



# McGill

**MCGILL UNIVERSITY SENATE**

## Question

**TO:**

Senate

**DATE SUBMITTED:**

February 1, 2008

**FROM:**

Erica Martin

**SENATE MEETING DATE:**

February 13, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Departure of professors from courses during semester

**PREAMBLE:**

Students often select their courses based on the professor of a class. Individual professors make a huge difference to the content and experience of a class. Some recent departures of professors in the middle of the term have, understandably, upset students in the classes affected (especially when this sudden departure occurs following the ADD/DROP period). Of course, it is impossible to predict or control the departures of professors, but the adverse effect on students should be recognized.

**QUESTION:**

Does the University have a policy on the departure of professors during the semester (when they are teaching classes)?

Does the university keep statistics on the frequency of mid-term departures of lecturers?

What measures exist to maintain the continuity of a course and the quality of lectures following unforeseen departures?

What current measures exist to minimize the adverse effects these departures have on students?

Are there any plans for a comprehensive policy to address this issue?