

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 February, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in Arts Council Room, Arts 160.

**PRESENT:** Associate Dean (Academic) Tamara Western (Acting Chair), Associate Dean Axel Hundemer (Vice-Chair), Director Nicole Allard, Professors, Maxime Denis, Barbara Hales, Michael Hendricks, Michael Langer, Greg Marczynski, Timothy Merlis, Anthony Mittermaier, Johanna Neslehova, Gillian O'Driscoll, Jeanne Paquette; Riley Bowker, Ellie Joung, Nathaniel Leitao, Simona Bene Watts, Candace Yang; Lina Alvarez, Josie D'Amico.

**REGRETS:** Dean Bruce Lennox, Professors Huy Bui, Gail Chmura, Ana Nyzhnyk, Kenneth Ragan, Kathy Roulet, Natalie Waters; Lia Huo, Alexandra McCallum, Michael Wolman.

**DOCUMENTS:** AC-17-53, AC-17-69 to AC-17-76

On behalf of Dean Lennox, Associate Dean Western called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. She asked the new members of the Academic Committee to introduce themselves, since she had been on leave.

**(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Denis, that the Agenda be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

**(2) MINUTES OF 23 JANUARY, 2018**

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Director Allard, that the Minutes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

**(3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**503.1** Associate Dean Western reported that, at the Faculty of Science meeting of 20 February 2018, BIOC 219, Writing in Biomedical Sciences, was not approved because Faculty members expressed similar concerns to those that had been raised at the last Academic Committee meeting, when BIOC 219 had been approved. A vote took place to refer BIOC 219 back to the Department of Biochemistry for further consideration.

**503.2** Associate Dean Hundemer said that similar issues were raised at the Faculty meeting about offering a laboratory writing course (BIOC 219) one semester prior to the laboratory course (BIOC 220), specifically, that the students would not have adequate Science background to succeed in BIOC 219. The general consensus of the members was to preferably embed BIOC 219 into the laboratory course, BIOC 220, and possibly increase the credit weight to 4. Consequently, the changes to BIOC 220 and the three programs, Honours in Biochemistry, Major in Biochemistry, and Liberal – Core Science Component in Biochemistry, were tabled, pending the outcome of BIOC 219. The proposals will have to be considered at a future Academic Committee meeting and Faculty of Science meeting.

**(4) COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**(i) B.Sc. Program Changes:**

- Honours in Software Engineering **AC-17-70**
- Major in Software Engineering **AC-17-71**
- Liberal - Core Science Component in Software Engineering **AC-17-72**

**(ii) B.A. & Sc. Program Changes:**

- Major Concentration in Software Engineering **AC-17-73**

**504.1** Prof. Langer explained the changes to the four above-mentioned Software Engineering programs for the B.Sc. and B.A. & Sc. degrees. He said the Faculty of Engineering also offers Software Engineering programs, and has introduced two new courses (ECSE 326, ECSE 437) for engineering students. The School of Computer Science would now like to include these Complementary courses to the Software Engineering programs for Computer Science students.

**504.2** After some discussion concerning the possible ambiguity in the list of suggested COMP courses and the ECSE courses under Complementary courses, it was agreed that the instructions be more clearly specified, as is done in the current program.

Prof. Langer **moved**, seconded by Prof. O'Driscoll, that the changes be approved, pending the minor revisions.

**The motion carried.**

**(iii) B.A. Program Changes (For Information Only)**

- Major Concentration in Software Engineering

**(5) MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS**

MATH 356	Honours Probability Changes: prerequisites, corequisites 3 credits	<b>AC-17-74</b>
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**505.1** Prof. Neslehova said that prerequisites have been added because the material in the corequisite courses did not offer adequate preparation to succeed in MATH 356.

Prof. Neslehova **moved**, seconded by Prof. O'Driscoll, that the changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

***New Course:***

MATH 594	Topics in Mathematics & Stats 4 credits	<b>AC-17-75</b>
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**505.1** Prof. Neslehova explained that the proposed new topics course, MATH 594, is intended to cover material that is not taught often enough to warrant a separate course. MATH 594 is aimed at advanced undergraduates and beginning graduate students wishing to take more than one topics course in the same semester.

Prof. Neslehova **moved**, seconded by Prof. O'Driscoll, that the course be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

**(6) PSYCHOLOGY**

PSYC 427	Sensorimotor Neuroscience Changes: title, prerequisites 3 credits	<b>AC-17-76</b>
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**506.1** Prof. O'Driscoll said the change in title better reflected the course content. The prerequisites were updated to ensure that students had sufficient background to successfully complete the course.

Prof. O'Driscoll **moved**, seconded by Prof. Langer, that the changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

(7) **MICROBIOLOGY & IMMUNOLOGY**

**- Program Changes:**

Liberal – Core Science Component in Microbiology & Immunology **AC-17-53**

- 507.1 Prof. Marczyński explained that, at the Academic Committee meeting of 23 January 2018, there was concern about the one-credit increase in the program credit load (due to the creation of MIMM 301) for the Liberal – Core Science Component in Microbiology & Immunology Program. After a review by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, it was decided that there was no increase in the course workload because the writing component had previously been integrated into an existing course, MIMM 384.

Prof. Marczyński **moved**, seconded by Prof. O'Driscoll, that the program changes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

(8) **REGISTRATION WAITLISTS**

- 508.1 Associate Dean Western said that she would like to have a discussion on registration waitlists and reserved seating to determine best practices. She said the Faculty is examining the feasibility prior to bringing it back to a future Academic Committee meeting. Associate Dean Western asked AC representatives to check with their units about procedures and best practices on waitlists and reserved seating for a future discussion.

(9) **SUS ACTIVITIES**

1. SUS Academia Week (Feb 5-9, 2018)
  - a. Week-long event series featuring day and night events and lab tours
  - b. Day events included: Introduction to coding, NSERC information session, etc.
  - c. Night events included: Astrology and Cosmology with Dr. Kaspi, Future of Child Psychiatry with Dr. Amirali, etc.
  - d. Lab tours in: Neuroscience, Physics, Pharmacology, Physiology and Chemistry
  - e. Key note speaker: Creators of Youtube Channel "ASAP Science"
2. Academic Events Committee Career-Related Speaker Series
  - a. Speakers from industries were invited to speak to students about the path to their careers in non-research/medicine setting
  - b. First event featured VP Operations of Pzifer

Next speakers are from: start-ups, Montreal Forensics Lab, etc.

(10) **OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no further business, Director Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Mittermaier, that the meeting be adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

**The motion carried.**