

Michael Herschorn taught in the rapidly disappearing blackboard and chalk tradition. He was, quite simply, outstanding, and loved by his students-very tough, and yet the emphasis was not on intimidation but on mathematics as a subject to be done rather than on a subject to be passively absorbed. Therefore, proofs were left unfinished, to be completed by his students at home. The next class, students were randomly called upon to show the results of their efforts to their fellow students. Needless to say, very few proofs remained unfinished.

Beyond the grey-suited, always smartly dr

None

SECTION C: NEW COURSE

CHEMISTRY

CHEM 319

Chem of Energ Storage & Util
3 credits

AC-07-102

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Ronis, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

SECTION D: MAJOR COURSE CHANGES

None

SECTION E: MINOR COURSE CHANGES (For Information Only)

(1) Report on Minor Course Changes

AC-07-94

(2) Report on Minor Course Changes

AC-07-99

Associate Dean Hendren explained briefly the above Reports.

SECTION F: MINOR PROGRAM CHANGES (For Information Only)

- Report on Minor Program Changes

AC-07-P4

Associate Dean Hendren explained the Report on Minor Program Changes.

SECTION G: OTHER (For Information Only)

(1) Course Descriptions

AC-07-103

805.1 Associate Dean Hendren pointed out the e-mails in Document AC-07-103. She said that the upshot was that SCTP would continue modifying course descriptions according to current procedures, at least until a best-practice analysis of course descriptions had been done.

(2) The Role of the Honours Program

AC-07-104

805.2 Associate Dean Hendren said that as part of the undergraduate Academic Program Review, the role of the B.Sc. Honours Programs had come into focus. Discussions at the Academic Committee meetings of February 19, 2008 and March 25, 2008 had highlighted three points:

(1) The need to ensure that excellent students, particularly women, know that they can enter an Honours program.

(2) The issue of whether Honours students were obtaining lower grades than they would have achieved in a Majors program. If Honours students actually were obtaining lower grades, taking an Honours program would disadvantage the students in some situations, since selection of students for, for example, NSERC scholarships, are based at least partly on GPA.

(3) That there should be a requirement for research in Honours programs.

805.3 Dean Grant reiterated that there should be a requirement for research in all B.Sc. Honours Programs.

(3) High School Curriculum Reform

805.4 The above item was postponed to a future meeting.

(6) PRESENTATION BY PROVOST ANTHONY C. MASI FOLLOWED BY QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

806.1 Provost Masi said that he had been attending meetings of the faculties and describing issues affecting McGill, and ways to move forward.

806.2 Provost Masi said that he had been thinking about what is distinctive about McGill. This came down to the "i's":

- identity
- international
- inquiry-based
- interdisciplinary
- innovation
- infrastructure

806.3 In this context, Provost Masi discussed the following topics:

The general principles underlying McGill's strategic planning activities
 McGill's strategic statements — The White Paper, The Principal's Task Force on Student Life and Learning *and* The Administrative Response, The Master Plan, and Campaign McGill
 Constraints on McGill
 McGill's budget situation and proposed solutions
 Faculty of Science undergraduate and graduate enrolment
 Faculty of Science undergraduate teaching
 Academic staffing in the Faculty of Science
 Space issues in the Faculty of Science
 Campaign McGill and the Faculty of Science's goals

806.4 Provost Masi answered members' questions.

806.5 Provost Masi's presentation is available from the Dean's Office (Josie D'Amico, e-mail: josie.damico@mcgill.ca) or the Provost's office (brooke.cromar@mcgill.ca).

806.6 Dean Grant thanked Provost Masi for the presentation.

(7) REPORT ON SUS PEER TUTORING

807.1 Ms. Michèle Retrouvey, President of SUS Peer Tutoring, gave a report on the activities of the SUS Peer Tutoring Program.

807.2 The coordinators for 2007-2008 were:

- Michèle Retrouvey, President
- Julie Huang, Tutor Coordinator

2. The next question regarding academic salary differential by gender was read out by Professor Tallant on behalf of Professor Paré. There were two questions. The first one demanded an explanation from the Provost concerning the delay in producing a report on this matter which was promised for 2004. The second one demanded to know what steps if any he had taken in the preparation of a report containing a competent re-examination of salary differentials by gender and the time factor as to when it will be shared with the University community.

In responding to the question, the Provost announced that the services of an econometrician from the Faculty of Arts have been requested by him and that work is in progress. He said a suitable model to make appropriate comparison is not yet in place. He cited that there are a number of factors such as the discipline, rank, years of service in that rank, years of service at McGill, special chair including Dawson/McGill, research output, time on leave and merit history, etc. to be taken into account in such a study. He concluded his long remarks (intervened by a couple of questions) by promising that he hopes to have a model acceptable to the administration and MAUT contingent of the CASP within next couple of months.

The next question by student senator Erica Martin was about the use of McGill name and logo. At the request of the Chair, the Secretary General, Johanne Pelletier, explained that McGill has trademarked its name and logos, but the protection afforded by the trademark is not automatic. It is up to the Institution to ensure it by creating, communicating and enforcing policies and guidelines. She further stated that there has not been any changes made in the recent years regarding such guidelines.

The fourth question was by another student senator Mr. Borkotoky. He stated that in a recent survey based university ranking that appeared in The Globe and Mail, McGill did well in some categories but rather poorly in the following areas: career counseling and placement services, campus medical services and overall quality of food services. The Deputy Provost, Morton Mendelson, responded by first stating that many of these will be addressed by the Task Force on Student Life and Learning. He added that continuous monitoring is needed and certainly were warranted the quality should be improved.

The last question was by the student Senator Mr. Luther. He wanted to know how did McGill disseminate the avant garde research of our professors and researchers to the general public. On the request of the Chair, the Vice-Principal (Communications and Intergovernmental relations) Mr. Michael Goldbloom responded. He explained that there were seven basic ways of doing it. 1. Daily media pitching system, 2. Handling of media queries 3. Press release 4. op-ed pieces 5. Articles in The McGill Reporter 6. McGill Home page and lastly 7. Facilitation of electronic media coverage.

In Part B of the meeting there were routine motions from the APC and Nominating Committee. Also, Senate moved into a committee of the whole to consider 1) the response of the administration to the report of the Task Force on Student Life and Learning and 2) to consider the Financial report for the year ending May 2007 from the VP Roy. These documents can be found on the web page of Senate.

Senate Meeting of February 13, 2008 - Prof. D. Harpp

The Principal noted that the gap in McGill's funding continues to grow and there is a strong expectation on the part of the public for accountability.

The Principal mentioned that Bill 32 regarding proposed legislation regulating university infrastructure was *not* passed at the National Assembly, but the government is looking at

ways of developing regulations that need only cabinet approval. Bill 44, legislation to control university investments, borrowing, and other activities, was passed. The law did not exclude endowments, therefore they would be subject to the same oversight by governments.

QUESTIONS AND MOTIONS BY MEMBERS

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

Professor Mendelson responded it was not a widespread problem and assigning teaching is a management issue under the purview of the Chair, Director or Dean, and is not a policy issue.

Several recurring issues have emerged in the last four years which, in my opinion, jeopardize the quality of education offered at McGill:

- Organic chemistry labs are now conducted once every other week as opposed to weekly as previously.
- Project group sizes in engineering have increased to a level that is detrimental to the student's learning experience
- "Simulcasts" of classes are being conducted due to a lack of lecture space.

What is the university doing to ensure newly admitted students are receiving the same quality of education as in previous years?

As indicated in our Mission Statement, McGill is committed to excellence in teaching. As Senators are aware, the University has been actively renewing the professoriate and, since 2001, we have hired almost 800 new, tenure-track professors. With respect to physical facilities, the Teaching and Learning Space Work Group is developing a multi-year plan for improving classrooms and laboratories at McGill

Dean Grant commented that \$1M per year for the next two years would be put towards laboratory renovations in the Faculty of Science. It is anticipated deriving funds from philanthropic donations.

University Master Plan - Planning and Design Principles

Vice-Principal Roy made the following remarks. This process started in 2004, when the University recognised the need for a master plan for both campuses. In 2005, architects were commissioned to prepare a physical master plan of two phases - an initial planning base, and an exploration phase, with an academic strategic plan prepared in parallel. Consultations have been widely taken

Professor Nicell briefly presented the University Master Plan -

He indicated that there are several examples of buildings which lack certain spaces (teaching, food or social spaces) but that ideally there should be common areas included in all buildings, which create opportunities for interaction. New spaces will not be added to buildings already under construction, but a master plan for food services is currently being developed to ensure that adequate food services are provided to all quarters.

There are two committees working on space. - the Teaching and Learning Space Committee covers teaching spaces and research space, the second committee covers personal office space, consultative space, and community learning space. This committee's report should be available in March or April.

REPORTS FROM UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENT GROUPS

The Provost said that there are currently no tenure-track academic appointments to research centres, and there is no intention for that to change. He also indicated that a merit policy was being addressed for professional associates, research assistants and research associates.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

- Senate Meeting of March 5, 2008 - Prof. N. Roulet:
- Senate Meeting of March 26, 2008 - Prof. D. Ryan:

Prof. Roulet and Prof. Ryan will present their Reports at the next Faculty of Science meeting.

(10) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

There were no members' questions.

(11) OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.