

GIGS, Graduate Interest Groups

Faculty of Science, McGill University

October 7, 2011

1 Introduction

The Faculty of Science would like to introduce a new initiative aimed at graduating undergraduate and beginning graduate students. GIGS would provide a way in which small (10-40) groups students could meet with Professors and other experts to discuss a topic of importance to graduating and/or graduate students.

The intention is to have one organizing person per GIG, and have approximately 8-10 1 hour meetings of the GIG over one term. We would use the same mechanism as FIGS to support a 0-credit, non-transcript course that would be listed in the Minerva course schedule. Students would register for the course via the normal course registration process.

For historical reasons, all such courses must start with the prefix “FIG”. We propose to use the course numbers FIGI GIG1, FIGI GIG2 and so on.

2 The first GIG - FIGI GIG1: Entrepreneurship

We propose to offer the first GIG in Winter 2012, on the topic of Entrepreneurship. This GIG will be organized by Erica Besso, Research Innovations Officer, Faculty of Science. She will organize a schedule of 8-10 meetings all centered around the topic of Entrepreneurship. The meetings will include:

- Professors from the Faculty of Science;
- outside experts;
- McGill Alumni; and
- current McGill senior graduate students.

3 More GIGS

We are open to starting more GIGS in January, and would like to have at least two GIGS for the 2012-2013 academic year. Please suggest possible GIGS to Laurie Hendren (laurie.hendren@mcgill.ca), along with a possible organizer for the GIG. The GIG should have some topic, and can be either intended for all Faculty of Science graduating/graduate students, or can be specific to a department or cluster of departments.