

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2020 at 3:00 p.m. via the Zoom Conference Application.

PRESENT: Vice-Dean David Stephens, Associate Dean (Academic) Axel Hundemer, Director (Advising Services) Nicole Allard; Professors Amy Blum, Huy Bui, Maxime Denis, Ben Forest, Paul François, Abigail Gerhold, Barbara Hales, Greg Marczynski, Timothy Merlis, Johanna Neslehova, Ana Nyzhnyk, Gillian O'Driscoll, Jeanne Paquette, Kathy Roulet, Tamara Western, Clark Verbrugge, Natalie Waters; Emily Dinunzio, Sean McWatt, Andrew Nguyen; Josie D'Amico.

REGRETS: Julia Morales-Aguirre, Samantha Pritchard, Keerth Raveendra, Juliann Wray.

DOCUMENTS: AC-19-87 to AC-19-122

Vice-Dean Stephens called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

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

The motion carried.

2. Minutes of 25 February 2020

AC-19-87

Prof. François **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gerhold, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

Vice-Dean Stephens gave a brief update regarding the M.A.Sc. in Complex Problem Solving (AC-19-78/78A) that was discussed during the meeting on 25 February 2020. He said that there was some opposition in the Faculty of Arts, but that the proposal was on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The proposal will be revisited at a later time.

4. Psychology

Course Revision:

PSYC 562

Measurement of Psychology Processes

AC-19-88

Changes: description, prerequisites, supplementary

Calendar information

3 credits

The changes in description and prerequisites were due to a new faculty member teaching PSYC 562.

After some discussion about the minimum grade for the prerequisites, it was agreed that the minimum grade for the prerequisites be changed to C (from a grade of B).

Prof. O'Driscoll **moved**, seconded by Prof. François, that the changes be approved with the above modification.

The motion carried.
5. **Pharmacology & Therapeutics**

New Course:

PHAR 397

Pharmacology Research Project 2
3 credits

AC-19-89

The intent of a new undergraduate research course, PHAR 397, is for students wishing to carry out a second research project in a subsequent term, after completing PHAR 396.

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

The motion carried.

6. **Biology Undergraduate Courses & Programs**

Prof. Western introduced the new/revised course and program revisions. The Department of Biology undertook a major review of all its undergraduate course and program offerings. The objectives of the proposed changes are summarized below:

- to ensure better coordination across the programs and courses
- to increase quantitative skills
- to increase hands on experience and flexibility
- to expand existing course, BIOL 206
- to create three new courses (BIOL 216, BIOL 302, BIOL 311)
- to increase the number of advanced courses in the various programs
- to revise prerequisites in courses affected by the program changes

New Course:

BIOL 216

Biology of Behaviour
3 credits

AC-19-92

The Department is proposing a new U1 integrative course, BIOL 216, for students in the modified B.Sc. Major, Honours, Core Science Component, and the B.A. & Sc. Programs. BIOL 216 will also be a prerequisite for a number of courses on the Agenda for the current meeting.

Modification/Addition:

- In the course outline, the third midterm exam scheduled during the last two weeks of the term should not be scheduled in the last two weeks of classes.
- Upon a request by a member, BIOL 216 was added to the list of Complementary courses in the B.Sc. Major in Environment.

Prof. Western **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gerhold, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

New Course:

BIOL 302

Fundamentals of Genetics and Genomics
3 credits

AC-19-93

BIOL 302 is a new more advanced genetics course than the existing BIOL 202 course. The course will replace BIOL 202 in the proposed revisions to the B.Sc. Major, Honours, and Core Science Component in Biology (below). Students in the B.A. & Sc. Program will

have the option of taking either BIOL 202 or BIOL 302. Students in the biomedical sciences programs will continue to take BIOL 202, which will serve as a service course.

Prof. Western **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gerhold, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

New Course:

BIOL 311	Laboratory for Organismal Biology 3 credits	AC-19-94
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In order to increase quantitative skills and hands on experience in the Biology programs, BIOL 206 (below) has been expanded into two required courses with a different focus, BIOL 206 (below) and BIOL 311. Since there were only two laboratory courses (BIOL 206 and BIOL 301) available to all students, and since students have requested a new organismal laboratory course, BIOL 311 will be an appropriate addition to the Department's offerings.

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

The motion carried.

All of the following minor course changes were necessitated as a result of the above new courses.

Course Revisions:

BIOL 200	Molecular Biology Change in corequisites 3 credits	AC-19-90
BIOL 202	Basic Genetics Changes: prerequisites, restrictions 3 credits	AC-19-118
BIOL 205	Functional Biology of Plants and Animals Change in title 3 credits	AC-19-91
BIOL 206	Methods in Biology Changes title, description, supplementary Calendar information 3 credits	AC-19-95
BIOL 300	Molecular Biology of the Gene Change in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-19-96
BIOL 301	Cell and Molecular Laboratory Changes in description; prerequisites 4 credits	AC-19-97
BIOL 303	Developmental Biology Changes in prerequisites; corequisites 3 credits	AC-19-98
BIOL 306	Neural Basis of Behaviour	AC-19-99

	Change in prerequisites 3 credits	
BIOL 313	Eukaryotic Cell Biology Changes in description; prerequisites 3 credits	AC-19-100
BIOL 324	Ecological Genetics Changes in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-19-101
BIOL 370	Human Genetics Applied Change in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-19-102
BIOL 416	Genetics of Mammalian Development Changes in prerequisites; restrictions 3 credits	AC-19-103
BIOL 544	Genetic Basis of Life Span Change in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-19-104
BIOL 546	Genetics of Model Systems Change in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-19-105
BIOL 568	Topics on the Human Genome Change in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-19-106
BIOL 575	Human Biochemical Genetics Change in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-19-107

After some questions and answers, Prof. Western **moved**, seconded by Prof. Forest, that the above changes be approved.

The motion carried.

B.Sc. Program Changes:

- Honours in Biology	AC-19-108
- Major in Biology	AC-19-109
- Liberal: Core Science Component in Biology	AC-19-110

The revisions included the addition of the three new courses discussed above, the removal of various courses, the inclusion of COMP 204, and an alternate Chemistry pre/corequisite course. The Core Complementary courses have been arranged in three subdisciplines allowing students to choose one course from each subdiscipline. The total program credits have remained the same for all of the above.

Prof. Western **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gerhold that the above program changes be approved.

The motion carried.

B.A. & SC. Program Changes:

- Major Concentration in Biology

AC-19-111

The two B.A. & Sc. Major Concentrations in Biology (Cell/Molecular Option, Organismal Option) have been combined into one Major Concentration in Biology. The purpose of consolidating the two major concentrations was to align it with the revised B.Sc. Major, Honours and Liberal Core Science Component in Biology (above). With these changes, students will gain flexibility in choosing their courses.

Modification:

- The proposed program range listed on the first page (Box #4) of the program revision form should be removed since 36 credits is the maximum number allowed for major concentrations.

Prof. Western **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gerhold that the above program changes be approved.

The motion carried.**B.A. & SC. Program Retirement:**

- Major Concentration in Biology; Organismal Option

AC-19-112

With the restructuring of the Major Concentration in Biology, the Major Concentration in Biology; Organismal Option is no longer needed.

Prof. Western **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gerhold, that the above program retirement be approved.

The motion carried.**7. Biology Graduate Courses & Programs*****New Course:***

BIOL 601	Introduction to Graduate Studies in Biology 1.5 credits	AC-19-113
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New Course:

BIOL 602	Molecular Biology Research and Professional Skills 1.5 credits	AC-19-114
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New Course:

BIOL 603	Organismal Biology Research and Professional Skills	AC-19-115
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Prof. Gerhold **moved**, seconded by Prof. Forest, that the above program changes be approved.

The motion carried.**Graduate Program Changes:**

- M.Sc. in Biology (Thesis)

AC-19-116

- Ph.D. in Biology (Thesis)

AC-19-117

Prof. Gerhold said that after an extensive review of the graduate programs in Biology, three Complementary graduate courses, BIOL 601, BIOL 602, and BIOL 603, have been created and included in the revised Master's (Thesis) and Doctoral (Thesis) Programs in Biology. The three new courses were designed to formalize training in research and communication skills, increase exposure to topics such as equity, diversity and inclusion, provide students

with a cohort and a sense of comradery, as well as strengthening communication within a diverse department.

Prof. Gerhold **moved**, seconded by Prof. Western, that the above program changes be approved.

The motion carried.

8. Anatomy & Cell Biology

New Course:

ANAT 514	Advanced Human Anatomy Laboratory 3 credits	AC-19-118
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The creation of ANAT 514 was in response to students' requests for an additional course in human anatomy. In addition, the course would prepare students interested in pursuing graduate studies in anatomical sciences.

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

The motion carried.

Course Revisions:

ANAT 499	Supervised Library Research Changes in prerequisites; restrictions 1 credit	AC-19-119
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The changes in restrictions were necessary to specify the intended audience, and thereby, the instructor's permission was no longer required in the prerequisites.

ANAT 542	Transmission Electron Microscopy of Biological Samples Changes: course activities; title, description, supplementary Calendar information 3 credits	AC-19-120
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The changes to ANAT 542 were necessary because the focus of the course was modified, as well as the structure of the course.

Prof. Bui **moved**, seconded by Prof. François, that the above changes be approved.

The motion carried.

9. Physiology

Course Revisions:

PHGY 508	Advanced Renal Physiology Change in description 3 credits	AC-19-121
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The change in the course description was to better reflect the course content and to define the students' expectations in the course.

Prof. Nyzhnyk **moved**, seconded by Prof. François, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

PHGY 513

Translational Immunology
Changes: title, description, prerequisites
3 credits

AC-19-122

The revisions to the title and description were required to better outline the course content. Also, a prerequisite has been added to ensure that students have the necessary background to succeed in PHGY 513.

Prof. Nyzhnyk **moved**, seconded by Prof. François, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

The motion carried.

10. Other Business

- Possible Curriculum Changes during the 2020 Summer Due to COVID-19

Vice-Dean Stephens informed members that SCTP was developing procedures on processing course and program changes that may be necessary prior to the Fall 2020 term. Therefore, it may be possible that another Academic Committee meeting would take place.

There being no further business, Prof. Forest **moved**, seconded by Prof. Western, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:30 p.m.