398th REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE TO SENATE

14th February 2008

I.   TO BE APPROVED BY SENATE

(A) NEW TEACHING PROGRAMS

None.

(B) Major Program Revision

None.

(C) CHANGE IN DEGREE DESIGNATION

None.

(D) ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE ISSUES / POLICIES / GOVERNANCE

1) Proposed revisions to McGill's graduation honourifics (Appendix A)

At a meeting on 14th February 2008 APC reviewed a proposal from the University Committee on Scholarships and Student Aid (UCSSA) for rationalizing the assignment at graduation of "Distinction" to undergraduate students at McGill. The proposal identifies criteria that would be applied uniformly by faculties wishing to use those accolades, so that the designation on the transcript would have the same meaning across faculties. The Deans were consulted about the appended proposal.

APC therefore recommends that Senate approve the following resolution:

be it resolved that Senate approve the proposed guidelines for faculties wishing to assign the "Distinction" accolade, for implementation at the June 2010 Convocation.

2) Proposed approval paths for new and revised courses and teaching programs (Appendix B)

At meetings on 31st January and on 14th February APC reviewed a proposal submitted by the APC Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs (SCTP) to decentralize responsibility for the approval of certain proposals relating to courses and programs. The proposed changes would not require any amendments to the terms of reference of APC.

APC therefore recommends that Senate approve the following resolution:

be it resolved that Senate approve the proposed approval paths for new and revised courses and teaching programs.

(E) CREATION OF NEW UNITS / NAME CHANGES / REPORTING CHANGES

None.

(F) INTER-UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

None.

II.   PRESENTED TO SENATE FOR DISCUSSION

None.

III. APPROVED IN THE NAME OF SENATE

(A) DEFINITIONS

None.

(B) Student Exchange Agreements (approved by APC)

- Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Antai College of Economics & Management and McGill University, Desautels Faculty of Management.

At a meeting on 14th February 2008 APC reviewed and approved a proposal for a bilateral student exchange agreement between McGill's Desautels Faculty of Management and the Antai College of Economics & Management at Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU). Founded in 1896, SJTU is a leading institution of research and higher education in China, jointly run by the Ministry of Education and the government of Shanghai and currently comprising 38 000 students. It has established relations with over 100 renowned universities and colleges around the world. Founded in 1918, the School of Management at SJTU is one of the earliest business schools in China. Enduring many renewals, it emerged in 2006 as the Antai College of Economics and Management. It currently includes 51 professors and 67 associate professors, 1536 undergraduates, 597 masters students, 341 Ph.D. students. The College has an extensive network of international cooperation with over 50 business schools, including Harvard University, Yale University, Sloan School of Management – MIT, Wharton School – University of Pennsylvania, University of South California, University of Michigan, University of Washington, University of British Columbia. SJTU is a member of Universitas 21 and as such it is expected that the agreement will be expanded to a university-wide exchange in the near future.
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(C) Other issues

None

IV. FOR THE INFORMATION OF SENATE

(A) Minor Program Revisions (approved by the APC Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs on 10th January 2008)

1) Faculty of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

B.Sc.(Ag.Env.Sc.); Major in Agricultural Economics; Environmental Economics (90 cr.)
Program revision:
• title.

B.Eng.(Bioresource); Major in Bioresource Engineering (113 cr.)
Program revision:
• one Complementary Course added.

2) Faculty of Arts

B.A.; Minor Concentration in Behavioural Science (18 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Complementary Course added;
• one Complementary Course title changed.

B.A.; Major Concentration in Psychology (36 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Complementary Course added;
• one Complementary Course title changed.

B.A.; Honours in Psychology (60 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Complementary Course added;
• one Complementary Course title changed.

B.A.; Joint Honours – Psychology Component (36 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Complementary Course added;
• one Complementary Course title changed.

B.A.; Minor Concentration in Linguistics (18 cr.)
Program revision:
• one Complementary Course added.

B.A.; Major Concentration in Linguistics (36 cr.)
Program revision:
• one Complementary Course added.

B.A..; Honours in Linguistics (60 cr.)
Program revision:
• one Complementary Course added.

B.A.; Joint Honours – Linguistics Component (36 cr.)
 Program revision:
 • one Complementary Course added.

B.A.; Minor Concentration in Comparative Politics (18 cr.)
Program revision:
• one Complementary Course added.

B.A.; Minor Concentration in Political Theory (18 cr.)
Program revision:
• one Complementary Course added.

B.A.; Minor Concentration in Political Science (18 cr.)
Program revision:
• two Complementary Courses added.

B.A.; Minor Concentration in Politics, Law and Society (18 cr.)
Program revisions:
• four Complementary Courses added;
• how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised.

B.A.; Minor Concentration in Political Science: Canada/Québec (18 cr.)
Program revisions:
• 21 Complementary Courses added;
• how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised.

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B.A.; Minor Concentration in African Studies (18 cr.)
Program revision:
• two Complementary Courses added.

B.A.; Major Concentration in African Studies (36 cr.)
Program revision:
• two Complementary Courses added.

3) Faculty of Education

M.Ed. in Educational Psychology; Non-Thesis (48 cr.)
Program revisions:
• four courses consolidated into two;
• seven Complementary Courses deleted;
• three Complementary Courses added;
• five Complementary Courses titles changed.

M.A. in Educational Psychology (48 or 78 cr.)
Program revisions:
• description;
• descriptive paragraphs revised;
• stream deleted;
• streams added;
• Specialization" revised to read "Stream"
• Complementary Courses added;
• Complementary Courses deleted;
• "*" legend revised.

Ph.D. in Educational Psychology (0 cr.)
Program revisions:
• description;
• four major sequences integrated into two streams;

- many courses added and deleted;
- how courses to be chosen revised;
- Required Courses credit weight increased;
- Complementary Courses credit weight increased.

4) Faculty of Engineering

B.Eng. in Computer Engineering (107-111 cr.)
Program revisions:
- one Complementary Course added;
- Complementary Courses credit weight revised;
- program credit weight revised.

B.Eng. in Electrical Engineering (Regular) (109-110 cr.)
Program revision:
- one Complementary Course added;

B.Eng.; Honours in Electrical Engineering (109-110 cr.)
Program revisions:
- how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised;
- one Complementary Course added.

B.S.E. (106-114 cr.)
Program revisions:
- one Required Course deleted;
- two Required Courses added.

5) Faculty of Law

B.C.L./LL.B.; Major Concentration in Commercial Negotiation and Dispute Resolution (36 cr.)
Program revisions:
- two Major Concentrations consolidated into one;
- title;
- description;
- list of "Required Course (6 credits)" added to the program;
- Required Course title revised;
- Required Course credit weight increased;
- many Complementary Courses deleted from and added to the program;
- how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised;
- Complementary Courses credit weight decreased.

B.C.L./LL.B.; Major Concentration in International Human Rights and Development (36 cr.)
Program revisions:
- two Major Concentrations consolidated into one;
- title;
- description;
- list of "Required Course (6 credits)" added to the program;
- Required Course title revised;
- Required Course credit weight increased;
- man y Complementary Courses deleted from and added to the program;
- how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised;
- Complementary Courses credit weight decreased.

6) Desautels Faculty of Management

M.B.A.; Technology and Innovation Management (15 cr.)
Program revisions:
- description;
- two courses added to the program under new list of "Required Courses (6 credits)";
- Required Courses credit weight increased;
- three Complementary Courses deleted;
- three Complementary Courses added;
- how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised;
- Complementary Courses credit weight decreased.

7) Faculty of Medicine

M.Sc. in Anatomy and Cell Biology (48 cr.)
Program revision:
• title.

Ph.D. in Anatomy and Cell Biology (0 cr.)
Program revision:
• title.

Ph.D. in Epidemiology and Biostatistics (0 cr.)
Program revision:
• ten Complementary Courses deleted.

Ph.D. in Neuroscience (0 cr.)
Program revisions:
• title;
• one list of Required Courses specified;
• one Complementary Course added;
• how courses to be chosen revised;
• course exemption note added;
• note "D" deleted.

M.D.,C.M. (200-204 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added;
• Required Courses credit weight increased;
• program credit weight increased.

B.N. Integrated (66 cr.)
Program revisions:
• two Required Courses consolidated into one – total credit weight decreased;
• one Required Course credit weight increased.

8) Faculty of Science

M.Sc. in Chemistry; Chemical Biology (45 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Complementary Course title changed;
• one Complementary Course renumbered and credit weight decreased.

Ph.D. in Chemistry; Chemical Biology (0 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Complementary Course title changed;
• one Complementary Course renumbered and credit weight decreased.

B.Sc.; Major in Chemistry (59 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Honours in Chemistry (71 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Honours in Chemistry; Bio-Organic (75 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Major in Chemistry; Bio-Organic (63 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Honours in Chemistry; Atmosphere and Environment (75 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Major in Chemistry; Atmosphere and Environment (63 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Honours in Chemistry; Materials (74 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Major in Chemistry; Materials (62 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Core Science Component in Chemistry; Biological [Liberal Program] (47 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Core Science Component in Chemistry; Physical [Liberal Program] (47 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Core Science Component in Chemistry; General [Liberal Program] (47 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added.

B.Sc.; Minor in Chemistry (18 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• three Required Courses added.

B.A. & Sc.; Minor in Chemistry (18 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• three Required Courses added.

B.A. & Sc.; Major Concentration in Chemistry (36 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• three Required Courses added;
• one Complementary Course deleted.

B.Sc.; Major in Biochemistry (66-69 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added;
• Required Courses credit weight decreased;
• program credit weight decreased.

B.Sc.; Honours in Biochemistry (75 cr.)
Program revisions:
• one Required Course deleted;
• two Required Courses added;
• Required Courses credit weight decreased;
• program credit weight decreased.

B.Sc.; Major in Neuroscience (67-68 cr.)
Program revisions:
- description;
- four Required Courses added;
- one Required Course deleted;
- note following list of Required Courses revised;
- Required Courses credit weight increased;
- Complementary Courses added and deleted;
- one Complementary Course title changed;
- how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised;
- Complementary Courses credit weight decreased;
- program credit weight revised.

B.Sc.; Joint Major in Mathematics and Computer Science (72 cr.)
Program revisions:
- one Required Course added;
- Required Courses credit weight increased;
- "*" legend revised at end of the list of Required Courses;
- how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised;
- Complementary Courses credit weight decreased.

B.Sc.; Joint Major in Statistics and Computer Science (72 cr.)
Program revisions:
- one Required Course added;
- Required Courses credit weight increased;
- "*" legend revised at end of the list of Required Courses;
- how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised;
- Complementary Courses credit weight decreased.

B.Sc.; Joint Honours in Mathematics and Computer Science (72-75 cr.)
Program revisions:
- one Required Course added;
- Required Courses credit weight revised;
- "*" legend revised at end of the list of Required Courses;
- how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised;
- program credit weight revised.

B.Sc.; Joint Honours in Statistics and Computer Science (76-79 cr.)
Program revisions:
- one Required Course added;
- Required Courses credit weight revised;
- "*" legend revised at end of the list of Required Courses;
- how Complementary Courses to be chosen revised;
- program credit weight revised.

B.Sc.; Major in Psychology (54 cr.)
Program revisions:
- one Complementary Course added;
- one Complementary Course title changed.

B.Sc.; Honours in Psychology (60 cr.)
Program revisions:
- one Complementary Course added;
- one Complementary Course title changed.

B.Sc.; Core Science Component in Psychology [**Liberal Program**] (45 cr.)
Program revisions:
- one Complementary Course added;
- one Complementary Course title changed.

B.A. & Sc.; Joint Honours – Psychology Component (36 cr.)
Program revisions:
- one Complementary Course added;
- one Complementary Course title changed.

(B) NEW COURSES

None.

(C) COURSE REVISIONS

None.

(D) Retirements

1) Programs

None.

2) Courses

None.

Total number of program retirements reported: 0
Total number of course/term retirements reported: 0

Compiled by Helen M.C. Richard, 2008-02-15

Proposed revisions to McGill's graduation honourifics

The objective of this proposal is to rationalize the assignment at graduation of "Distinction" to undergraduate students at McGill.

Currently, the "Dean's Honour List" designation is assigned to undergraduates, in all McGill faculties, ranked in the top 10% of their Faculty according to their final CGPA.

Proposal:

> Building on that operational model, it is proposed that "Distinction" be assigned to students ranked in the next 15% of their Faculty or of programs in their Faculty as determined in each Faculty.

> It is further proposed that, as is the case for the Dean's Honours List, the CGPA cut-off point for "Distinction" be based on the group of students graduating in June and would be applied to the subsequent two convocations.

> In cases where the graduating cohort is too small to yield a clear cut-off point, or where there are many students with identical CGPAs, the Dean of the Faculty would have the option of slightly raising or lowering the CGPA breakpoints to achieve a sensible assignment, with the aim of respecting the top 10% and 25% split over the years.

It is proposed that all faculties wishing to assign "Distinction" follow the above guidelines. Notwithstanding, faculties would retain the option not to assign such designation to their graduates.

Attachments:

- Distribution and GPA Minima: Current and Proposed Graduation Distinctions (Report for UCSSSA)

- Sampling of distinction practices at American Association of Universities member institutions.

21ˢᵗ February 2008

FACULTY	Number of graduates	CURRENT							PROPOSED				
		Number on Dean's Honour list (Top 10%)	Lowest GPA on Dean's Honour List (Top 10%)	Number with "Great Distinction"	Lowest GPA with "Great Distinction"	Number with "Distinction"	Lowest GPA with "Distinction"		'Number on Dean's Honour list (Top 10%)	lowest GPA on Dean's Honour List (Top 10%)	Number of Graduate Ranking in the Next 15%	Lowest CGPA in next 15%	Total Number of Grads with some type of Distinction
Non-Professional													
Agric. & Environ. Sci.	155	16	3.79	43	3.50	31	3.32		16	3.78	23	3.66	39
Arts	1239	124	3.72	169	3.50	214	3.30		124	3.72	186	3.53	310
Arts and Science	18	2	3.79	7	3.52	5	3.31		2	3.79	3	3.59	5
Education	362	36	3.87						36	3.86	54	3.72	90
Engineering	418	45	3.77	9	3.60	82	3.42		42	3.78	63	3.60	105
Management	490	48	3.68	104	3.35	106	3.30		49	3.68	74	3.49	123
Music	80	7	3.91			7	3.81		8	3.94	12	3.84	20
Nursing	17	1	3.73	1	3.73	3	3.41		2	3.49	3	3.41	5
Phys. & Occ. Therapy	103	11	3.77	3	3.86	2	3.85		10	3.78	15	3.69	25
Religious Studies	8	1	3.81	5	3.39	2	3.34		1	3.81	1	3.77	2
Science	788	82	3.87	218	3.50	114	3.30		79	3.87	118	3.68	197
Professional													
Dentistry	34	3	3.71						3	3.75	5	3.69	8
Law	145	15	3.45	38	3.30	65	3.00		15	3.45	22	3.31	37
Medicine	148	15	0						15		22		37
TOTALS	**4005**	**406**		**597**		**631**			**402**		**601**		**1003**

March 5, 2008

Association of American Universities

Does your institution award graduation honors? Yes/No   By GPA?   By percentage of graduating class?   Comments?

Number of AAU Schools = 62   Number of AAU Responses = 44   **Number of CIC/Big 10 Responses = 12**

UNIVERSITY	Yes / No	By GPA	By Percentage of Graduating Class	Comments
University of Arizona	Yes		Yes	Summa Cum Laude – Top & 5, Magna Cum Laude – next 7%, Cum Laude – next 11% of the class. No more than 25% of the class may graduate with Honors, there may be fewer in the event of ties.
Brandeis University	Yes	Yes		Summa Cum Laude – 3.8 or higher and the award of "distinction" in the major, Magna Cum Laude – 3.7 or higher, Cum Laude – 3.5 or higher. Approximately 40% of the graduating class.
Brown University	Yes		Yes	Baccalaureate degrees may be awarded magna cum laude to the upper 20 percent (approximately) of the graduating class. The registrar will provide an opportunity at the beginning of the senior year for students to indicate that they do not wish to be considered for a degree with distinction and will convey this information to the Committee on Academic Standing. The Committee on Academic Standing will draw up a list of those graduating seniors who are eligible to receive the bachelor's degree magna cum laude.
University of Buffalo	Yes	Yes		Students earning baccalaureate degrees are eligible to receive Latin honors based on their overall or UB cumulative GPA (whichever is lower) on the following scale: 3.75 Summa Cum Laude, 3.5 Magna Cum Laude, Cum Laude 3.2.
California Institute of Technology	Yes	Yes		Graduation with Honor Students who have achieved a high scholastic standing or who have carried out creative research of high quality may be recommended to the faculty for graduation with honor by the Undergraduate Academic Standards and Honors Committee. The Committee shall consider for graduation with honor those students who have achieved an overall grade-point average of 3.5 and others who, on the basis of exceptional creativity, have been recommended to the Committee by a faculty member or by a division of the Institute.

November 26, 2003

AAU Survey Document-Honors.doc

Association of American Universities

Does your institution award graduation honors? Yes/No   By GPA?   By percentage of graduating class?   Comments?

University of California-Berkeley	Yes	Yes		Highest Distinction: 3.910 (top 3%), High Distinction: 3.782 (top 10%), Distinction: 3.64 (top 20% is the cut-off). UC Berkeley does not use the Latin terminology for honors. It may be understood that highest distinction is equivalent to summa cum laude; high distinction to magna cum laude; and distinction is equivalent to cum laude. We recalculate honors each year, based on the prior year's GPA.
University of California-Davis				
University of California-Irvine				
University of California-Los Angeles				
University of California-San Diego				
University of California-Santa Barbara	Yes		Yes	Highest Honors: top 2.5%, High Honors: next 6%, Honors: 11.5%.
Carnegie-Mellon University				
Case Western Reserve University	Yes		Yes	Awarded to the top 35% of the graduating class. Top 10%: summa cum laude, next 10%, magna cum laude, next 15% cum laude.
University of Chicago	Yes			The decision of the award of honors is not made on the basis of any formal program. Students who wish to compete for honors should consult the departmental adviser at the beginning of their fourth year. Classical Studies: To be recommended for an honors degree, a student must maintain an overall grade point average of 3.25 and an average of 3.5 in the concentration, and must also demonstrate superior ability in the Bachelor's Paper to interpret Greek or Latin source material and to develop a coherent argument. In order for a student to be recommended for honors, the bachelor's paper must be judged worthy of honors both by the faculty director and the second reader.
University of Colorado-Boulder	Yes	Yes		Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, Cum Laude – based on quality of scholarly work, not simply by high grades. Graduation with distinction – 3.75 or better in

Association of American Universities

Does your institution award graduation honors? Yes/No   By GPA?   By percentage of graduating class?   Comments?

				all course work (including transfer).
Columbia University	Yes		Yes	Summa Cum Laude: top 5%, Magna Cum Laude: next 10%, Cum Laude: 15%.
Cornell University				
Duke University	Yes		Yes	Summa Cum Laude: top 2%, Magna Cum Laude: next 10%, Cum Laude: 10% based on previous year's class.
Emory University				
University of Florida	Yes	Yes		Students who have a 3.5 or higher upper division GPA automatically receive GPA Honors.
Harvard University (College)				
University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign	Yes	Yes	Yes, for University Honors. Top 3%	University Honors: have at least a 3.5 (A = 4.0) cumulative grade-point average for all work taken at the University through the academic term prior to their graduation; and rank, on the basis of their cumulative grade-point average (including University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and transfer work, if any) through the academic term prior to their graduation, in the top 3% of the students in their college graduating class. Undergraduate College Honors: Each college prescribes the conditions under which candidates for its degrees may be recommended for graduation with honors in recognition of sustained intellectual achievement throughout the student's undergraduate career. These distinctions are noted on the student's baccalaureate diploma, permanent University record, and official transcripts of credits. Law School Honors: *J.D. summa cum laude:* GPA 3.75, *J.D. magna cum laude:* GPA 3.50, *J.D. cum laude:* GPA3.25 at the time when all the requirements for the degree have been satisfied.
Indiana University-Bloomington	Yes		Yes	Number of recipients cannot exceed 10% of the school's class. No fixed GPA.
University of Iowa	Yes	Yes, College of Pharmacy	Yes, Undergraduate Colleges, except Pharmacy	Undergraduate Colleges (except Pharmacy): Highest distinction--highest 2 percent; High distinction--next highest 3 percent; Distinction--next highest 5 percent College of Pharmacy: Highest distinction--g.p.a. of 3.75 and higher; High distinction--g.p.a. of 3.50 to 3.74 Distinction--g.p.a. of 3.25 to 3.49
Iowa State University	Yes	Yes		Undergraduates who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or higher at the beginning of their final term are

Does your institution award graduation honors? Yes/No   By GPA?   By percentage of graduating class?   Comments?

				graduated "With Distinction" provided they have completed 60 semester credits of coursework at Iowa State University at the time they graduate.
John Hopkins University	Yes	Yes		Students may receive general honors, departmental honors, or both at graduation. General honors are awarded to students with cumulative grade point averages of 3.50 or better. An initial list of honorees is prepared by the Registrar's Office in March. The final is made after all grades have been reported. Departments set their own standards for the award of departmental honors.
University of Kansas	Yes		Yes	No more than the upper 10% of the graduating class may graduate with distinction. No more than 3% of the graduating class may graduate with highest distinction.
University of Maryland-College Park	Yes		Yes	Summa cum laude - GPA equal to the highest two percent, magna cum laude - the next highest three percent, cum laude - the following five percent. To be eligible for this recognition, at least 60 semester hours must be earned at UMCP. No student with a grade point average less than 3.3 will be considered for a commencement honor. The breakdown for Commencement Honors for the baccalaureate May 2003 is: Summa Cum Laude 4.000-4.000, Magna Cum Laude 3.999-3.965, Cum Laude 3.964-3.857
Massachusetts Institute of Technology				
McGill University	Yes	Yes		Determine based on the cumulative academic record and GPA. None of our graduation honors appear on the diploma. Most graduation honors appear on the student's transcripts as well as the convocation program. Distinction and Great Distinction – students in certain faculties (registered in non-Honors programs) whose academic performance is appropriate may be awarded their degrees with Distinction or Great Distinction. For e.g., an Arts or Science student with a CGPA between 3.30 and 3.49 can graduate with Distinction, and with a CGPA of 3.50 or greater with Great Distinction.

Association of American Universities

Does your institution award graduation honors? Yes/No   By GPA?   By percentage of graduating class?   Comments?

Michigan State University	Yes	Yes	Approx. top 20%	With high honor (6%) 3.8; with honor (14%:) 3.5; approx. the top 20% of the class.
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	Yes	Yes		Summa Cum Laude: 3.75-4.0, Magna Cum Laude: 3.5-3.74, Cum Laude: 3.2-3.49.
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	Yes	Yes	10-15%	Summa Cum Laude: 3.75, Magna Cum Laude: 3.666, Cum Laude: 3.5. 60 or more semester credits completed at the University. It is also an expectation that a college will not award degrees with honors, in total, to more than approximately 10-15% of any graduating class.
University of Missouri-Columbia	Yes	Yes		GPA requirements for honors are 3.5 for cum laude, 3.7 for magna cum laude, and 3.9 for summa cum laude.
University of Nebraska-Lincoln				Students recognized for **High Scholarship** must have a grade point average of 3.600 or higher and meet the following requirements: A) Residency requirements of at least one semester or twelve hours for freshmen, at least two semesters or 28 hours for sophomores, and at least three semesters or 42 credit hours for juniors and seniors. B) Completion by freshmen, sophomores, and juniors of a minimum of twelve credit hours in the fall semester, at least nine of which are graded. Seniors must complete a minimum of nine credit hours, of which six must be graded. Student teachers in Teachers College may be exceptions. Only those hours needed for graduation will be considered for students graduating in December. **Superior Scholarship** students are seniors graduating between December and August who meet the GPA and residency requirements of High Scholarship for seniors and who, in addition, either are in the upper 3 percent of the senior class of their college or have been on the UNL Honors Convocation list each year since matriculation as a freshman. **Chancellor's Scholar Award** recognizes seniors graduating between December and August who have earned "A's" in all graded collegiate work at UNL and other colleges (excluding foreign study and

Does your institution award graduation honors? Yes/No   By GPA?   By percentage of graduating class?   Comments?

				collegiate work taken prior to the student's graduation from high school. The student must request the exclusion of a grade taken prior to graduation from high school and the re-calculation of the GPA in writing to the University Honors Program, 118 NRC, 0659). Recipients of this award must have earned at least 42 graded semester hours at UNL by the end of the fall semester of the academic year of graduation. In addition, the student must complete a minimum of nine credit hours during the fall semester with no more than three credit hours of non-graded course work. Student teachers in Teachers College may be exceptions. Only those hours needed for graduation will be considered for students graduating in December.
New York University				To qualify for Latin honors a student must have completed at least 64 points of computable grades toward the degree in residence and must have a minimum general average as follows: summa cum laude 3.9, magna cum laude-3.700, cum laude-3.500.
State University of New York-Buffalo				
State University of New York-Stony Book				
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill				
Northwestern University	Yes		Yes	Summa Cum Laude: top 3%, Magna Cum Laude: next 5%, Cum Laude: 8%.
Ohio State University-Columbus	Yes	Yes		Summa Cum Laude: 3.9, Magna Cum Laude: 3.7, Cum Laude: 3.5.
University of Oregon	Yes		Yes	Summa Cum Laude: top 2%, Magna Cum Laude: next 3%, Cum Laude: 5%.
Pennsylvania State University	Yes	Yes		Summa Cum Laude: 3.8, Magna Cum Laude: 3.6, Cum Laude: 3.4.
University of Pittsburgh	Yes	Yes		Summa Cum Laude: 3759, Magna Cum Laude: 3.5, Cum Laude: 3.255.
Princeton University	Yes	Yes		Honors, high honors, or highest honors are awarded at graduation. They are determined by the departments of concentration based on grades received in departmental courses, independent work, and the senior departmental examination.

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Does your institution award graduation honors? Yes/No   By GPA?   By percentage of graduating class?   Comments?

Purdue University	Yes	Yes	Yes	A candidate for the baccalaureate degree with distinction must have a minimum of 65 hours of credit earned at Purdue University included in the computation of the graduation index. A candidate for an associate degree with distinction must have a minimum of 35 hours of credit earned at Purdue University included in the computation of the graduation index. The minimum graduation index for graduation with distinction in each school shall be no less than the 90th percentile of the graduation indexes of the graduates in each school, for the spring semester, provided that the index is at least 3.30. The minimum graduation index so determined in the spring for each school shall be applied for graduation with distinction for the subsequent summer session and fall semester. In administering this rule, all baccalaureate engineering graduates will be considered as one school. Of those graduates who qualify for distinction under these rules for the spring semester, the three-tenths of the baccalaureate graduates having the highest graduation indexes shall be designated as graduating with highest distinction, irrespective of the schools from which they graduate. The three-tenths of the spring associate degree graduates having the highest graduation indexes will be designated as graduating with highest distinction. The minimum graduation indexes so determined for graduation with highest distinction shall be applied for graduation with highest distinction for the subsequent summer session and fall semester.
Rice University	Yes		Yes	Summa cum laude is awarded to those students with a GPA in the top 5 percent of the class., Magna cum laude is awarded to those students with a GPA in the next highest 10 percent of the class, Cum laude is awarded to those students with a GPA in the next highest 15 percent of the class.
University of Rochester	Yes		Yes	*Arts and Sciences* recognizes outstanding achievement of its students by awarding degrees cum laude, magna cum laude, and summa cum laude. These levels of award are inscribed on the diploma and recorded on the official transcript. Criteria are established on a College-wide basis. To be eligible, students must have a

Does your institution award graduation honors? Yes/No   By GPA?   By percentage of graduating class?   Comments?

	Yes/No	By GPA?	By percentage	Comments?
				minimum of 88 credit hours counted in the GPA while registered in The College, have completed all degree requirements, and have no missing grades. Latin honors are awarded on the basis of the final cumulative grade point average, and the standards are announced each Spring. <u>Summa</u> <u>cum</u> <u>laude</u> graduates comprise the top 2% of the class, <u>magna</u> <u>cum</u> <u>laude</u> the next 10%, and <u>cum</u> <u>laude</u> the next 20%. The grade point averages required to meet these levels are determined by the Dean, who assesses the performance of the senior class as reflected in cumulative grade point averages at the end of the Fall semester. Members of the Class of 2003 who met these criteria were awarded degrees <u>cum</u> <u>laude</u> with a grade point average of 3.55, <u>magna</u> <u>cum</u> <u>laude</u> with 3.79, and <u>summa</u> <u>cum</u> <u>laude</u> with 3.96. ***Engineering and Applied Sciences*** Degrees with Distinction The minimum overall grade point averages are: Degree with Distinction 3.25 Degree with High Distinction 3.60 Degree with Highest Distinction 3.85
Rutgers University				
University of Southern California				
Stanford University				
Syracuse University				
Texas A&M University	Yes	Yes		University Honors. Students who have successfully completed 36 hours of honors classroom credit or 33 hours plus 3 hours of honors independent study or 27 hours plus 6 hours in the University Undergraduate Fellows Program may qualify for graduation with University Honors. Each qualifying student must earn at least 6 hours of honors credit in the humanities and social sciences, 6 hours in basic science or mathematics, and 12 hours at the 300/400 course level. A minimum overall GPR of 3.40 and a GPR of 3.25 in all honors courses completed is required of candidates

Association of American Universities

Does your institution award graduation honors? Yes/No   By GPA?   By percentage of graduating class?   Comments?

				for University Honors. This program is not available at the Galveston Campus.
University of Texas-Austin	Yes, point system			Summa Cum Laude (67 or more grade points), Cum Laude Ampla et Magna (61 - 66 points), Magna Cum Laude (58 - 60 points), Ampla Cum Laude (55 - 57 points), Cum Laude (52 - 54 points)
University of Toronto				
Tulane University	Yes	Yes		Summa Cum Laude - 3.8, Magna Cum Laude – between 3.6 and 3.8, Cum Laude – between 3.4 and 3.6.
Vanderbilt University				
University of Virginia	Yes			The purpose of the baccalaureate degree with honors is to enable students of special ability and interest to pursue in their third and fourth years a course of independent study under the guidance of a department faculty and the supervision of the Committee on Special Programs. Honors students devote their time primarily to their chosen subjects for two years, during which they read independently in that field and participate in tutorials and seminars conducted by their departmental tutors. Honors programs vary slightly from department to department, but candidates in all departments are evaluated finally by visiting examiners from other colleges and universities. Depending upon this evaluation, they may receive degrees with "honors," "high honors," or "highest honors" as the only grades for two years of work. It is also possible they may be recommended for no degree, or for an ordinary Bachelor of Arts degree. The most visible honors programs are those offered by the Woodrow Wilson Department of Government and Foreign Affairs and the Department of Philosophy. Other departments which have accepted candidates for this degree are anthropology, music, and psychology. Further information may be obtained from those departments, and from the chair of the Committee on Special Programs.
Washington University				If an engineering baccalaureate student has a cumulative grade point average of 3.6 or above in his/her graduating class, he/she will be honored with a baccalaureate degree carrying one of the following three honors designations: cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude. For this

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Does your institution award graduation honors? Yes/No   By GPA?   By percentage of graduating class?   Comments?

				purpose, rank is determined by the highest of three grade point averages based on the last 45 units, the last 60 units and all applicable units taken on campus. The School's Undergraduate Board has the responsibility for determining which students will receive the designations summa cum laude and magna cum laude. The criterion for making the decision is academic achievement, and the student's cumulative grade point average is the primary indicator of academic achievement. Typically no more than 1 to 2 percent will receive the summa cum laude honor each year. Perhaps twice that number may be awarded the magna cum laude. The remaining students who are on the list will receive their degrees cum laude. Mathematics Department 3.5-3.65 cum laude 3.65-3.80 magna cum laude 3.80-4.00 summa cum laude
University of Washington	Yes		Yes	A process is run to determine the top 10% in each college for the prior year to determine the minimums for the upcoming year. Summa Cum Laude: top 5%, Magna Cum Laude: next 3%, Cum Laude: 6.5%.
University of Wisconsin-Madison	Yes		Yes	It is a percentage of students within the student's particular college. Distinction is top 20%, Highest Distinction (all do not give this honor) is the top 5%.
Yale University	Yes		Yes	Summa Cum Laude: top 5%, Magna Cum Laude: next 10%, Cum Laude: 15%. Limited to 30% of graduating class.

Approval paths for new and revised courses and teaching programs

The document "Approval paths for new and revised courses and teaching programs" proposes a streamlining of the functions of the faculties, Subcommittee on Courses and Teaching Programs (SCTP) of the Academic Policy Committee (APC), APC, and Senate, regarding the approval of new and revised courses and teaching programs.

Rationale:
The amount of work required for screening new and revised course proposals and program revisions may not always be justified in relation to the value-added.

The document proposes a decentralization of responsibility for the approval of certain types of proposals. While trying to expedite the approval process and make sure that local academic units have an important say, the document attempts to maintain appropriate University oversight and control over the integrity of academic offerings of the University.

1) All **new program proposals** would require approval by both APC and Senate, except **minors and options of existing programs** which would be approved on behalf of Senate by APC and reported to Senate.

2) **All revisions to programs would be reported by APC to Senate for information only.**

   a) **Major revisions to programs** would be submitted by SCTP to APC for approval.
   b) **Moderate revisions** to programs would be submitted to SCTP and CGPS if the Chair of SCTP or delegate and/or the Dean of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies or delegate determined that consultation of a committee is necessary.
   c) **Minor revisions to programs** would be reported to APC and Senate in a more concise fashion than they currently are.
   In the case of both moderate and minor revisions to programs, final approval would be decentralized from SCTP to faculties in most cases; only issues flagged by the Chair of SCTP or delegate would be reviewed by SCTP, if there is reason for them to be consulted by the Manager of the Program and Degree Evaluation Office (PDEO) in Enrolment Services. SCTP would nonetheless have oversight responsibility: this would preserve the ability to have a body outside a particular faculty make a judgment and provide guidance whenever issues are overlooked.

3) **New and revised course proposals** would be under the responsibility of faculties, given that course changes are probably better understood at the level of the discipline. Verification would be exercised by the PDEO, and review by SCTP might be carried out if the PDEO Manager and the Chair of SCTP, or delegate, determine this to be required.

In all cases, proposals relating to courses and programs that are submitted for information may always be questioned and opened for discussion by the full committee to which they are being reported. **Although responsibility is delegated, the body delegating may oversee and request further information and deliberation. Senate is the ultimate step in the University's quality assurance process.**

Given the growing trend towards interdisciplinary studies and programs, care will be exercised in order to make sure that University-wide oversight is applied as interdisciplinary proposals may have to be considered by an independent body, external to the faculties that collaborate in those teaching activities.

The proposed "Approval paths for new and revised courses and programs" document, approved by APC, is now submitted to Senate for approval. Approval of this new procedure would not require that the terms of reference of APC be amended.

21ˢᵗ February 2008

Approval paths for new and revised courses and teaching programs

19th December 2007, revised 7th and 14th February 2008

This document outlines proposals for streamlining the approval path for new and revised programs and courses.

Principles

- The official archival record of courses and programs for institutional purposes and government reports resides in the Student Information System (SIS) and University Calendars.

- The approval process for new and revised courses and programs as well as the process for updating University Calendars and the course and program tables on the SIS must be efficient. These processes should eliminate unnecessary steps and redundancies without compromising the need for University-level oversight or approval in the case of new programs or major program revisions. Our goal is to have an approval process that is transparent to the McGill community, in terms of the status of each proposal.

- Although responsibility is delegated, the body delegating may oversee and request further information and deliberation. Senate is the ultimate step in the University's quality assurance process.

- As much as possible the procedures should permit local responsibility for approving initiatives while ensuring consistent standards throughout the University.

- Administrative tasks currently performed by SCTP should be performed by the Program and Degree Evaluation Office in Enrolment Services.

Approval paths for programs

New programs – except minors and options added to existing programs

The approval path for new programs should remain unchanged, but our goal is to improve operations to expedite the process, for example, by implementing on-line submissions and tracking of program proposals.

Approval path
Offering unit →
Administering faculty →
SCTP →
(CGPS where applicable) →
APC →
Senate (MELS if appropriate) →
Update to Calendars/SIS

Minors and options added to existing programs
and
Major revisions to programs

Major program revisions include:
- changes that restructure the program in such a way as to have significant academic impact on students or on the program's professional accreditation
- changes to project, thesis and special activity requirements in graduate programs
- changes to Honours requirements in undergraduate programs

Current approval path	Proposed approval path
Offering unit →	Offering unit →
Administering faculty →	Administering faculty →
SCTP →	SCTP →
CGPS (where applicable) →	CGPS (where applicable) →
APC →	APC
Senate	Senate (for information in the APC report)

Moderate revisions to programs and program retirements

Moderate program revisions include:
- changes to required course lists in a program
- changes that increase the program's credit weight
- a program retirement

Current approval path	Proposed approval path
N/A	Offering unit →
	Administering faculty →
	SCTP Chair/SCTP/CGPS (for approval or information in a summary report)* →
	APC (for information in a summary report) →
	Senate (for information in an annual report)

Proposals are received for SCTP by the Program and Degree Evaluation Office in Enrolment Services, whose Manager **must** consult the SCTP Chair (or delegate) to resolve questions (e.g., about consultation reports) and determine if SCTP review is needed. When applicable, the Manager of the Program and Degree Evaluation Office must also consult the Dean (GPS) (or delegate), who may refer the matter to SCTP or CGPS.

Minor revisions to programs

Minor revisions to a program include the following:
- changes to complementary course lists that do not affect the credit weight of the program (N.B. new courses must still be approved before they are included in a program)
- reductions in the number of complementary credits in a program that result in a decrease in the overall program credit weight, providing that the program credit weight is not reduced below the norm for the type of program (e.g., 18 credits for a minor concentration in Arts, 45 credits for a Master's program, etc.)
- program revisions entailing only course changes within the Offering Unit's own subject code
- changes to the minimum program GPA requirement for honours programs, i.e., raised or lowered, as long as the GPA requirement remains at 3.0 or greater

Current approval path	Proposed approval path
Offering unit →	Offering unit →
Administering faculty →	Administering faculty →
SCTP →	SCTP Chair/SCTP (for approval or information in a summary
CGPS/APC/Senate (for information only)	report)* →
	APC/Senate/CGPS (for information in a summary report)

*   Proposals are received for SCTP by the Program and Degree Evaluation Office, whose Manager **may** consult the SCTP Chair (or delegate) to resolve questions or to determine if a review by SCTP is needed.

Approval paths for courses

New courses

Current approval path	Proposed approval path
Offering unit → Administering faculty → SCTP → CGPS/APC/ Senate (for information only)	Offering unit → Administering faculty → SCTP (for approval or for information in a summary report) * → CGPS/APC (for information in a summary report) → Senate (for information in an annual report)

*   The Program and Degree Evaluation Office will verify that the appropriate supporting documents (e.g., consultation reports) have been submitted. The Office will make minor revisions to a form that are required to comply with established University norms and advise the Offering Unit/Administering Faculty. In cases when the Office questions the new course proposal (e.g. where there is a negative interfaculty consultation report), the Manager will consult the SCTP Chair (or delegate) to resolve questions and determine if SCTP review is needed.

Adding new courses to new programs

New courses for new programs require that the new program receives approval prior to, or at the same time as, the new course.

Revised courses

Current approval path	Proposed approval path
Offering unit → Administering faculty → SCTP → APC/CGPS/Senate (for information only)	Offering unit → Administering faculty → SCTP (for approval or information in a summary report)* → CGPS/APC (for information in a summary report) → Senate (for information in an annual report)

*   The Program and Degree Evaluation Office will make minor revisions that may be required in order to comply with established University norms, and advise the Offering Unit/Administering Faculty. In cases where the Office questions the proposed revisions, the Manager will consult the SCTP chair (or delegate) to resolve questions and to determine if SCTP review is needed.

Adding new and revised courses to existing programs

A notation on a New Course Proposal form or on a Course Revision form that a course is required or complementary in a program is sufficient to add the course with the unit's subject code to the unit's programs.

Clear notation of whether a course is required or complementary in a program on a consultation report for a New Course Proposal form, which is approved by the appropriate administering faculty, is sufficient to add a new course to a program offered by the consulting unit.

Summary reports will be provided to SCTP, CGPS and APC, and an annual report to Senate.

Discontinued/retired courses

Final approval rests with the Administering Faculty, but, as applicable, courses will be discontinued or retired by the Program and Degree Evaluation Office only after the Office consults with other units whose programs would be affected by the change.

Summary reports will be provided to SCTP, CGPS and APC, and an annual report to Senate.