

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2023 at 3:00 p.m. by Zoom Videoconferencing.

DOCUMENTS: AC-22-180 to AC-22-185, AC-22-200 to AC-22-203, AC-22-216 to AC-22-224

Associate Dean Axel Hundemer called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. and welcomed members to the sixth meeting of the Academic Committee.

1. Adoption of Agenda

- Under Other Business, Item #11, there will be a brief discussion concerning SCTP's Course & Program Approval Process.

Prof. Forest **moved**, seconded by SUS V.-P. Khamis, that the amended Agenda be approved.

The motion carried.

2. Minutes of 7 February 2023

AC-22-216

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

The motion carried.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

(a) There was no business arising from the Minutes.

4. Psychology

Course Revision:

PSYC 615D1/D2	Diagnostic Methods (Children) Change in credit weight [from 3 credits] 6 credits	AC-22- 218
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Course Retirement:

PSYC 616 D1/D2	Practicum – Child Diagnostics 3 credits	AC-22-224
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Prof. Melanie Dirks, Director of the Clinical Training Program in Psychology, proposed a change to the credit weight of one of the graduate courses that clinical psychology students took. PSYC 615D1/D2 and PSYC 616D1/D2 were originally structured as two separate course numbers, each weighted at 3 credits (1.5 credits per semester) due to historical reasons. However, this caused various issues with licensing boards, as the graduate students needed to be licensed in their respective province or state of residency. To address this, the decision was made to retire PSYC 616D1/D2 and increase the credit weight to 6 in PSYC 615D1/D2. This change does not affect the course content or the amount of time and instruction students received. The main goal of this change was to make it easier for students to obtain their licenses without encountering as many difficulties.

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

The motion carried.

New Course:

PSYC 622D1/D2	Practicum in Clinical Supervision and Consultation 6 credits	AC-22- 217
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Professor Nathan Fuks is the Director of The Virginia I. Douglas Centre for Clinical Psychology and an instructor of the new course PSYC 622D1/D2, which focuses on clinical supervision. The course has two components: the first is the theory behind clinical supervision in clinical psychology, and the second is a practical component where students will supervise less senior students in doctoral programs as they learn to do therapy with their first clients. This new course was developed in response to the requirements of the l'Ordre des Psychologues and the Canadian Psychological Association, which state that graduate students in psychology must have competencies in clinical supervision. The course is designed to make it easier for students to get licensed. Professor Fuks previously taught this course in the Faculty of Education for a number of years.

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

The motion carried.

8. Mathematics & Statistics

New Course:

MATH 365	Honours Groups Tilings and Algorithms 3 credits	AC-22- 219
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Prof. Kelome said that at the Academic Committee meeting on January 10, 2023, changes were made to the course description and title of MATH 335 (Groups, Tilings, and Algorithms). MATH 365 will now serve as the Honours version of MATH 335, and both courses will be taught jointly. However, the assignments for each course will be different to distinguish between the two.

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

The motion carried.

Course Retirements:

MATH 540	Life Actuarial Mathematics 4 credits	AC-22- 220
MATH 541	Nonlife Actuarial Models 4 credits	AC-22- 221

Prof. Kelome explained that due to low enrollment, MATH 540 and MATH 541 are being retired and will no longer be offered in several programs within the B.A., B.A.&Sc., and B.Sc. degrees.

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

The motion carried.

9. Physics:

Course Revisions:

PHYS 359	Advanced Physics Laboratory 1 Changes: title, description, corequisites, restrictions, Supplementary Calendar Info	AC-22-180
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PHYS 469 3 credits
Advanced Physics Laboratory 2 **AC-22-182**
Changes: title, description, corequisites restrictions,
Supplementary Calendar Info
3 credits

Course Retirement:
PHYS 439 Majors Laboratory in Modern Physics **AC-22-181**
3 credits

Prof. Pereg-Barnea explained the proposed revisions to two courses and the retirement of another course. Specifically, PHYS 359, PHYS 469, and PHYS 439 refer to the same physical lab, but only honours students can enroll in PHYS 359 and PHYS 469, while PHYS 439 is open to majors. The proposed change is to retire PHYS 439, allowing both majors and honours students to register in PHYS 359 and PHYS 469. Additionally, students can choose to take the lab in the fall or winter semesters or both, depending on their program. There is a wide range of experiments available, enabling students to take the lab for two semesters without repeating any experiments. Furthermore, the course titles, descriptions, corequisites, and prerequisites are being updated. These changes will affect all programs, leading to changes in all programs (below).

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

The motion carried.

Program Changes:
- Honours in Physics **AC-22-183**

Prof. Pereg-Barnea said the changes in the Honours Program in Physics are that students can choose to take either one or both advanced lab courses, PHYS 359 and PHYS 469, based on their individual schedules. Additionally, the freshman requirements of BIOL 111 and BIOL 112 have been removed. Other changes included corrections to the number of required credits in the e-Calendar and the reorganization of some courses as well as clarification of Math courses. Associate Dean Hundemer welcomed the removal of the biology freshman courses as they were not considered essential to the success of the program.

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

The motion carried.

- Honours in Mathematics and Physics **AC-22-185**

The changes in the Honours Program in Mathematics and Physics include the option of taking PHYS 359 and PHYS 469, a reordering of some of courses, and an update to the CGPA requirement for graduation from the program.

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

The motion carried.

- Honours in Physics – Biological Physics **AC-22-200**

Changes have been made to the Honours Program in Physics - Biological Physics, including the option to take either one or both of PHYS 359 and PHYS 469. As well, a correction has been made to the number of program credits listed in the e-Calendar.

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

The motion carried.

- Honours in Physics and Chemistry

AC-22-202

The Honours Program in Physics and Chemistry has been updated to include PHYS 359 and PHYS 469 as options. In addition, changes have been made to the CGPA requirement for graduation from the program.

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

The motion carried.

- Honours in Physics and Computer Science

AC-22-203

The Honours Program in Physics and Computer Science include revisions which include the option to take either one or both of PHYS 359 and PHYS 469. The program has also been updated to reflect changes in the CGPA requirement for honours, and a correction has been made in the e-Calendar for the total program credits.

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

The motion carried.

- Major in Physics

AC-22-184

The proposed changes to the Major in Physics include moving a research project course from the requirements to the list of Complementary courses, as well as removing the freshman BIOL 111 and BIOL 112 requirement since they are not necessary for success in the program. Moreover, PHYS 359 and PHYS 469 will be added as options to replace the retired course PHYS 439.

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

The motion carried.

- Major in Physics – Biological Physics

AC-22-201

The revisions to the Major in Physics - Biological Physics include replacing the recently retired PHYS 439 with PHYS 359 and PHYS 469. Furthermore, a correction has been made to the number of program credits listed in the e-Calendar.

In response to a member, Prof. Pereg-Barnea stated that BIOL 111 and BIOL 112 will be explicitly recommended for students registering in this Option, as there are many courses within the Option that require these prerequisites.

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

The motion carried.

Previously Approved at Faculty Meeting held on 6 December 2022:

Follow-up to B.Sc.; Minor in Electrical Engineering (AC-22-146)		
PHYS 241	Signal Processing Reciprocal restriction added 3 credits	AC-22-222
PHYS 328	Electronics Reciprocal restriction added 3 credits	AC-22-223

On SCTP's request concerning the previously approved B.Sc. Minor in Electrical Engineering (Academic Committee meeting on 22 November 2023), Prof. Pereg-Barnea said that reciprocal restrictions were necessary for PHYS 241 and PHYS 328. This is because these courses overlap with ECSE 206 and ECSE 331, respectively.

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

The motion carried.

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

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

1. SUS Academic Events
 - a) February 16: MSURJ x SUS Equity in Research Event
 - b) March: Exchange, Research, and Studying Abroad - student panel
2. Academic Concerns
 - a. Addressed academic concerns related to syllabus changes.
 - b. Hoping for greater clarity with the implementation of the Policy on Assessment of Student Learning (PASL) in Fall 2024.
 - c. Conducting discussions and consultations to determine academic measures and trends that students feel strongly about, with the hopes of addressing these in any guiding documents specific to the Faculty of Science in the Fall.
4. Contact information
 - a. Email: academic@susmcgill.ca

Associate Dean Hundemer expressed his gratitude to V.-P. Khamis for the SUS Report, stating that receiving feedback from students is crucial in addressing important issues. While the University PASL will be implemented in Fall 2024, the Faculty of Science will have updates available in the Fall 2023 semester.

11. Other Business

- SCTP Course & Program Approval Process

Members expressed their concerns regarding the SCTP course and program approval process. Associate Dean Hundemer acknowledged these concerns and mentioned that he intends to discuss the matter with the Associate Provost (Teaching and Academic Planning) to explore potential improvements that could make the process smoother, and suggested that it would be best to consider passing a resolution at the subsequent Academic Committee meeting instead of the current meeting.

There being no further business, Prof. Forest **moved**, seconded by Prof. Denis, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

The motion carried.

