

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, November 15, 2005
Leacock Council Room - L232**

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-05-18 to S-05-20

Dean Grant called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- Item #6, Report on Actions of Senate, to be given after Item # 1.

Prof. Mucci **moved**, seconded by Prof. GowriSankaran, that the amended Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2005 S-05-18

Prof. Gyakum **moved**, seconded by Prof. Ewing, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

(3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

(4) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a) Committee on Student Standing S-05-19

Associate Dean Leighton pointed out the Report of the Committee on Student Standing.

b) Academic Committee S-05-20

The Academic Committee approved the following on Tuesday, November 1, 2005:

SECTION A: NEW PROGRAMS

None

SECTION B: MAJOR PROGRAM CHANGES

None

SECTION C: NEW COURSES

- 1) Computer Science AC-05-11**
 COMP 529 Software Analysis

1) **i) Research Project Courses – XXXX 396** **AC-05-21**

- 304.2** Associate Dean Hendren went over Document AC-05-21, and she and Dean Grant answered questions from a number of members.
- 304.3** It was pointed out that units in the Faculty of Science already have multiple undergraduate research courses. However, Dean Grant said that by instituting a common project course number (XXXX 396), the clear message would be sent that the Faculty of Science was pioneering the promotion of undergraduate research.
- 304.4** Associate Dean Hendren emphasized that although the prerequisites for XXXX 396 courses could be set to encourage multidisciplinary research and to encourage students to do research in different units, it was also possible to set prerequisites specific for particular XXXX 396 courses.
- 304.5** Dean Grant said that while posting the descriptions of proposed project courses would provide students with an extensive overview of research opportunities available to them in the Faculty of Science, projects could still be devised via discussions between faculty members and students, without prior posting.
- 304.6** It was mentioned that in the event of a second student applying for a project that another student had already taken, it would be possible to create a 'clone' of the original project for the second student.

Prof. Ryan **moved**, seconded by Prof. Ragan, that Document AC-05-21 be adopted as the template for creation of XXXX 396 research project courses in the Faculty of Science.

The motion carried.

ii) Dean's Undergraduate Research List (DURL) **AC-05-22**

- 304.7** Associate Dean Hendren described Document AC-05-22, and said that in addition to the requirements for the Dean's Undergraduate Research List specified in the document, students must attain a grade of at least "C" in the 9 credits of research-based courses.
- Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Wolfson, that the Dean's Undergraduate Research List as outlined in Document AC-05-22 and as modified above, be adopted.
- 304.8** There was a lengthy discussion on the issue, with many members feeling that intensive research within a single discipline was being given short shrift by the requirements for the DURL. It was also pointed out that within a single unit, there was a wide variety of what could be considered separate disciplines, and the requirements of the DURL took no allowance of this.
- 304.9** It was proposed that the Dean's Undergraduate Research List (DURL) be renamed to the Dean's Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research List (DMURL). This was accepted as a friendly amendment.
- 304.10** A vote was held on the amended original motion:
- | | |
|------------|----|
| In favour | 20 |
| Opposed | 8 |
| Abstention | 1 |

The amended motion carried.

iii) Project Courses

AC-05-23

- 304.11** Associate Dean Hendren said that there was a Science regulation limiting the number of credits students could receive for project courses. She said that since some units already require 12 credits of project courses for their programs, the limit would have to be modified in order for students from these units to be eligible for the DMURL.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gyakum, that the regulation limiting students to 12 credits of project courses in Section 12.3.6.2, Project Courses, of the Calendar be abolished.

The motion carried.

2) i) New TOEFL Test for 2006 Applicants

AC-05-24

- 304.12** Associate Dean Hendren briefly described the proposed new TOEFL admission criteria.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Ms. Gao, that the proposal in Document AC-05-24, Page 3, be approved.

The motion carried.

ii) SAT Results

AC-05-25

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Ms. Upham, that the recommendations in Document AC-05-25 relating to new and old SAT results be approved.

The motion carried.

iii) Approval by Associate Dean (Academic)

- 304.13** Associate Dean Hendren suggested that the Associate Dean (Academic) be given authority to approve minor changes to admissions policies.

Prof. GowriSankaran **moved**, seconded by Prof. Green, that the Associate Dean (Academic) be given authority to approve minor changes to admissions policies, and that the changes be brought to Academic Committee meetings and then to Faculty meetings for information only.

The motion carried.

SECTION H: OTHER (For Information Only)

**THIS ITEM WAS POSTPONED TO THE NEXT FACULTY OF SCIENCE MEETING.
- One-Credit Courses - Associate Dean (Student Affairs)**

(5) DEAN'S BUSINESS

THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE DISCUSSION WAS POSTPONED TO THE NEXT FACULTY OF SCIENCE MEETING.

i) Undergraduate Teaching & Research

Discussion: Committee of the Whole (15 minutes)

Chair: Associate Dean (Research) Burns

ii) Introduction of Prof. Brian Alters

- 305.1** Prof. Green introduced Prof. Brian Alters, Tomlinson Chair in Science Education, and Director of the Tomlinson Science Education Project. He said that Prof. Alters was also the Director of the Evolution Education Research Centre, and was a Dawson Scholar. Prof. Green said that Prof. Alters had recently been appointed to the Redpath Museum, and that it was a pleasure to welcome him to the Faculty of Science.

(6) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

There were no members' questions.

(7) REPORT ON ACTIONS OF SENATE

Please note that the entire Minutes of Senate are available on the Web at <http://www.mcgill.ca/senate/minutes/>.

- Senate Meeting of October 19, 2005 - Prof. D. Harpp

Principal's Remarks

The Principal described the hazing issue and the reasons for any perceived delay. She commented on the new hospital merger indicating there were complications in making sure that work was not duplicated and in properly integrating teaching and research.

She commented on the \$20M Schulich gift to the Music Faculty and noted the ACFAS award to Professor Mysak.

Questions

There was a question about the name of the new school of music. It was indicated that the name of the school of music would use "Schulich" but that was within the Faculty. The Schulich logo would appear at the bottom of the degree along with the McGill logo.

Reports

A protracted summary was made in very general terms about various advances, hirings, research, communication and our position relative to other similar universities. Performance feedback seems to be an aspect that we will hear more about.

The student discipline code was amended.

A report (in the form of a coloured "newspaper") was given out that summarized the giving of the previous year. It was a departure from the usual listing of donors by approximate amount.

There was a report on complaints laid against printing services with respect to a failure to deliver the right number of coursepacks to the bookstore this past fall. The report made it seem like the printing service was wholly at fault. My personal view is that they do a superb job so this may be an exceptional situation. Discussion carried on way too long.

A report on the libraries was delivered but was criticized as not being clear. In addition it was suggested that the Provost is an inappropriate person to Chair this committee as he is the one who would be acting on the wishes of the committee that he heads.

The adjournment time was ~ 5:15 p.m.

(8) OTHER BUSINESS

308.1 Dean Grant announced that the Faculty of Science would be hosting "Soup & Science," a lunchtime event over one week in January 2006, during which faculty members could briefly describe their research, and undergraduates and faculty members could converse. He said a memo would be sent out in the near future.

308.2 Associate Dean Hendren thanked Mr. Jesse Pasternak for preparing the pre-game show on SUS activities, and she asked for volunteers for upcoming meetings.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.