

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 25 October 2022 at 3:00 p.m. by Zoom Videoconferencing.

**DOCUMENTS: AC-22-120 to AC-22-143**

Vice-Dean Stephens called the meeting to order at 3 p.m., and welcomed members to the second meeting of the Academic Committee.

**1. Adoption of Agenda**

Prof. Forest **moved**, seconded by Ms. Khamis, that the Agenda be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

**2. Minutes of 20 September 2022**

**AC-22-120**

Vice-Dean Stephens thanked Melanie Xu for the Minutes of the last meeting.

Prof. Forest **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the Minutes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

**3. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

**4. Geography**

*New Course:*

GEOG 418

Geographies of Race

3 credits

**AC-22-121**

Prof. Forest introduced a new GEOG 418 course in the Department of Geography. The course was proposed in response to a significant demand by students and will be taught by a new professor hired as part of McGill's Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism.

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

**The motion carried.**

Course Revision:

GEOG 417

Urban Geography

3 credits

Change in prerequisite

**AC-22-122**

Prof. Forest said that when the Department first proposed GEOG 417, the prerequisite course GEOG 316 was mistakenly omitted from the list of prerequisites.

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

**The motion carried.**

**5. Pharmacology & Therapeutics**

B.Sc. Program Changes:

- Honours in Pharmacology
- Major in Pharmacology

**AC-22-123**

**AC-22-124**

Prof. Hales said two Complementary courses (PHAR 522 D1/D2 and PHAR 524) that were recently approved were being added to the Honours and Major Programs in Pharmacology. These courses will be suitable for future medical professionals or translational researchers.

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

**The motion carried.**

**6. Psychology**

**Course Retirement:**

PSYC 180 Critical Thinking: Biases and Illusions  
3 credits

**AC-22-125**

**Course Retirement:**

PSYC 199 FYS: Mind-Body Medicine  
3 credits

**AC-22-126**

The above two courses were being retired due to the retirements of both instructors, and the Department has no plans to offer the courses in the near future.

Prof. Bartz **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the above courses be retired.

**The motion carried.**

**The Following Psychology Proposals were withdrawn from the Agenda:**

- Honours in Psychology
- Joint Honours in Psychology

**AC-22-126**

**AC-22-130**

**B.Sc. Program Changes:**

- Major in Psychology
- Minor in Psychology
- Liberal – Core Science Component in Psychology

**AC-22-127**

**AC-22-128**

**AC-22-129**

**B.A.&Sc. Program Changes:**

- Minor Concentration in Psychology
- Major Concentration in Psychology

**AC-22-131**

**AC-22-132**

Among some housekeeping changes in the above Psychology programs, the main revisions concerned the proposed recommended background requirements and whether requiring 200-level courses as an entry requirement was permitted in programs. After a lengthy discussion, Associate Dean Hundemer said these programs had precedence and were not considered new changes. There are similar requirements in some Mathematics and Statistics programs. However, he emphasized that the Academic Committee will consider each program change on a case-by-case basis.

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

**The motion carried.**

## 7. Barbados Field Study Semester (BFSS)

Prof. Virginie Millien, the new Program Director of the Barbados Field Study Semester (BFSS), introduced the revisions to the BFSS. She said the program had been offered at the Bellairs Research Institute since 2003 under the Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Following a Cyclical Review and retirement of the program director, the BFSS will be administered by the Faculty of Science, focusing on the study of sustainability science, emphasizing the Caribbean.

The BFSS consists of a total of 15 credits, which include four new three-credit courses (below) open to U2 and U3 students registered in the BFSS from all faculties.

### Four New Courses:

ATOC 341	Caribbean Climate and Weather 3 credits	<u><a href="#">AC-22-134</a></u>
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Prof. Dent **moved**, seconded by Prof. Pereg-Barnea, that the course be adopted.

### The motion carried.

BIOL 343	Biodiversity in the Caribbean 3 credits	<u><a href="#">AC-22-135</a></u>
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Prof. Dent **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dufour, that the above course be adopted.

### The motion carried.

GEOG 340	Sustainability in the Caribbean 3 credits	<u><a href="#">AC-22-136</a></u>
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Prof. Dent **moved**, seconded by Prof. Neslehova, that the course be adopted.

### The motion carried.

FSCI 444	Barbados Research Project 6 credits	<u><a href="#">AC-22-137</a></u>
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Corrections to Restrictions: it should read "Only open to U2 and U3 students registered in the BFSS from all faculties".

Prof. Dent **moved**, seconded by Prof. Cherestes, that the course be adopted.

### The motion carried.

**- Minor in Field Studies** [AC-22-138](#)

Students registered in one of the following field study semesters may complete the Minor with an additional three Complementary credits.

- Africa Field Study Semester
- Barbados Field Study Semester
- Barbados Interdisciplinary Tropical Studies (BITS) Field Study Semester
- McGill Arctic Field Study Semester
- Panama Field Study Semester

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

**The motion carried.**

**- Barbados Field Study Semester**

**AC-22-139**

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

**The motion carried.**

**8. Mathematics & Statistics**

**Course Retirement:**

MATH 134                      Enriched Linear Algebra and Geometry  
3 credits

**AC-22-140**

Prof. Neslehova said that due to declining enrollment since 2014, MATH 134 was being retired.

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

**The motion carried.**

**Program changes:**

- B.Sc. Major in Math and Computer Science

**AC-22-141**

Prof. Neslehova explained that students cannot take both MATH 317 (Numerical Analysis) and COMP 350 (Numerical Computing) for credits. A statement in the program description, under the list of Required courses, would now prevent students from taking both courses.

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

**The motion carried.**

**9. Computer Science**

**New Course** (approved as COMP 692\*)

COMP 689                      Internship Course  
15 credits

**AC-22-142**

Prof. Guo introduced a new 15-credit internship course, COMP 692, for students pursuing the M.Sc. in Computer Science (Non-Thesis) Program and are interested in gaining industry experience.

Prof. Guo **moved**, seconded by Ms. Khamis, that the course be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

*Secretary's Note:* The course number has been changed to COMP 689 because the 690 to 699 numbers are kept for thesis and project courses.

**Program changes:**

- M.Sc. in Computer Science (Non-Thesis)

**AC-22-143**

Prof. Guo said the proposed program revisions would allow students to either take the 15-credit internship course (approved above) or the 15-credit research project plus additional courses.

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

**The motion carried.**

## 10. Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences & Chemistry

### Course Revisions (Double-prefixed Courses):

ATOC 519/CHEM 519	Advances in Chemistry of Atmosphere 3 credits Changes: description, prerequisites, restrictions, supplementary Calendar information	<u>AC-22-144/AC-22-144A</u>
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Prof. Dufour said that the changes to ATOC 519/CHEM 519 were being revised to reflect the current course content.

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

**The motion carried.**

## 11. SUS Report (Academic Portfolio)

The SUS V.-P. (Academic) Asma Khamis reported on the following:

### 1. Updates

- Academic concerns and suggestions have been addressed smoothly so far
- Planning ahead for an Academic Rights campaign closer to the end of the semester to pre-emptively answer common questions regarding assessments

### 2. 2022 Graduate and Professional Schools Fair

- Working on this with the Arts Undergraduate Society (AUS), to be held in a hybrid form on November 17 (in-person) and November 18 (virtually)
- First in-person Graduate Fair since before the COVID-19 pandemic
- Excited for students to have the opportunity to learn about programs and career paths from representatives from 40+ programs

### 3. Course Pipeline Project

- Initiative discussed with departmental VP Academics
- Provide students with visual aids depicting the courses they will encounter throughout their degree, as well as anecdotal information on complementary courses, common electives, and more
- Working on this on a departmental basis, including with program advisors

### 4. Contact information

- Email: [academic@susmcgill.ca](mailto:academic@susmcgill.ca)

## 12. Other Business

There being no further business, Prof. Forest **moved**, seconded by Prof. Seawall, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

**The motion carried.**