

- Changes in Supplementary Calendar Information:

FSCI 200	Industrial Practicum 1	<u>AC-22-228</u>
FSCI 300	Industrial Practicum 2	<u>AC-22-229</u>

Associate Dean Hundemer explained that the minor revisions made to FSCI 200 and FSCI 300 courses involved updating the contact information to include a generic email address. He emphasized the importance of avoiding the use of personal name emails to prevent the need for course revisions solely related to contact information updates.

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Perepichka, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

3. Earth & Planetary Sciences

- Course Retirement:

EPSC 513	Carbon and the Climate Cycle 3 credits	<u>AC-22-230</u>
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EPSC 513 is being retired as the instructor is no longer interested in teaching it, and there are no other members of the Department who are interested in taking it over. As a result, the course is being retired.

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Paquette, that the course retirement be approved.

The motion carried.

4. Computer Science

- Change in Course Title:

COMP 555	Information Privacy 4 credits	<u>AC-22-233</u>
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Associate Dean Hundemer said that the course title for COMP 555 is being revised to incorporate a more suitable technical term commonly used in the field.

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Blanchette, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

5. Bieler School of Environment

B.Sc. Program Changes:

- B.Sc. Major Environment, Biodiversity and Conservation Concentration	<u>AC-22-226</u>
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Associate Dean Hundemer explained that the changes to the program were relatively minor. Specifically, the credit weight of one of the field courses was reduced from four to three credits, the language in the program was clarified, and new courses were added while some were removed because they are either no longer offered or were infrequently offered. The total program credit weight remains unchanged.

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Fabry, that the changes were approved.

The motion carried.

For Information Only:

- B.Sc. (Ag.Env.Sc.) Major Environment, Biodiversity and Conservation Concentration
- B.Arts, Faculty Program Environment, Environment and Development Concentration

6. Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences/Earth & Planetary Sciences/Geography

Program Changes:

- Major in Earth System Science [AC-22-231](#)
- Honours in Earth System Science [AC-22-232](#)

Associate Dean Hundemer said that GEOG 428 was added to both the Major and Honours Programs in Earth System Science.

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Paquette, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

7. Psychology

- Changes to Psychology B.Sc. Program Descriptions (Note: Program Changes Previously Approved at the Faculty Meeting of 14 February 2023)

B.Sc. Programs:

- Honours in Psychology [AC-22-210](#)
- Major in Psychology [AC-22-211](#)
- Liberal – Core Science Component in Psychology [AC-22-212](#)

B.A. & Sc. Programs:

- Joint Honours Component in Psychology [AC-22-213](#)
- Major Concentration in Psychology [AC-22-214](#)
- Minor Concentration in Psychology [AC-22-215](#)

Associate Dean Hundemer explained that the primary changes made to the program descriptions for the B.A.&Sc. and B.Sc. degrees were to provide greater clarity regarding the necessary background for students interested in pursuing graduate studies in psychology, as well as to specify the undergraduate credits in psychology required by the Ordre des Psychologues du Québec. The revisions to the program description for the B.A.&Sc. Minor Concentration in Psychology, on the other hand, were general housekeeping changes.

Associate Dean Hundemer **moved**, seconded by Prof. Dirks, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

Associate Dean Hundemer thanked the departments and members of the Academic Committee for their hard work and dedication throughout the academic year. Dean Lennox echoed this sentiment and also noted that the Committee is comprised of five members from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences.

5. Dean's Business

- Dean's Announcements

a) Installation Ceremony of the New Principal and Vice-Chancellor

Dean Lennox announced that on May 29, 2023, an installation ceremony will be held to welcome the new Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Prof. H. Deep Saini. Prof. Saini

assumed his position on 1 April 2023. This momentous occasion will be attended by principals and presidents from around the globe. Dean Lennox added that Prof. Saini's background aligns closely with that of McGill.

b) Faculty of Science Convocation Ceremony

Dean Lennox announced that the Faculty of Science Convocation ceremony is scheduled for 5 June 2023. This significant event will feature the conferral of two honorary doctorates. He encourages all members to join the platform party, as their presence holds great significance for graduating students and their families.

c) Presentation by the Dean of Science

Dean Lennox gave a PowerPoint presentation that he recently shared with the McGill Board of Governors (BoG), providing an overview of the Faculty of Science. He said his primary objective was to give the BoG a snapshot about the Faculty of Science at McGill.

Dean Lennox concluded his presentation by noting that McGill Science has a rich history of making a significant impact in the field of science, which has now positioned us for a promising future. In that regard, it is his observation that our 90 or so early career stage professors possess extraordinary talent, exceptional capabilities, and have already demonstrated significant impact in their respective fields. Their expertise is truly out of this world.

Dean Lennox said that members are welcome to obtain the PowerPoint presentation.

d) Elections of Science Representatives on Senate

Josie D'Amico, the Secretary of the Faculty, announced that seven Faculty members have been nominated to serve on the Senate in response to the recent call for nominations. Members will be able to vote for five candidates in the upcoming election, which will take place from 1 to 5 May 2023.

Dean Lennox emphasized the importance of Senate. While there are quiet periods, the Senate can also become intense when issues arise. Hence, it is crucial for the Faculty to have strong representation, and members are encouraged to vote.

6. Science Undergraduate Society (SUS) Report

Joy Zhang, the SUS President reported on the following activities.

The SUS is entering its final week of final exams, while the executives are finalizing their portfolios for the year. The focus is on training the incoming executives and preparing them for the upcoming year. The SUS takes great pleasure in welcoming Asma Khamis as the incoming President of the SUS, and mentioned that she will be present at the upcoming Faculty meeting scheduled for 23 May 2023. The President expressed her utmost confidence in the capable hands that will lead the SUS.

It is a pleasure in welcoming Asma Khamis as the incoming President of the SUS, and mentioned that she will be present at the next month's Faculty meeting (23 May 2023). The President said she is confident that the SUS will be in capable hands.

Since the last meeting on 23 March 2023, notable events like the Graduation Ball and various formals organized by department councils have been successful. To conclude the semester, the incoming and outgoing executive teams plan to have a breakfast with the OSE at the end of the week.

The President thanked all members for their contribution and support throughout the year, acknowledging their significant role in promoting the SUS and its initiatives.

Dean Lennox expressed gratitude to Joy Zhang and the SUS for their vibrant partnership with the Faculty of Science. He noted that the consistency of their engagement speaks volumes about the student group, and emphasized that the SUS is an integral part of the Faculty's team.

7. Science Equity and Climate Committee
8. Provost's Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism

The following reports combine elements from the Science Equity and Climate Committee and the Provost's Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism.

Associate Dean (Graduate Education) Laura Nilson reminded student members about McGill's Student Climate Survey, which was recently launched to collect students' opinions and feedback on the campus climate and their overall experience. She said that the survey "will provide important information about students' experiences on our campuses and will help us in our efforts to fulfill our commitments towards bolstering and celebrating student diversity, striving to provide equitable support and access to opportunities, and promoting a respectful and inclusive learning experience for all students." The deadline for the survey has been extended to 30 April 2023 to allow more students to participate. Associate Dean Nilson thanked Joy Zhang, President of the SUS, and the Faculty advisors for helping to promote the survey among their students.

Associate Dean Nilson highlighted the Employment Equity Biennial Report presented to the Senate by Angela Campbell, the Associate Provost for Equity and Academic Policies. The report contains comprehensive data on the representation of women, racialized persons, and other equity groups within both tenure-track academic staff and other staff positions. These data are reported externally to the Federal Government and the Provincial Government, as well as internally to track progress towards meeting university targets and commitments, such as the Strategic Academic Plan, Indigenous Studies and Education, and the Action Plan to Address Anti-Black Racism.

The report also includes a list of employment equity initiatives implemented from 2021 onwards, including targeted initiatives like equity training for academic search committees and broader initiatives like mentorship programs for junior and mid-career faculty members. Furthermore, the report mentions exit interviews conducted with departing individuals as a means to assess and improve the institution's climate.

The full Employment Equity Biennial Report can be accessed on either the Senate website or the Associate Provost's website.

Dean Lennox thanked Associate Dean Nilson for her reports on these highly significant matters.

9. The New Vic Project Update

Dean Lennox reported that the injunction limiting the excavation in and around the New Vic Project has been lifted as of 11 p.m. on Thursday, 20 April 2023. This positive development follows months of discussions and consideration of concerns. The excavation will now proceed based on an agreed-upon archaeological plan. Over the next three months, the implementation of this plan will involve investigating the site using various techniques. While the project cannot cover the entire site, the focus will be on the areas surrounding the existing structures. This marks an important step forward in the

government's commitment to education and cooperation with indigenous groups. The archaeological investigations, including the use of Lidar and other archaeological techniques, will continue as part of the ongoing project. The design phase is now 100% complete, with architectural and structural details finalized. The blueprints have been developed, and with the injunction lifted, reconstruction work is set to commence, estimated to take approximately 16 months. Dean Lennox said that he plans to present the project's plans at the next Faculty of Science meeting on 23 May 2023.

10. Reports of Associate Deans

a) Associate Dean (Academic) Axel Hundemer

There was no report for the current meeting.

b) Associate Dean (Student Affairs) Anthony Mittermaier

Associate Dean Mittermaier drew members' attention to his recent email to all instructors regarding the submission of final grades for graduating students, which is set for 8 May 2023. This deadline is of utmost importance for graduating students since the graduation approval deadline for Winter 2023 is very tight. Failure to submit grades on time for these students could potentially interfere or even hinder their ability to graduate on time. It is crucial that a grade is submitted for every student on the Minerva class list. In cases where minimal or no work has been received, it is necessary to enter a grade of J. Associate Dean Mittermaier emphasized the importance of assigning a grade of J when a student is registered for a course but does not complete the final examination or fulfill other course requirements. J grades provides students certain rights regarding exams that F and K grades (as well as blanks) do not. Furthermore, they allow the Faculty to address missed exam issues at a later time.

c) Associate Dean (Graduate Education) Laura Nilson

Associate Dean Nilson reported that Dr. Rebecca Maymon and she are actively continuing their work on the graduate student funding project. They have visited two departments and had productive discussions with professors and graduate students. Associate Dean Nilson added they are available to visit other departments to present them with the data set relevant to their department, and discuss the project in general.

d) Associate Dean (Research) John Stix

(i) Fessenden Professorship in Science Innovation Awards - Call for Proposals

Associate Dean Stix announced that the Fessenden Professorship competition will be launched at the beginning of May 2023. The goal is to expedite the validation and technology transfer of promising concepts at their early or mid-stages of development, with the aim of advancing them closer to a commercial product and the market. Deadline: 16 June 2023.

(ii) Arctic Frontiers Event

Associate Dean Stix reported that the Norwegian Embassy in Ottawa is organizing an event called Arctic Frontiers on 10, 11, 12 May 2023. The purpose of this outreach effort is to promote Arctic collaboration, particularly in terms of academic cooperation between Norway and Canada. On 12 May, there will be activities at the Faculty Club, and more information will be sent out inviting members of various departments, including professors, students, and staff, to attend the forum.

Dean Lennox added that the Arctic Frontiers event will feature two panels discussing the future use of the Arctic. It is an opportunity for graduate students to learn about policy

formulation and the intersection of physical and social sciences. The event is expected to draw a large turnout, especially from the Departments of Atmospheric & Oceanic Science, Biology, Geography, and Earth & Planetary Sciences. The event provides valuable insights into policy development and the exploration of ideas and challenges within the Arctic. For any inquiries, members can contact Associate Dean Stix or Kerstin Tiedemann (Research and Grants Officer). Dean Lennox strongly encouraged graduate students and department staff to attend this event.

(iii) Citizen Science and Videogames

The School of Computer Science is arranging a workshop in early May 2023 to demonstrate the incorporation of citizen science and gaming into scientific research efforts. This unique outreach initiative aims to expand its reach and is coordinated by Prof. Jérôme Waldispühl. For further details, members can contact Prof. Waldispühl.

(iv) Recipient of James McGill Professor Award

Prof. Tony Ricciardi (Bieler School of Environment/Redpath Museum)
Prof. Alexander Maloney (Physics)

(v) Recipient of William Dawson Scholar Award

Prof. Peter Douglas (Earth & Planetary Sciences)

Associate Dean Stix congratulated the recipients of the James McGill Professor Awards and the William Dawson Scholar Award for their exceptional achievements.

11. Report on Actions of Senate

- Senate Meeting of 19 April 2023: Senator Sébastien Breau

The eighth regular meeting of Senate began with welcoming remarks from the Chair and new Principal (Deep Saini) who recognized the contributions of various individuals acting in senior administrative positions within the university on an interim basis over the last academic year.

Memorial tributes were read for Professors Emeriti Hanna Pappius (Medicine) and Robert MacKenzie (Medicine), as well as Professor William Novick (Medicine).

One item arose from previous business with regards to the question of what happens to students who do not complete the “it takes all of us” module. The Chair clarified that a hold will be placed on the accounts of these students.

In his Chair’s remarks, Principal Saini also provided updates on provincial funding for large-scale infrastructure projects (including \$620 million for the New Vic project). At the federal level, he also mentioned that McGill will support the recommendations of the recently released Bouchard report on the national research funding ecosystem (see <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/panel-federal-research-support/en/report-advisory-panel-federal-research-support-system>).

Senator Hébert raised two questions during members period. The first regarding the practice of labelling McGill Professors as personal employers at the Research Institute (RI) of the MUHC and (which raises a number of concerns over potential legal liabilities), the second regarding methods for identifying university advancement priorities. In response to the first question, Senator Manfredi confirmed McGill is aware of this practice which is currently under review by the RI leadership. Senators Manfredi and Weinstein provided clarifications on the second question, with emphasis on the administrative process underlying the acceptance and use of gifts and donations at McGill.

Senator Manfredi presented two reports for approval. Senate first approved the Nominating Committee's report on appointments. Senate then approved the 518th report of the Academic Policy Committee which included several recommendations/clarifications on the terminology to be used for online/blended/hybrid learning in courses at McGill with an amendment to revisit these definitions one year on.

A number of items were then received by Senate for information and discussion. Senator Campbell presented the (i) proposed Policy on Academic Freedom (AF) – to comply with Quebec's Bill-32 – which will be presented for Senate and the Board of Governor's approval in May. Questions were raised over the process of assessing an AF complaint, the composition of the AF committee and some of the disciplinary measures that may be recommended by the committee's Chair. Secretary-General Rogowska presented (ii) proposed revisions to the University's Policy on Safe Disclosure ("Whistle Blowing"). Senator Manfredi presented (iii) the 3rd budget report for 2022-2023 along with the proposed University Budget for 2023-24. Based on the latest information from January 2023, forecasts suggest FY 2023 will end with a balanced budget. A balanced budget is also being presented for FY 2024. Senator Manfredi and AVP (Human Resources) Diana Dutton presented (iv) the university's latest Staffing Report which provides the official headcount for staff (12,602 in total) across all categories (academic, administrative and support staff). University Registrar Nycum presented (v) the report on the biennial results of the student Census. Senator Leckey presented (vi) the report of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Secretary-General Rogowska presented (vii) the report for the latest meeting of the Joint Board Executive and Senate Steering Committees. Finally, Senator Crago presented (viii) the annual report on Research and Innovation.

No other business items were presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

12. **Members' Question Period**

There were no members' questions.

13. **Other Business**

There being no further business, Prof. Perepichka **moved**, seconded by Prof. Fabry, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

The motion carried.