FACULTY OF SCIENCE ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2022 at 3:00 p.m. by Zoom Videoconferencing.

DOCUMENTS: AC-22-144 to AC-22-159

On behalf of Vice-Dean David Stephens, Associate Dean (Academic) Axel Hundemer called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. and welcomed members to the third meeting of the Academic Committee.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Item # 6, Psychology proposals, to be considered after Item # 3, Business Arising from the Minutes.

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

The motion carried.

2. Minutes of 25 October, 2022

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Forest, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

4. New Models of Academic Delivery (NewMAD) Work Group Consultations Part II

AC-22-145

AC-22-144

Prof. Tamara Western provided some background information on the New Models of Academic Delivery (NewMAD) Work Group. The primary purpose of the presentation was to inform members that the NewMAD Work Group has initiated a second round of consultations based on the analysis of feedback they received over the Spring/Summer/Fall. Specifically, they are interested in getting more feedback on the following three topics:

- 1. Definitions for blended learning, including the meaning of contact hours, and at what level of blended delivery is faculty-level approval needed
 - a) blended learning is course delivery that involves both in-person and online instruction, making it distinct from
 - b) flipped learning [in-person class time is used for active learning, content delivery is by out-of-class reading, videos etc.] or
 - c) hybrid learning [teaching in-person and online simultaneously with some students in each modality]).
- 2. Frameworks for new program development.
- 3. Models for considering Summer offerings.

Members' comments/suggestions:

- Blended learning: provided that it serves a pedagogical purpose, there should be a limit to the amount of blended learning, and 20% was acceptable.
- Important to investigate issues concerning US government aid for American students if the course is categorized as being online.
- Approval process: any changes above the 20% cut-off should be reviewed by the department and then by the Academic Committee.
- Contact hours: there needs to be a clear plan and purpose for achieving learning outcomes.

The NewMAD members from the Faculty of Science are:

- Prof. Tamara Western and Prof. Linan Chen, Faculty of Science Liaisons
- Prof. Laura Pavelka, NewMAD Work Group

Prof. Western informed members that they could contact her for additional information, further comments, or suggestions.

Associate Dean Hundemer thanked Prof. Western for the presentation and leading a very interesting discussion.

5. B.Sc. Minor in Electrical Engineering Program Changes

AC-22-146

Prof. Pereg-Barnea explained that the changes in the Minor Program in Electrical Engineering were due to the renumbering of courses in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, in particular two Required courses, ECSE 303 and ECSE 330 renumbered to ECSE 206 and ECSE 331, respectively. There was some discussion concerning PHYS 241 and PHYS 328, which are mutually exclusive with ECSE 206 and ECSE 331, specifically for students who have already taken PHYS 241 and PHYS 328 in the Major Program in Physics.

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

The motion carried.

6. Psychology

New Course:

PSYC 411

Discrimination & Wellbeing in Marginalized Communities **AC-22-147** 3 credits

Prof. Bartz introduced the instructor of PSYC 411, Prof. Keita Christophe. He said that PSYC 411 is an upper-level course in the Psychology Department that looks at the various impacts of discrimination on the mental health and well-being of different marginalized populations, based primarily on his expertise with a big focus on ethnic and racial discrimination and discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

Prof. Bartz **moved**, seconded by Prof. Forest, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

Course Retirement:

PSYC 488 D1/D2

Special Topics Seminar 3 credits

AC-22-148

Prof. Bartz said that PSYC 488D1/D2 had not been offered in several years, and the Department has no plans of offering it again.

Prof. Bartz **moved**, seconded by Prof. Forest, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

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Course Revisions:		
PSYC 351	Research Methods in Social Psychology	AC-22-149
	3 credits	
	Changes: Course title, course description, Prerequisite	S,
	Restrictions	
PSYC 352	Cognitive Psychology Laboratory	AC-22-150
	3 credits	
	Changes: Course title, Corequisite, Restrictions	
PSYC 353	Laboratory in Human Perception	AC-22-151
	3 credits	
	Changes: Course title, course description	
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Prof. Bartz explained that, among other changes, the main revisions in the above courses were to title the advanced research method and laboratory courses in Psychology to meet the Order of Psychologists of Québec requirements.

Prof. Bartz moved, seconded by Mr. Barry, that the above changes be approved.

The motion carried.

7. Atmospheric & Oceanic Science

Course Revisions:

ATOC 480

Honours Research Project 3 credits Changes: Restrictions AC-22-152

On behalf of Prof. Dufour, Prof. Gyakum said that Major students will now be permitted to take ATOC 480, which is currently only open to Honours students.

Prof. Gyakum **moved**, seconded by Prof. Seawall, that the change be approved.

The motion carried.

Program changes:

- B.Sc. Honours Atmospheric Science

- B.Sc. Major in Atmospheric Science

Prof. Gyakum said that with the increasing interest in Machine Learning and the growing number of jobs in this field, COMP 551, Applied Machine Learning (4 credits) has been added to the Major and Honours Programs in Atmospheric Science.

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

The motion carried.

- B.Sc. Minor in Atmospheric Science

AC-22-155

AC-22-153

AC-22-154

Prof. Gyakum said that the only Required course in the Minor had been removed and added to the list of Complementary courses to increase flexibility and interest, especially for students in Mathematics and Statistics, and Physics. Also, ATOC 404/PHYS 404, Climate Physics (3 credits), has been added to this list.

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

The motion carried.

- B.Sc. Major Atmospheric Science and Physics

Prof. Gyakum explained that the total program credit weight had been decreased by three credits to ensure that students completed the program on time. Some Required courses have been moved to the Complementary list, thus providing more flexibility and making it easier for students to register for a Minor program. Also, a machine learning course has been added to the program to align with the Major and Honours Programs (approved above), as well as a programming course and a research course.

Prof. Gyakum moved, seconded by Prof. Forest, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

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

AC-22-157

AC-22-156

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

1. Website updates

a) Website updates over the next while to display more comprehensive academic rights and resources, as well as contacts of departmental executives.

2. Graduate and Professional Schools Fair

a) The event was successfully held on Thursday November 17 and Friday November 18, 2022.
b) There were 39 in-person schools and 24 online schools, and hundreds of student attendees.

3. Contact information: academic@susmcgill.ca

9. Other Business

There being no further business, Prof. Forest **moved**, seconded by Prof. Pereg-Barnea, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

The motion carried.