

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE**  
**Meeting of Faculty**  
**Tuesday, 12 January, 2016**  
**Leacock Council Room - L232**

Before the start of the meeting Professor David Lowther and Mr. Wilson Wong, Chief Judges for the Canada-Wide Science Festival (CWSF), gave a talk on the Festival, which will take place at McGill from Saturday, 14 May 2016 to Saturday, 21 May 2016.

**Sunday, 15 May 15, 2016 and Monday, 16 May, 2016, Orientation and Judging.**

***This talk includes a call for judges and other volunteers to assist in the CWSF (details below).***

The CWSF is the highest secondary-level academic competition in Canada. It was formally begun in 1962. Students from Grade 7 to 12 and CEGEP 1 and 2 compete initially at their own schools, then in regional and provincial fairs in every province and territory in Canada, with the finalists attending the CWSF. Around 25,000 students participate each year, and the CWSF will host about 400 projects and 500 student finalists.

The CWSF will award nearly \$1M in prizes, scholarships, trips, and other forms of award.

The last CWSF held in Montreal was in 1963. Since the CWSF will in the future be held in a rotation of only three cities, *not* including Montreal, the 2016 CWSF may be the last time such an event is held in Montreal. Consequently, it would be wonderful if McGill put on an extra special event, one to not ever be forgotten!

The official local host organizing team, which has financial responsibility for the event, is the Educational Alliance for Science and Technology (EAST).

Finalists will arrive at McGill on Saturday, 14 May 2016 and leave on Saturday, 21 May 2016. In between will be a large number of events, including the Project Zone (all finalist projects showcased), the Discovery Zone (public demonstrations and interactions involving science, technology, engineering and math {STEM}), and including a Mini McGill [departments are invited to apply for participation in Mini McGill], a Speaker Series (featuring inspiring leaders in STEM), a Teachers' Conference (STEM speakers plus many workshops).

A number of events will involve the project participants, including opening and closing ceremonies, as well as a gala awards ceremony, scientific and cultural activities, social and recreational events, tours, a cruise on the St-Lawrence River...

Approximately 10,000 elementary and high school students from across Québec will be bussed to McGill to see the student presentations at the CWSF.

Prof. Lowther and Dr. Wong said that they would like to invite many members of the Faculties of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, as well as other members of the McGill community, to volunteer to assist in the running of this momentous event, in a large variety of capacities. For example, about 350 judges are required to judge the 500 or so projects (for judging, a scientific/engineering/healthcare/etc. background is required; scientists, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, engineers, doctors, nurses, etc., are appropriate).

For further information, please see the following links:

General Information: [www.ScienceTech.ca](http://www.ScienceTech.ca)  
<http://cwsf.youthscience.ca>

[CWSF2016@sciencetech.ca](mailto:CWSF2016@sciencetech.ca)

Volunteer Information: [www.sciencetech.ca/cwsf-volunteer](http://www.sciencetech.ca/cwsf-volunteer)

Judges Recruitment: [David@sciencetech.ca](mailto:David@sciencetech.ca) (Prof. David Lowther)  
[Wilson@sciencetech.ca](mailto:Wilson@sciencetech.ca) (Dr. Wilson Wong)

Mini McGill: [david@sciencetech.ca](mailto:david@sciencetech.ca) (Prof. David Lowther)  
[rocco@sciencetech.ca](mailto:rocco@sciencetech.ca) (Dr. Rocco Iafigiola)

Please volunteer to assist in this extremely important occasion.

Dean Lennox thanked Prof. Lowther and Dr. Wong for their very informative presentation.

Dean Lennox emphasized the high importance and significance of the CWSF. He said that this was also an opportunity for McGill to recruit the cream of science pre-university students. He urged professors, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to volunteer as judges, and stressed the importance of all varieties of voluntary activity to the success of the CWSF.

Dean Lennox said that he would circulate the presentation to Chairs and Directors, and encouraged them to publicize the CWSF widely within their units.

**Faculty of Science Meeting  
12 January 2016**

**ATTENDANCE:** As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book

**DOCUMENTS:** S-15-16

**1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

**The motion carried.**

**2) MINUTES OF 8 DECEMBER 2015 **S-15-16****

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

**The motion carried.**

**3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**Minute 306.1, Faculty of Science Meeting of 17 November 2015**

Dean Lennox said that Teaching and Learning Services (TLS) had hosted a full day symposium in December 2015, called *Teaching What's Important: Educating Students for Today & Tomorrow*. He said that it had been a great success and very well attended. One important point that was discussed was that because of the very high quality of McGill students, it is possible to go beyond traditional teaching methods.

TLS was preparing a summary of the symposium, and Dean Lennox said he would circulate it to Chairs/Directors.

**Minutes 404.3, 404.4, Faculty of Science Meeting of 8 December 2015**

Associate Dean Western said that at the last Faculty meeting, the new course CHEM 267, Intro. Chemical Analysis (AC-15-35), had been approved pending approval by the Department of Chemistry. CHEM 267 involved the combination of CHEM 287 and CHEM 297 into a single course. Associate Dean Western announced that such approval by the Department of Chemistry had now been finalized, and that the course was now awaiting approval by SCTP.

#### **Minutes 404.11 to 404.13, Faculty of Science Meeting of 8 December 2015**

Associate Dean Western said, regarding the Minor in Entrepreneurship for Science Students (AC-15-34), that an outdated, previously existing statement concerning the limits of additional credits outside the Faculties of Arts and of Science, had now been removed. There will be a proposal at a future Academic Committee meeting to modify the credit limit regarding courses outside the Faculties of Arts and of Science. The official consultation report from the Faculty of Management had now been received, and the proposal for the Minor in Entrepreneurship for Science Students will now be considered by SCTP.

In reply to a member's question, the Minor in Entrepreneurship for Science Students is expected to be published in the 2016-2017 eCalendar in mid-March.

#### **4) DEAN'S BUSINESS**

##### **a) Announcements**

Dean Lennox announced that a letter of condolences had been sent to the family of the late Arnold Steinberg, Chancellor Emeritus of McGill. Dr. Steinberg was a remarkable individual and although his public activity was very associated with the Faculty of Medicine, he was a true champion of student and learning innovations. Dean Lennox said that Dr. Steinberg had asked him many times about issues in Science, and Science at McGill.

Dean Lennox informed members that Professor Victoria Kaspi would be giving a special presentation that evening in recognition of her 2015 Killam Prize in Natural Sciences. She would be lecturing in the Tanna Schulich Hall, Faculty of Music. Prof. Kaspi holds a Canada Research Chair, and is also the Lorne Trottier Chair in Astrophysics and Cosmology, as well as the Director of the McGill Space Institute.

On 26, 27 January 2016, there will be a McGill symposium hosted by the Faculty of Science on "Science for a Sustainable Society." Dean Lennox said the symposium will feature and celebrate the CERC Chair in Green Chemistry and Green Chemicals, held by Prof. Robin Rogers. Other featured guest speakers will include Prof. Paul Anastas, Director of Yale University's Center for Green Chemistry and Green Engineering.

In early December 2015, the Principal sent out a formal outreach on the future of the Royal Victoria Hospital site. The Faculty is soliciting ideas and will be putting forward a major proposal for the February 12, 2016 deadline. Dean Lennox asked members to contact him or Josie D'Amico for a copy of the Principal's e-mail.

Soup and Science will be held from 18 to 22 January 2016 in Redpath Museum at 11:30 a.m. There will be about 25 speakers in total, around 20 of them from the Faculty of Science. Dean Lennox said that this is one of the Faculty's most important events, and it should not be missed.

Mini Science will be held on Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. from 25 February to 14 April 2016. The title of the series will be "Weather and Climate - Going to Extremes". Ms. Ingrid Birker and her colleagues are organizing the series, and he encouraged members to attend.

On Thursday, 14 January 2016, Prof. Joelle Pineau, School of Computer Science, will be giving a talk at the Cutting Edge Seminars.

For more information on Faculty of Science seminars/events/etc., see the Faculty of Science website (<http://www.mcgill.ca/science/>), and for information on those hosted by the University, see McGill's website (<http://www.mcgill.ca/>).

b) Budget

Dean Lennox said that meetings and input were proceeding regarding the budget, but that it was an incremental process and is still in progress.

**5) REPORTS OF ASSOCIATE DEANS**

a) Director (Advising Services) Nicole Allard

Director Allard said that the Recruitment Office had held an event in December 2015, targeting high school students. Advisors had attended the event, and there was a significant amount of interest in science. There were many questions about the areas where math and computer science intersect with the biological sciences, and about computer engineering, software engineering, and the distinctions between the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Engineering with regard to Software Engineering. Director Allard encouraged units to target these areas on their websites.

b) Associate Dean (Graduate Education) Laura Nilson

Associate Dean Nilson said she wanted to mention several recent GPS announcements of awards: (1) the Carrie Derick Award for Graduate Teaching and Supervision (for those with less than 10 years of experience); (2) the David Thomson Award for Graduate Teaching and Supervision (for those with more than 10 years of experience); (3) the Award for Excellence in Service for Administrative and Support Staff, relating to graduate students. She encouraged graduate students to submit nominations for these awards.

Postdoctoral fellows and graduate research trainees require work permits, and there had been recent changes in the procedures for obtaining the permits. GPS had recently sent out a detailed list of procedures to follow. If any members wanted a copy of this, they should contact Associate Dean Nilson.

c) Associate Dean (Research) Doina Precup

Associate Dean Precup said that an information session had been held that day in the Department of Psychology regarding CIHR funding. In the following week, there would be two information sessions regarding industrial partnerships.

Regarding CFI grants, a number of good ideas had been submitted, and Associate Dean Precup, Prof. Peter Grütter and Prof. Alfonso Mucci had sorted through the ideas. If anyone missed the original deadline, they could submit ideas to Associate Dean Precup. Information from CFI is still lacking and may take several more months.

Associate Dean Precup mentioned the symposium on Science for a Sustainable Society on 26 and 27 January, 2016, and said that there would be space for about 30 posters. She asked members to encourage their students to display posters.

d) Associate Dean (Academic) Tamara Western

Associate Dean Western said that a sub-committee of the Academic Committee had been doing an analysis of grades in different units across the Faculty. The sub-committee will present a report to a future Academic Committee meeting, and then the report will be brought to a Faculty of Science meeting.

6) **REPORTS ON ACTIONS OF SENATE**

Prof. Damha will report on the Senate Meeting of 2 December 2015 at a future Faculty meeting.

7) **MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no members' questions.

8) **OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.