

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
ACADEMIC COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on February 8, 2010, at 3:00 p.m. in Arts Council Room, Arts 160.

PRESENT: Dean Grant (Chair), Special Advisor N. de Takacsy (Vice-Chair), Director N. Allard; Professors F. Bedford, G. Halverson, A. Hundemer, B. Kemme, R. Levine, G. Marczynski, G. O'Driscoll, K. Ragan, K. Roulet, J. St-Pierre, B. Tremblay; L. Houle; L. Hewett, Y. Hwang, H. Johnson, I. King, , S. Perez, S. To; J. D'Amico, M. Yalaoui.

REGRETS: Professors L. Berrang Ford, B. Hales, L. Reven, A. Wechsler; J. Lyu; Associate Dean Hendershot.

DOCUMENTS: AC-10-52 to AC-10-56

Dean Grant called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The following three items were added to the Agenda to be considered under Item #10, Other Business.

- Update on B.Sc. e-Calendar
- Update on B.A. & Sc. e-Calendar
- Bachelor of Science/Master of Arts in Teaching and Learning (BSc/MATL)

Prof. Levine **moved**, seconded by Prof. Ragan, that the amended Agenda be approved.

The motion carried.

(2) MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2010 AC-10-52

Prof. Bedford **moved**, seconded by Prof. Halverson, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

(3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Minute 306.1, B.Sc. Major in Quantitative Biology (AC-10-49)

503.1 Prof. de Takacsy said that although SCTP had approved the B.Sc. Major in Quantitative Biology as originally submitted, APC had asked whether the Faculty would consider alternatives that would not require the huge effort involved in submitting the proposal to CEP (CREPUQ's Commission d'évaluation des projets de programmes) for external approval. The majority of courses in the program were existing courses. It was agreed that the proposal would be submitted as a B.Sc. Major in Biology with a Quantitative Biology Option.

**(4) REPORT ON MINOR COURSE CHANGES AC-10-53
(for information)**

504.1 Prof. St-Pierre mentioned that the changes to the Biochemistry courses were mainly housekeeping changes.

(5) COMPUTER SCIENCE***New Course:***

COMP 189

Computers and Society
3 credits**AC-10-54**

505.1 Prof. Kemme introduced the above new general interest course, COMP 189, and said that the course would examine social and political issues involving everyday technologies.

Prof. Kemme **moved**, seconded by Director Allard, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

(6) TRANSFER OF ENGLISH COURSES FROM THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH WRITING CENTRE, FACULTY OF ARTS, TO THE CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION**AC-10-55**

506.1 Prof. de Takacsy said that the English as a Second Language (ESL) unit of the English and French Writing Centre, which had previously been under the Faculty of Arts, had now been transferred to the McGill Writing Centre, under the Centre for Continuing Education. In the past, there had been concern about the quality of courses offered by the Centre for Continuing Education, and the CCE's admissions criteria. The ESL unit will now operate under the auspices of the CCE with the understanding that there would be no changes to the course content, teaching staff, etc.; nonetheless the courses should be monitored to ensure that quality was being maintained. The Associate Dean and SOUSA will monitor the courses, and the SOUSA web site will contain a list of approved ESL courses. This will be reflected in the 2011-2012 Calendar.

506.2 Director Allard said that SOUSA already maintains a list of all courses outside the Faculties of Arts and of Science that had been approved for B.Sc. students.

(7) *For Information Only:***B.A. & Sc. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AC-10-56
(Approved by B.A. & Sc. Program Administration Committee, February 2, 2011)**

507.1 Prof. de Takacsy explained the current administrative structure of the B.A. & Sc., as well as its drawbacks. The B.A. & Sc. Program Administration Committee had recommended to the Deans of Arts and of Science that there be a change in the administrative structure. Currently student advising for the B.A. & Sc. was assigned to SOUSA.

507.2 The proposed major changes were that operational responsibility for the B.A. & Sc. PAC would remain in one faculty for a term of three to five years, in order to allow for leadership and stability; that the Deans appoint the chair of PAC; that while the associate dean of the operationally responsible faculty would be an obvious choice for chair, the Deans could decide otherwise; that in due course, the Deans consider appointing a B.A. & Sc. program director for a term of three to five years; that the program director would not necessarily come from the faculty with operational responsibility; and that SOUSA would continue to have responsibility for advising.

507.3 Dean Grant said that the B.A. & Sc. administrative structure had originated before the installation of the current deans of Arts and of Science. Although advising responsibility had changed, the administrative structure had not.

(8) UPDATE: MINOR IN TECHNOLOGICAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR SCIENCE STUDENTS

508.1 Prof. de Takacsy said that many of the courses in the original Minor in Technological Entrepreneurship for Science Students had been offered by the Faculty of Management, but had been inactive for a number of years. The Faculty of Science was now restructuring the Minor. So far, there had been one meeting on the topic, and another was scheduled for the next day. MIMM 387 would be revised, and would be a key element in the Minor. Prof. Murgita from the Department of Microbiology & Immunology, who teaches MIMM 387, was closely involved with the restructuring of the Minor. Prof. de Takacsy said that when the Minor was ready, it would be brought to the Academic Committee. In the meantime, he welcomed suggestions from members.

(9) McGILL SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT - NEW B.A. PROGRAM (For Information Only):**- Joint Honours Environment Component**

509.1 Ms. Roulet said that there had been a number of requests for the introduction of a Joint Honours Environment Component, and some students had been granted permission to take an ad hoc Joint Honours Environment Component. The formalization of this component would make it available to all undergraduate students who wished to pursue in-depth studies and Honours research in two disciplines.

(10) OTHER BUSINESS**(i) Update on B.Sc. e-Calendar**

510.1 Prof. de Takacsy informed members that March 15, 2011 was the target date for the University to fix some, although not all, of the problems associated with the Science e-Calendar.

(ii) Update on B.A. & Sc. e-Calendar

510.2 Prof. de Takacsy said that it would seem that the B.A. & Sc. e-Calendar could not be presented in the same way as the Science e-Calendar, due to the former requiring too many technical adjustments to Banner, etc. A workaround for the problems was to 'clone' the B.A. & Sc. programs. This will be undertaken in the near future.

(iii) Bachelor of Science/Master of Arts in Teaching and Learning (B.Sc./MATL)

510.3 Prof. de Takacsy said that there was a new Master of Arts in Teaching and Learning in the Faculty of Education, which had been recently approved by the government, and which led to teacher certification. Initially open only to students who were already in a teaching position, it had now been opened to current undergraduate students. The Faculty of Science would like to propose a fast-track admission B.Sc./MATL, similar to the B.Sc./M.Sc. (Thesis) Track. Prof. de Takacsy added that if the B.Sc./MATL was approved it could replace the existing B.Sc./B.Ed. degree.

510.4 The proposal for the B.Sc./MATL would be presented to the Academic Committee in the near future.

510.5 Dean Grant said he welcomed the idea of the B.Sc./MATL.

510.6 Director Allard added that an additional advantage of the B.Sc./MATL would be a higher teacher salary than that for a B.Sc./B.Ed.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.