

FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
8 September 2020 at 3:00 p.m.
Held via Zoom Conference Application

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book

DOCUMENTS: S-19-37, S-19-38, S-20-1, S-20-2

Dean Lennox called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., and welcomed members to the first Faculty of Science meeting of the 2020-2021 academic year.

Dean Lennox congratulated the newly appointed Professors and Faculty Lecturers. The Faculty of Science was privileged to attract these outstanding professors from around the world. He then congratulated the recently tenured Professors, new Full Professors, and new Emeriti Professors for their outstanding contributions and accomplishments.

2020 New Professors			
ATMOSPHERIC & OCEANIC SCIENCES	Ivy Tan	Assistant Professor	August 1, 2020
	Djordje Romanic	Assistant Professor	August 1, 2020
BIOLOGY	Fiona Soper (joint w/MSE)	Assistant Professor	January 1, 2020
CHEMISTRY	Marc-André Légaré	Assistant Professor	August 1, 2020
COMPUTER SCIENCE	Siva Reddy (joint w/Linguistics, Arts)	Assistant Professor	January 1, 2020
	Christopher Dubach (joint w/ ECE)	Associate Professor (tenured)	January 1, 2020
	Hsiu-Chin Lin (joint with ECE)	Assistant Professor	January 1, 2020
	Robert Robere	Assistant Professor	August 1, 2020
	David Rolnick	Assistant Professor	August 1, 2020
MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS	Patrick Allen	Assistant Professor	August 1, 2020
	Anush Tserunyan	Assistant Professor	August 1, 2020
	Valentino Tosatti	Professor (w/tenure)	August 1, 2020
	Courtney Paquette	Assistant Professor	August 1, 2020
	Elliot Paquette	Assistant Professor	August 1, 2020
PSYCHOLOGY	Brendan Johns	Assistant Professor	January 1, 2020

2020 New Faculty Lecturers			
BIOLOGY	Serge Champetier	Faculty Lecturer	June 1, 2020
COMPUTER SCIENCE	Joseph D'Silva	Faculty Lecturer	December 1, 2019
COMPUTER SCIENCE	David Becerra Romero	Faculty Lecturer	July 1, 2020
MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS	Alia Sajjad	Faculty Lecturer	August 1, 2020

2019-20 Tenure Professors			
Matthew Harrington	Chemistry	Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor	June 1, 2020
Piotr Przytycki	Mathematics and Statistics	Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor	June 1, 2020
Marcin Sabok	Mathematics and Statistics	Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor	June 1, 2020
Thomas Brunner	Physics	Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor	June 1, 2020
Daryl Haggard	Physics	Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor	June 1, 2020
Jonathan P. Britt	Psychology	Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor	June 1, 2020
Sarah Racine	Psychology	Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor	June 1, 2020

2019-2020 Full Professor Promotions			
Melanie Dirks	Psychology	Full Professor	November 1, 2019
Nicolas Moitessier	Chemistry	Full Professor	November 1, 2019
Tomislav Friscic	Chemistry	Full Professor	November 1, 2019
Bruno Tremblay	Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences	Full Professor	June 1, 2020
Gail Chmura	Geography	Full Professor	June 1, 2020
Jeffrey McKenzie	Earth and Planetary Sciences	Full Professor	June 1, 2020
Brigitte Pientka	School of Computer Science	Full Professor	June 1, 2020
Johanna Neslehova	Mathematics and Statistics	Full Professor	June 1, 2020

2019-2020 Emeritus Professors			
Stephen Drury	Mathematics and Statistics	Emeritus Professor	August 31, 2019
George Wenzel	Geography	Emeritus Professor	December 31, 2019
Wayne Pollard	Geography	Emeritus Professor	December 31, 2019
Alfonso Mucci	Earth and Planetary Sciences	Emeritus Professor	August 31, 2020

1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Prof. Roulet **moved**, seconded by Prof. Chmura, that the Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

2) **RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF ROBERT “BOB” LYNN CARROLL, EMERITUS PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY AND REDPATH MUSEUM**

Prof. Hans Larsson will present the resolution on the death of Prof. Carroll at the next Faculty of Science meeting.

3) **RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF HENRY REISWIG, PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY AND REDPATH MUSEUM**

Prof. Hans Larsson will present the resolution on the death of Prof. Carroll at the next Faculty of Science meeting.

4) **SEATING OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES** **S-20-1**

Dean Lennox welcomed and thanked the student representatives for serving on the Faculty of Science meetings. The Faculty is looking forward to working together with student representatives, and a meeting will be scheduled to discuss some of the challenges in the coming year.

5) **MINUTES OF 4 JUNE 2020** **S-19-37**

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

The motion carried.

6) **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

7) **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

a) **Nominating Committee** **S-20-2**

1. Science Nominating Committee (for information):

The Nominating Committee consists of the Science Senate Representatives, and almost all are Chairs of the Faculty of Science; the Convenor is Vice-Dean David Stephens. The Committee approves and recommends memberships in Faculty of Science committees.

2. Science Chairs' Council (for information):

The Science Chairs' Council serves as an advisory committee to the Dean, and consists of the Dean, the Vice-Dean, the Associate Dean (Academic), the Associate Dean (Graduate Education), the Associate Dean (Research), the Director of Advising Services and the heads of all units in the Faculty of Science, including the MSE and the Redpath Museum.

3. Tenure Committee (for information):

The Tenure Committee consists of Faculty of Science representatives and Senate representatives from various faculties.

4. Committee on Student Standing (for approval):

The Committee on Student Standing (CSS) reviews student appeals of decisions made by the Director of Advising Services.

Prof. Western **moved**, seconded by Prof. Sangyong, that the membership of the CSS be approved.

The motion carried.

5. Academic Committee (for approval):

The Academic Committee reviews and approves all academic content taught in the Faculty of Science.

Prof. Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Chmura, that the membership of the Academic Committee be approved.

The motion carried.

6. Scholarships, Fellowships and Awards Committee (for approval):

The Vice-Dean or Associate Dean (Academic) or Associate Dean (Education) or delegate serves as the Chair of the Committee. The Committee is also made up of department representatives.

A member from the Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences and the Department of Psychology will be announced at the next Faculty meeting scheduled for 5 October 2020.

Prof. Breau **moved**, seconded by Prof. Minarik, that the membership of the Scholarships, Fellowships and Awards Committee be approved.

The motion carried.

7. Leo Yaffe & Principal's Prizes Committee (for approval):

The Leo Yaffe and Principal's Prizes Committee recommends candidates for these awards for excellence in teaching.

Two additional alternate students will be reported at the next Faculty of Science meeting.

Prof. Western **moved**, seconded by Prof. Perepichka, that the membership of the Leo Yaffe & Principal's Prizes Committee be approved.

The motion carried.

8. Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (for approval):

Representatives of all faculties sit on the Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

Prof. Sangyong **moved**, seconded by Prof. Perepichka, that the membership of the Council of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies be approved.

The motion carried.

9. B.A. & Sc. Program Administration Committee (for approval):

The B.A. & Sc. PAC reviews changes to, and coordinates the administration of, the B.A. & Sc. degree programs. Only the Science membership is subject to approval by the Faculty of Science.

Prof. Fussmann **moved**, seconded by Prof. Roulet, that the Science membership of the B.A. & Sc. Program Administration Committee be approved.

The motion carried.

Associate Dean Hundemer, Chair, Science Scholarships Committee, reported on the undergraduate scholarships given to continuing students based on their grades for the 2019-2020 academic year.

The Scholarships Report consists of named awards provided by generous donors, as well as the Dean's contribution to top up these awards to ensure that all students with a 3.97 SGPA and above received comparable awards. In total, 525 students received scholarships compared to 421 in 2018-2019. Associate Dean Hundemer added that the vast majority of funding came from very generous donors and thanked them for their considerable contributions.

The SGPA cutoffs for the Dean's Honour List (top 10% of students in the Faculty) were:

- B.Sc. 3.97 SGPA
- B.A. & Sc. 3.94 SGPA

8) **DEAN'S BUSINESS**

- Announcements

(i) **Years of Service in the Faculty of Science and at McGill**

On behalf of the Faculty, Dean Lennox congratulated the following members who are celebrating a special milestone year with the Faculty of Science. He thanked everyone for their dedication, contributions and achievements, and he looked forward to celebrating more of these milestones in years to come.

Name	Unit/Department	Years of Service	Years of Service in Science	Current position
Gregor Fussmann	Biology	16 years (1 year past milestone)	All	Chair
Dmytro Perepichka	Chemistry	15 years	All	Chair
Bettina Kemme	Computer Science	20 years	All	Director
Laura Nilson	Faculty	20 years	All	Associate Dean (Graduate Studies)
Lisa Maggio	Faculty	31 years (1 year past milestone)	14 years	Human Resource Administrator
John Lydon	Psychology	30 years	All	Chair
Nicole Allard	SOUSA	30 years	23 years in Science	Director
Paul Olioff	SOUSA	30 years		Student Advisor
Josie D'Amico	Faculty	35 years	27 years in Science	Assistant to the Dean (Academic)
Angela Mansi	Faculty	35 years	31 years in Science	Academic Affairs Administrator
Jane Hawes	SOUSA	35 years	33 years in Science	Student Advisor/ Assistant to the Director Advising Services

(ii) **Parental Leave Research Allowance**

Associate Dean Nilson said she was delighted to report that the Science Equity and Climate Committee recently announced the launch of a Parental Leave Research Allowance (PLRA), which will provide research funding for tenure-track faculty members

who take an eligible maternal, parental, or extended parental leave. The current leave policy provides salary support, but the goal of this research allowance is to help minimize the impact of such a leave by providing flexible funding that will support the faculty member's research program, for example by funding temporary research management personnel and/or ensuring general continuity of research funding. The goal is to help minimize the impact of such a leave on a faculty member's research program, and help avoid any dip in productivity that might propagate going forward. The pilot PLRA amounts will be \$25,000 for leaves of 11 to 20 weeks and \$50,000 for leaves of greater than or equal to 21 weeks. No application or negotiation is necessary.

Dean Lennox thanked Associate Dean Nilson and the Science Equity and Climate Committee for this initiative, as well as Ms. Julie Thériault, Senior Financial Officer, for implementing the program.

(iii) Kudos

(a) New Fellows elected to Royal Society of Canada (Academy of Science)

- Professor Andrew Gonzalez (Biology)
- Professor Charles Gale (Physics)

(b) New Members of the Royal Society of Canada's (RSC) College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists

- Professor Sabrina Leslie (Physics)
- Professor Audrey Moores (Chemistry)

Dean Lennox congratulated the new RSC members and the newly elected Fellows to the Royal Society of Canada on their worthy recognition.

(c) Recipient of the Royal Society of the United Kingdom's 2020 Bakerian Medal and Lecture

- Professor Victoria Kaspi (Physics)
 - For research on neutron stars and their utility for constraining basic physics.

(d) Named Distinguished James McGill Professors

- Professor Peter Grütter (Physics)
- Professor Victoria Kaspi (Physics)
 - The Distinguished James McGill Professor award recognizes a late-career scholar's sustained scholarship of world-class caliber and international leadership, similar to that of a Canada Research Chair (CRC) Tier 1.

(e) Canada Research Chair (CRC) Recipients

- Professor Karine Auclair (Chemistry)
 - New CRC in Antimicrobials and Green Enzymes, CIHR, Tier 1
- Professor Rosemary Bagot (Psychology)
 - New CRC in Behavioural Neurogenomics, CIHR, Tier 2
- Professor Nicolas Cowan (Physics)
 - New CRC in Planetary Climate, NSERC, Tier 2
- Professor Daryl Haggard (Physics)
 - New CRC in Multi-Messenger Astrophysics, NSERC, Tier 2
- Professor Yajing Liu (Earth & Planetary Sciences)
 - New CRC in Earthquake Seismology, NSERC, Tier 2
- Professor Maureen McKeague (Chemistry)
 - New CRC in Genomic Chemistry, CIHR, Tier 2
- Professor Hanadi Sleiman (Chemistry)

- *Renewed* CRC in DNA Nanoscience, NSERC, Tier 1
- Professor Debra Titone (Psychology)
 - *New* CRC in Language and Multilingualism, SSHRC, Tier 1

(f) SALTISE's Best Practices & Pedagogical Innovators Award Winner

- Dr. Laura Pavelka (Chemistry)
 - Developed student-centered pedagogical models in Organic and General Chemistry classes. In 2017, Dr. Pavelka was awarded the Principal's Prize for Excellence in Teaching, and in 2020 was the recipient of the Leo Yaffe Teaching Award.

On behalf of the Faculty, Dean Lennox congratulated the above awardees for their outstanding accomplishments and achievements.

9) SCIENCE UNDERGRADUATE SOCIETY (SUS) REPORT

Ms. Sydney Merritt, President of the SUS, gave the following report:

The SUS meetings and the departmental meetings are in full swing since the McGill-wide Zoom licenses. The first General Council Meeting will be conducted via Zoom on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, as well as the departmental orientations (which include training from OSVRSE and the Environmental Sustainability Committee) for all incoming executives in all departments on September 19, 2020. Many departments have started Discord Servers to better communicate with their respective student groups as well.

The first priority for this year is to create and promote spaces online that will bolster and encourage the "science community" among undergraduates. The Vice-President (Academic) is working with CAPS to transition the Science Graduate Schools Fair online, and the tentative date is November 4-5, 2020, in collaboration with the AUS. The Academic Portfolio is also working on setting up channels for Academic Complaints through the SUS as well as the logistics of Academia Week in the Winter term.

The Sustainability Portfolio has successfully started the SUS Buddy Program (another initiative to support incoming students by pairing them with upperclassmen) under the Mental Health Committee. This program has currently over 75 incoming students enrolled! Additionally, the Social Sustainability Committee has been highlighting relevant social justice topics and sharing on their platforms, and are planning to host an online webinar regarding social sustainability with guest speakers sometime in Fall 2020.

First Year Orientation or Frosh were successfully conducted on August 27-31 on Zoom! There were 579 froshies registered as well as 135 upper-year leaders. The Vice-President (Internal) and the Science Internal Committee are also planning to follow this online event with smaller scale events later in the academic year that are specifically geared towards all Science students.

Regarding communications with Science students, the Vice-President (Communications) has officially started distributing listservs for the academic year as well as setting up an Instagram account to reach more students on a different social media platform from Facebook. The Vice-President is working on developing a centralized "events calendar" on the SUS website that would encompass not only SUS initiatives but also Science departments.

The SUS Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with McGill University will expire this year, but renegotiations are still on hold. Due to COVID-19 and remote delivery, the meetings with the Office of the Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning) have not resumed.

Dean Lennox thanked Ms. Merritt for the report on the initiatives of the SUS. The Faculty of Science fully supports the SUS Buddy Program and would be happy to provide support in anyway.

10) **SCIENCE EQUITY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE (SECC)**

Associate Dean Nilson reminded members that the SECC was launched at the end of 2018, with a broad goal of promoting equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI), as well as a supportive climate for working and learning, across the Faculty of Science. The committee aims to do this by developing programs and policies that support the inclusion and success of historically underrepresented groups, as well as more general measures that will support EDI indirectly through approaches that benefit everyone in the community. The group consists of one Faculty member from each department, two graduate students, and five support staff who represent different aspects related to undergraduates.

Associate Dean Nilson reported about some of the main activities of this committee over the previous academic year:

1. As mentioned earlier in the current meeting, the SECC planned and recently announced the launch of a Parental Leave Research Allowance, which hopefully will address equity issues and improve the working climate.
2. The Committee set up and ran a forum for pre-tenure faculty, designed to provide them with useful information for launching their careers at McGill and, importantly, to provide a platform for them to network, socialize and learn from each other by sharing their experiences. Five sessions were held (the sixth was cancelled due to the shutdown) and are gearing up for a remote-delivery version in the coming year.

As always, if members have questions or suggestions, you can either contact Associate Dean Nilson directly or your department's representative on the committee.

Finally, Associate Dean Nilson drew member's attention to some important initiatives at the University level.

1. McGill's Strategic EDI Plan (2020-2025), which outlines a series of measures that will advance equity at McGill in concrete ways. It's a very concise and specific document and encouraged members to read it.
https://mcgill.ca/equity/files/equity/mcgill_strategic_edi_plan_2020-20251.pdf
2. The Provost is developing a plan to advance McGill's work in connection with anti-Black racism. As part of the work to develop this plan, the Provost hosted last week a series of three Town Halls in order to hear input and field questions from the McGill community. This plan will align with the themes of the EDI strategic plan—student experience, research and knowledge, outreach, workforce and space, and will be announced at the end of September 2020.
3. McGill's Equity Team has a great web site with lots of resources, including a new section devoted to "Initiatives and Education" (see: <https://mcgill.ca/equity/initiatives-education>), which contains information about available training on various topics. This site also contains a link to McGill's new Equity Blog (<https://mcgill.ca/equity/further-reading/equity-blog>).

Dean Lennox thanked Associate Dean Nilson and the Science Equity and Climate Committee for their excellent work.

11) **The New Vic - Update**

Dean Lennox provided a brief report on the New Vic project. A series of consultations had taken place with professors of the relevant departments to develop a functional and technical program. The second phase was a feasibility study document that was completed in August 2020, and was submitted to the Québec government on 1 September 2020 for review and approval. After approval by the provincial government, to be expected in December 2020, the specifications and drawings will take two more years to complete. Construction is projected to begin in 2023 and the New Vic is scheduled to open in 2028.

Dean Lennox thanked Faculty members in Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences, Earth & Planetary Sciences, and Geography for their collaboration and for dedicating their time and energy.

12) **REPORTS OF DIRECTOR AND ASSOCIATE DEANS**

a) Director (Advising Services) Nicole Allard

There was no report for the current meeting.

b) Associate Dean (Academic) Axel Hundemer

(i) Microbiology & Immunology – For Information Only

Associated Dean Hundemer reported on the following four new courses and program revisions that were approved during the Summer 2020 by the Academic Committee, the Dean of Science, on behalf of the Faculty, and SCTP. Approval of these proposals was expedited because it was critical to implement the new courses and program revisions for the Fall 2020 term. The new courses will temporarily replace two 12-credit spanned research courses (MIMM 501D1/D2 and MIMM 502D1/D2) for the 2020-2021 academic year only. These courses reflect a reduction in laboratory contact hours, since the Fall courses will be given remotely.

New Courses:

MIMM 503	Hons Res Proj - Immunology 1 3 credits	CoV-19-19-3
MIMM 504	Hons Res Proj - Immunology 2 6 credits	CoV-19-19-4
MIMM 505	Hons Res Proj - Mol Microbio 1 3 credits	CoV-19-19-5
MIMM 506	Hons Res Proj - Mol Microbio 2 6 credits	CoV-19-19-6

Program Revisions:

- Honours in Microbiology & Immunology **CoV-19-19-7**

(ii) Faculty of Science: Fall 2020 Assessment Regulations

Associate Dean Hundemer gave a brief overview of the regulations concerning examinations in courses administered by the Faculty of Science. All examinations will be delivered remotely, and instructors are obligated to familiarize themselves with the regulations (<https://www.mcgill.ca/science/covid-19/instructors/assessment-regulations-fall-2020>) concerning all written examinations, oral examinations, oral presentations, and the duration of examinations, etc. Written examinations include final exams, midterms, quizzes, and take-home exams.

Dean Lennox emphasized that it was very important that students be informed of the Assessment Regulations, and any questions should be directed to the instructor or Chair of the department.

In response to a question about whether an instructor was allowed to mandate class attendance, Associate Dean Hundemer replied that he would look into it and report back to Faculty. Another member pointed out that grades for class participation would not be equitable because students are taking courses in different time zones. Associate Dean Hundemer will report on these issues at the next Faculty of Science meeting scheduled for 5 October 2020.

(iii) Medical Notes Regulation

Associate Dean Hundemer informed members that the Faculty of Science will no longer be requesting medical notes from students who will be unable to write final exams, including quizzes and midterms, etc. The decision was taken because students are logging in to courses from across the globe, and obtaining medical notes may be difficult to obtain.

Dean Lennox thanked Associate Dean Hundemer for implementing the Assessment Regulations document and for all the hard work and dedication over the Summer 2020.

c) Associate Dean (Graduate Education) Laura Nilson

Associate Dean Nilson introduced Rebecca Maymon, who has recently joined the Faculty of Science as an Academic Associate who will be collaborating with Associate Dean Nilson on both the graduate education and equity/climate portfolios.

Dr. Maymon said that she had been working in the private sector and was very much looking forward to bringing her expertise to the Faculty of Science. In light of past experiences in the recruitment and professional development of PhDs, she will be involved on the graduate education and equity/climate portfolios with Associate Dean Nilson. As a graduate student at McGill, she obtained her Master's and Doctoral degrees in the Faculty of Education.

Dean Lennox welcomed Dr. Maymon and said that she will be an excellent addition to the Faculty of Science.

d) Associate Dean (Research) John Stix

(i) SURA and NSERC/USRA Student Presentations

Associate Dean Stix reported that the SURA and NSERC/USRA student presentations were held on 18 and 21 August 2020 via Zoom. The event was super successful!!

(ii) Wares Science Innovation Prospectors Fund

There were approximately 30 submissions for second annual competition for the Wares Science Innovation Prospectors Fund.

(iii) Canada Research Chairs

The University is currently evaluating the CRCs from the last competition, and the results should be announced in the near future. In addition, the next competition for the James McGill Professors and William Dawson Scholars was expected soon.

Dean Lennox thanked Associate Dean Stix and his team, Eduardo Ganem Cuenca, Research Grants Facilitator, and Preeti Purba-Singh, Grants and Awards Administrator, for their hard and diligent work in perfecting complicated and multi-part research proposals. These sentiments were echoed by Associate Dean Stix.

13) **MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no members' questions.

14) **OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no further business, Prof. Lydon **moved**, seconded by Prof. Chmura, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

The motion carried.