

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
14 November 2017
Leacock Council Room - L232**

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book

DOCUMENTS: S-17-12, S-17-13

Dean Lennox welcomed members to the third Faculty meeting of the 2017-2018 academic year.

1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Prof. Moore **moved**, seconded by Prof. Grütter, that the Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

2) MINUTES OF 24 OCTOBER 2017 S-17-12

Prof. Moore **moved**, seconded by Prof. Grütter, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

4) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Academic Committee S-17-13

The following proposals were approved at the Academic Committee meeting on 31 October 2017:

I. New Course

- Mathematics & Statistics
MATH 698 Reading Course in Probability **AC-17-18**
4 credits

304.1 Associate Dean Hundemer explained that MATH 698 was created because there was no reading course on this topic in the graduate program in Mathematics and Statistics.

Prof. Neslehova **moved**, seconded by Prof. Stephens, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

II. Course Revisions

(i) Computer Science
COMP 252 Honours Algorithms & Data Struct **AC-17-20**
Changes: prerequisites, restrictions
3 credits

304.2 Associate Dean Hundemer said that the proposed changes for COMP 252 will formally allow some Math Honours students the option of taking as prerequisites either MATH 235 or MATH 240, since these courses are similar in content.

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

The motion carried.

COMP 330	Theory of Computation Change in prerequisites 3 credits	AC-17-21
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304.3 Associate Dean Hundemer explained that the math prerequisite course (MATH 240) was being removed since students who have taken COMP 251, a prerequisite for COMP 330, must have already taken either MATH 235 or MATH 240.

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

The motion carried.

COMP 559	Fund. Computer Animation Change in prerequisites 4 credits	AC-17-22
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304.4 Associate Dean Hundemer said that COMP 557 was being removed as a prerequisite since it was no longer necessary for COMP 559. However, the prerequisites for COMP 557 will now be the prerequisites for COMP 559. Therefore, the new prerequisites for COMP 559 will be basic math and computer science courses: MATH 222, MATH 223, COMP 206, COMP 250.

Prof. Moore **moved**, seconded by Prof. Kemme, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

COMP 564	Adv Comp Bio Meth & Res Changes: title, description, corequisites 3 credits	AC-17-23
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304.5 Associate Dean Hundemer described the proposed changes to COMP 564, and said that the course had not been taught in 10 years. The revised course is the same but much broader in scope. Also, the title and corerequisites have been updated to reflect the current course content.

Prof. Kemme **moved**, seconded by Prof. Stephens, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

(ii)	McGill School of Environment ENVR 301	Environmental Research Design Addition of prerequisites 3 credits	AC-17-24
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304.6 Associate Dean Hundemer said that with the proposed prerequisites Environment students are strongly encouraged to complete their U1 Required courses prior to taking ENVR 301. For non-Environment students, permission of instructor will be required.

Prof. Moore **moved**, seconded by Prof. Fussmann, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

ENVR 401 Environmental Research
Changes: description, prerequisites, restrictions **AC-17-25**
3 credits

304.7 Associate Dean Hundemer said that the course description has been modified to reflect the current course content. Also, a statistics course (MATH 203) has been added as a prerequisite for ENVR 401, which must be taken prior to the final year of studies. Furthermore, the restrictions have been revised by updating program names.

Prof. Moore **moved**, seconded by Mr. Barry, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

III. New Joint Honours Program

- Physics and Computer Science
- Honours Program in Physics & Computer Science **AC-17-17**

304.8 Associate Dean Hundemer introduced the above new joint program. The program credit weight is between 78 or 81, depending on whether or not a student has previously taken MATH 222 (Calculus 3). He said that upon checking with the Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs (SCTP), a range in program credit weight is permitted. The expected enrolment is approximately 10 students.

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

The motion carried.

IV. Program Revisions

- Cognitive Science
- B.A. & Sc. Interfaculty in Cognitive Science **AC-17-13**

304.9 Associate Dean Hundemer said that in order to improve flexibility in the B.A. & Sc. Interfaculty Program in Cognitive Science, many more Complementary courses were added.

Prof. Stephens **moved**, seconded by Prof. Kemme, that the changes be approved, pending approval by the B.A. & Sc. PAC.

The motion carried.

- B.A. & Sc. Honours in Cognitive Science **AC-17-14**

304.10 Associate Dean Hundemer said the changes in the B.A. & Sc. Honours Program in Cognitive Science were to bring it in line with the Interfaculty Program above, by adding more Complementary courses.

Prof. Lydon **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the changes be approved, pending approval by the B.A. & Sc. PAC.

The motion carried.

V. Program Retirements

- Concurrent B.Sc./B.Ed. Programs

AC-17-15

- Concurrent Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) □ Major Concentration Biology □ Cell/Molecular with Minor Chemistry for Teachers (135 credits)
- Concurrent Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) □ Major Concentration Biology □ Organismal with Minor Chemistry for Teachers (135 credits)
- Concurrent Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) □ Major Concentration Biology □ Cell/Molecular with Minor Physics for Teachers (135 credits)
- Concurrent Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) □ Major Concentration Biology □ Organismal with Minor Physics for Teachers (135 credits)
- Concurrent Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) □ Major Concentration Chemistry with Minor Biology for Teachers (135 credits)
- Concurrent Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) □ Major Concentration Chemistry with Minor Physics for Teachers (135 credits)
- Concurrent Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) □ Major Mathematics for Teachers (135 credits)
- Concurrent Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) □ Major Concentration Physics with Minor Biology for Teachers (135 credits)
- Concurrent Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) □ Major Concentration Physics with Minor Chemistry for Teachers (135 credits)

304.11 Associate Dean Hundemer explained that the Concurrent B.Sc./B.Ed. degree was being retired because (i) the programs were credit-heavy; (ii) the programs have been replaced with the Master of Science in Teaching (MATL); (iii) no new students have been admitted since 2011; and (iv) the last student graduated with the B.Sc. and B.Ed. degree in May 2017.

IV. Other (New Writing Course for Information)

- **McGill Writing Centre**

CCOM 314

Communicating Science
3 credits

<https://www.mcgill.ca/study/2017-2018/courses/ccom-314>

304.12 Associate Dean Hundemer informed members about a new writing course for undergraduate students, CCOM 314, Communicating Science. The course is designed to communicate science to non-science students. The course will be offered by the McGill Writing Centre through the School of Continuing Studies. Associate Dean Hundemer asked members to help spread the word about CCOM 314.

5) DEAN'S BUSINESS

- Announcements

I. Intra-University

305.1 (1) In a recent email communication to the McGill community from the MRO McGill about the start up of the Principal's Task Force on Respect and Inclusion in Campus Life, Dean Lennox said that he and Prof. Nandini Ramanujam, Faculty of Law, will co-chair the Task Force. Prof. Ramanujam is the Executive Director of the Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism. The mandate of the Task Force is to recommend a set of concrete measures by which McGill may ensure the full and effective implementation of its core principles across all University activities, but with a particular focus on student life. Dean Lennox said that (i) a survey will be conducted, (ii) broad consultation with students will take place, (iii) an Open Forum will be held in January 2018, (iv) a progress report and a status report for discussion will be provided in February and March, 2018, with a final report and recommendations to the Principal by the end of April, 2018. Thereafter, the

Task Force report will be formally presented at the 16 May 2018 Senate meeting. The Task Force is seeking statements of interest from students to serve on it. The student membership will include two undergraduate students, one from the downtown campus, and the other from the Macdonald campus, plus one graduate student. He asked members to reach out to potential students.

305.2 Dean Lennox added that Principal Fortier has appointed Prof. Spencer Boudreau to conduct an investigation to address allegations of anti-Semitism surrounding votes taken at the Students' Society of McGill University (SSMU) General Assembly on 23 October 2017.

305.3 (2) Dean Lennox said that the Principal's International Advisory Board (PIAB) met with Prof. Masad Damha, Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Dr. Sam Sewall, Director of the Undergraduate Studies, and himself. The PIAB advises the Principal on policies and initiatives in the University. In consideration of converting an old building into a state-of-the-art building, the PIAB visited the renovated teaching and research laboratories in the Otto Maass Chemistry Building.

II. Faculty

305.4 (1) Trottier Institute for Science and Public Policy (TISPP)
The annual Symposium on Science and Public Policy will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 28 November 2017, in the McGill Faculty Club Ballroom. The Symposium primarily features former and current Trottier Fellows. Most of the TISPP funding has supported the research of a total of 10 Trottier Fellows (McGill professors). During the Symposium, there will be presentations by Prof. Matthew Harsh, Concordia University, on *Science Outside the Laboratory Program* and the other presentation will be given by Prof. Tim Moore, Director of TISPP, on the *Proposed Graduate Program Option in Public Policy*. The graduate option is being proposed for all graduate programs across the campus in collaboration with the new Max Bell School of Public Policy. Dean Lennox added that the occurrence of the TISPP Symposium was very important, given the recent launch of the Max Bell School of Public Policy. He said that, as a result of the efforts of Prof. Moore, the science component of building public policy will be ensured, especially with the proposed graduate option.

305.5 (2) On Wednesday, 15 November 2017, the Minister of Science Kirsty Duncan will be visiting the Reasoning & Learning Laboratory with the Director of the School of Computer Science, Prof. Bettina Kemme, and with Prof. Doina Precup, head of Montreal's new DeepMind Artificial Intelligence lab.

305.6 (3) The Faculty of Science Scholarship and Awards Reception will take place on Thursday, 16 November 2017 in the McGill Faculty Club Ballroom, with donors having the opportunity to meet the recipients of the awards they had created. During the reception, Dr. Len Pinchuk will be giving a talk on innovation.

305.7 (4) Teaching Initiatives
The range of teaching initiatives that are funded by the Faculty of Science has expanded since the last Faculty meeting held on 24 October, 2017. Dean Lennox said that units have devised some very creative and impressive developmental-type projects surrounding teaching initiatives, and he said he was very pleased with the plans.

305.8 (5) Otto Maass Chemistry Building
The Department of Chemistry was in the process of preparing the final stages for tender for the new Undergraduate Organic Chemistry Laboratory. Dean Lennox said the demolition will begin on 1 April, 2018 and will be completed on 1 September 2018. He added that after these renovations, the Otto Maass Chemistry Building and the Pulp & Paper Building will be completely renovated with state-of-the-art facilities.

- 305.9** **(6) Royal Victoria Hospital**
Dean Lennox said that he, along with Prof. Nigel Roulet (Geography) and Mr. Jean-Marc Gauthier (Chemistry), have been attending several meetings concerning the RVH space. He said that the Faculty of Science was in a good position in terms of the different elements of the RVH. Phase 1 will include Earth Systems (Departments of Atmospheric Sciences, Earth & Planetary Sciences, and Geography), and Molecular and Material Sciences (Departments of Chemistry, Physics, Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Electrical Engineering). Dean Lennox will provide more information about the details of Phase 2 at a future Faculty meeting.

6) REPORTS OF DIRECTOR AND ASSOCIATE DEANS

a) Director (Advising Services) Nicole Allard

- 306.1** Director Allard said that she was pleased to report that this year's Open House, held on 29 October, 2017, was successful, and that there was continued interest in science.

b) Associate Dean (Academic) Axel Hundemer

Associate Dean Hundemer said he had no report.

c) Associate Dean (Graduate Education) Laura Nilson

- 306.2** Associate Dean Nilson wanted to draw members' attention to McGill's automated progress tracking system for graduate students. The Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS) was in the process of setting up an automated system for progress tracking. Discussions have been ongoing for a while, and the system is currently in the piloting stage with the objective of rolling out in the near future. The tracking system will enable departments to capture all the progress tracking information for each student's program. Moreover, graduate students will be able to view and chart their own milestones for their program. The aim of the new automated system is to streamline the tracking progress.

- 306.3** Not only is the CGPS the first step for approval of graduate academic programs, but it also considers decisions about any policies or procedures related to graduate education. Associate Dean Nilson reminded members that there are three Science representatives serving on the (CGPS): Professors Eyal Goren and Russell Steele (Mathematics & Statistics) and Professor Debra Titone (Psychology). She said that the Science representatives on the CGPS have informed her that there will be a presentation/discussion about the automated progress tracking system at the next CGPS meeting scheduled in December 2017. She said that although the details of the new system were not yet available, she urged members to contact her or any of the three Science representatives with their comments, concerns and feedback so that they would be able to represent the views of the Faculty of Science. Associate Dean Nilson said she would email GPDs, with a copy to Chairs/Directors, about the next CGPS meeting.

d) Associate Dean (Research) Doina Precup

On behalf of Associate Dean Precup, Dean Lennox said there was no report.

7) REPORTS ON ACTIONS OF SENATE

- Senate Meeting of 19 September 2017 – Senator David Harpp on behalf of Senator Masad Damha

Memorial tributes were presented for three faculty members.

Final enrollment figures for 2017-2018 will only be known in February, but a 2% increase in student numbers is being projected; 58% of the students are female. McGill has retained its 42nd place worldwide in the Times Higher Education ranking.

Regarding government relations, the Principal noted that the Naylor Report, offered recommendations in two main areas: investments in fundamental science and governance.

The Québec government will invest \$23M to combat sexual violence on campuses; colleges and universities will be required to adopt a sexual assault prevention policy if they have not already done so; McGill's policy was adopted in the fall of 2016.

Open House on Campus Planning Initiatives showcased initiatives such as the Downtown Campus Master Plan and the former Royal Victoria Hospital site redevelopment project.

Senate adopted the report of the Nominating Committee and approved the appointment of three Assessors under the Policy on Harassment.

Provost Manfredi presented for information the Report of the Provost's Task Force on Indigenous Studies and Indigenous Education. A Senator expressed approval of the concept of renaming the Redmen varsity teams and asked how the consultation process for this change will work. Provost Manfredi responded that he has looked at how other universities (notably Yale) have dealt with similar renaming issues.

Associate Provost Campbell presented for information a set of proposed revisions to the Regulations Relating to the Employment of Contract Academic Staff. There are approximately 1,200 to 1,500 non-hospital contract academic staff at McGill, both ranked and unranked.

Provost Manfredi presented a Progress Report on Sustainability Initiatives at McGill (http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/files/senate/8_d17-05_progress_report_on_sustainability_initiatives_at_mcgill.pdf).

Senate received for information the annual report on the Policy on Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law, the annual report of the Committee on Student Services and the annual report of the Joint Board-Senate Committee on Equity.

The meeting was concluded as I recall, at about 4:15 PM.

- Senate Meeting of 25 October 2017 – Senator Gregor Fussmann

The meeting began with memorial tributes being presented by Senator Bede for Professor Terry Wheeler, by Dean Lennox for Professor Allan Hay, and by Senator Roulet for Professor Warwick Armstrong.

In her remarks from the Chair, Principal Fortier noted that Bill 62 had recently been adopted; that she had issued a statement which reminds the McGill community that the University adheres to the principles of religious neutrality and accommodation for religious differences; and that Bill 62 will not affect our existing policies and practices. Principal Fortier also mentioned positively the new Montreal DeepMind Artificial Intelligence lab, which will be led by Professor Doina Precup.

Associate Provost Campbell presented the report of the Academic Policy Committee. Dean Bajoux-Besnainou presented a motion to table the resolution to approve the proposed Professional Development Certificate in Data Analytics for Business in the School of Continuing Studies; the motion to table was narrowly defeated, and the APC report was approved. All other programs and courses were approved without being contended.

The remainder of business on the agenda were housekeeping items. Those that required approval of Senate were approved.

- The report of the Senate Nominating Committee (approved)
- Revisions to the Charter of Students' Rights (approved)
- Revisions to the Regulations that relate to the situation of Contract Academic Staff (approved)
- The annual report Concerning the Investigation of Research Misconduct (for information)
- University Advancement annual report for 2016-17 (for information)
- The report from the Board of Governors to Senate (for information)

The Joint Board-Senate Meeting will be held on November 15, 2017, on the topic "Building stronger communities and citizenship through mentorship."

Before adjourning, Senate moved into confidential session to discuss the report of the Honorary Degrees and Convocations Committee.

8) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

There were no members' questions.

9) OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, Prof. Lydon **moved**, seconded by Prof. McKenzie, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

The motion carried.