

Prof. Paquette **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the course retirement be approved.

The motion carried.

8. Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences/Earth & Planetary Sciences/Geography

Program Changes:

- Major in Earth System Science	AC-22-231
- Honours in Earth System Science	AC-22-232

Prof. Paquette explained that GEOG 428 was added to both the Major and Honours Programs in Earth System Science.

Prof. Paquette **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

9. Computer Science

- Change in Course Title:

COMP 555	Information Privacy 4 credits	AC-22-233
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Prof. Guo explained that the course title for COMP 555 is being revised to incorporate a more suitable technical term commonly used in the field.

Prof. Guo **moved**, seconded by Mr. Barry, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

10. Psychology
- Changes to Psychology B.Sc. Program Descriptions

B.Sc. Programs:

- Honours in Psychology **AC-22-210**
- Major in Psychology **AC-22-211**
- Liberal – Core Science Component in Psychology **AC-22-212**

B.A. & Sc. Programs:

- Joint Honours Component in Psychology **AC-22-213**
- Major Concentration in Psychology **AC-22-214**
- Minor Concentration in Psychology **AC-22-215**

Prof. Bartz explained that the primary changes made to the program descriptions for the B.A.&Sc. and B.Sc. degrees were to provide greater clarity regarding the necessary background for students interested in pursuing graduate studies in psychology, as well as to specify the undergraduate credits in psychology required by the Ordre des Psychologues du Québec. The revisions to the program description for the B.A.&Sc. Minor Concentration in Psychology, on the other hand, were general housekeeping changes.

Prof. Bartz **moved**, seconded by Prof. Pereg-Barnea, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

11. Report of S.U.S. V.-P. (Academic)

Asma Khamis, V.-P. Academic, presented the following report:

1. SUS Academic Events

March 30: 'Passport to the Future': The event featured science students' experiences with exchange, research, and field courses. Around 60 students attended the event at Thomson House.

2. Mercury Course Evaluations

The SUS has been promoting the Mercury Course Evaluations to students through our email and social media channels, and will continue to do so until they close at the end of the exam period.

3. Elections

- a) The SUS executive team for the 2023-2024 year has been elected and ratified.
- b) The Vice-President (Academic) for the upcoming year is Yashar Aghazadeh Habashi.
- c) The Vice-President (Academic) has been elected as President and hopes to continue serving on the Academic Committee in the new year.

4. End-of-Year

Thank you for a great year! It has been a wonderful experience serving on the committee, and a pleasure to report on behalf of the SUS.

5. Contact information
Email: academic@susmcgill.ca

Associate Dean Hundemer expressed appreciation to Asma Khamis for her work on the SUS report and acknowledged the successful accomplishments of the SUS during the academic year.

12. Update: SCTP Course & Program Approval Process

Associate Dean Hundemer gave an update regarding the SCTP course and program approval process. He reported that he had discussed the concerns previously raised by the Academic Committee (7 March 2023) with the Associate Provost (Teaching and Academic Planning). The Associate Provost has indicated the intent to revise policies, forms, and improve the overall approval process.

Associate Dean Hundemer emphasized that members are encouraged to reach out to him with any issues or concerns related to the course and program approval process.

13. Other Business

Associate Dean Hundemer conveyed his appreciation to the members of the Academic Committee, recognizing their dedicated efforts and valuable feedback throughout the academic year. He also extended warm wishes to all for an enjoyable summer.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.