

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
Meeting of Faculty  
Tuesday, April 10, 2007  
Leacock Council Room - L232**

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

**DOCUMENTS:** S-06-33 to S-06-35

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

**Pre-Agenda Presentations**

Research presentations:

Professor Matt Dobbs, Department of Physics  
Professor Patanjali Kambhampati, Department of Chemistry  
Professor Frieder Schoeck, Department of Biology

**(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

**The motion carried.**

**(2) COURSE MATERIALS AT THE MCGILL BOOKSTORE**

**802.1** Mr. Barry Schmidt, General Manager, McGill Bookstore, gave a short presentation.

**802.2** The McGill Bookstore publishes a pamphlet entitled "Textbooks. Faculty Guide" which gives important information about the bookstore and its procedures and offerings.

**802.3** Mr. Schmidt said that the bookstore's objectives were to have all course materials on shelves by the first day of classes, and to provide course materials to students at the lowest cost.

**802.4** Textbooks can be ordered by professors by way of either printed or online requisition forms. Electronic forms are preferred. The bookstore has separate deadlines for placing orders for course materials for the Fall, Winter and Summer semesters. There is also a -rofes saideginns an988(also )6(a )Tj0.00079 Tc -2.99Tw 12.05and Summer sUrs rst quisitio 1 Tf0.000

**802.7** Dean Grant thanked Mr. Schmidt for his informative presentation.

**(3) MINUTES OF MARCH 6, 2007**

**S-06-33**

Prof. Whitesides **moved**, seconded by Prof. Zuroff, that the Minutes be approved.

**The motion carried.**

**(4) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the Minutes

**(5) REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**- Academic Committee**

**S-06-34**

The Academic Committee approved the following on Tuesday, March 27, 2007:

**SECTION A: NEW PROGRAMS**

None

**SECTION B: MAJOR PROGRAM CHANGES**

**- B.A. & Sc. Multi-Track  
108A**

**AC-06-108/AC-06-**

**805.1** Associate Dean Hendren explained the reason for the change. A number of students were following programs that did not include any focussed major concentration. Consequently, students did not progress to higher-level courses.

**805.2** There was a lengthy discussion. Associate Dean Hendren said she was unsure why the Faculty of Arts opposed the changes, but she thought that possibly Arts was attempting to fix similar problems in B.A. programs, a process which could take a long time. The current proposal would fix the problem in the B.A. & Sc. immediately.

**805.3** Concern was raised about restricting students' choice, as well as the issue of whether only breadth or breadth and depth was desirable for B.A. & Sc. students. The issue was raised as to whether the B.A. & Sc. Program Administration Committee should establish rules for the degree. Associate Dean Hendren pointed out that when the B.A. & Sc. was set up, it had not been anticipated that students would take two very broad programs. With the proposed changes, students still had a great deal of choice.

**805.4** Associate Dean Hendren said that the Biomedical representatives on the Academic Committee were in favour of the program changes, and she added that it was clear that the Major Concentration in Biomedical Sciences was much less focussed than other Science Major Concentrations.

**805.5** Associate Dean Hendren said that while the program changes would still have to be passed by the Faculty of Arts, she was firmly in favour of students in the B.A. & Sc. being exposed to some degree of focus.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Moore, that the program changes be approved.

**805.6** A vote was held:

In Favour	18
Against	9

**The motion carried.**

### **SECTION C: NEW COURSES**

#### **(1) Physics**

PHYS 660	Quantum Condensed Matter 3 credits	<b>AC-06-95</b>
PHYS 717	Many-body Physics 3 credits	<b>AC-06-96</b>
PHYS 741	Superstring Theory 3 credits	<b>AC-06-97</b>
PHYS 742	Intro to the Standard Model 3 credits	<b>AC-06-98</b>
PHYS 743	Phy of the Very Early Universe 3 credits	<b>AC-06-99</b>
PHYS 744	Finite Temp Field Theory 3 credits	<b>AC-06-100</b>
PHYS 745	Supersymmetry and Supergravity 3 credits	<b>AC-06-101</b>

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gale, that the above courses be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

#### **(2) Chemistry**

CHEM 115	Adv. Gen. Chem: Giants in Sci 4 credits	<b>AC-06-102</b>
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Lennox, that the course be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

**- Request that CHEM 115 be Included in the List of Approved Freshman Science Courses  
AC-06-102A**

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Lennox, that CHEM 115 be included in the list of Approved Freshman Science Courses.

**The motion carried.**

#### **(3) Computer Science**

COMP 308	Computer Systems Lab 1 credit	<b>AC-06-103</b>
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Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Whitesides, that the course be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

COMP 561

Comp. Biol. Methods & Research  
4 credits

**AC-06-104**

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**



## **2. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Administration's Preliminary Response to the Principal's Task Force on Student Life & Learning. A final response from the Administration is anticipated in the fall.

This year four McGill researchers, the most from any one Canadian university, all from the Faculty of Science, have been named 2007 recipients of the prestigious Sloan Research Fellowship, and will each receive two-year fellowships and a \$45,000 U.S. award. They are Professors Jacques Vers

the prospect of a new competing bookstore, but felt that the McGill Bookstore would meet the challenge with improved services and products.

Another question asked who would meet the costs of the newly announced McGill International Doctoral Awards Program (MIDA). At issue was the remaining 1/3 of costs remaining after the contribution from the central administration. In his response, Associate Provost Kreiswirth stated that the Deans had committed to covering the remaining costs, but that the mechanisms for this had not yet been determined, and they were likely to differ between academic units.

Senator Robaire's question was essentially an appeal for transferring a substantial portion of indirect costs to academic units that generate the revenue. Provost Masi, however, was adamantly opposed. He re-stated the rationale for directing these monies to the Faculties.

A report from APPC included notice of an interesting new Bilateral Student Exchange Agreement with the Université de Montréal. This can accommodate up to 50 students per year, each for one or two terms of full credit load.

A report from the Senate Nominating Committee lead to the approval of Prof. Gregory Dudek and Prof. David Ronis as members of the University Tenure Committee for Recruitment, Faculty of Science. Also, Prof. Laurie Hendren was named alternate chair of the University Tenure Committee, Faculty of Science.

A draft, summary report on the Campus Master Plan was presented by Prof. Jim Nicell. It painted, in broad strokes, an attractive picture of the physical campus "to 2010 and beyond". The document will be widely disseminated, and feedback and suggestions via [masterplan.feedback@mcgill.ca](mailto:masterplan.feedback@mcgill.ca) was strongly encouraged. Approval by the Board of Directors is anticipated in Fall 2007.

A proposed policy on Safe Disclosure (whistle blowing) was introduced and discussed before being withdrawn for revision.

There was a discussion of the Preliminary Administrative Response to the Recommendations of the Principal's Task Force on Student Life and Learning. The discussion largely consisted of student senators asking for more details and urging faster action. Deputy Provost Mendelson will table a more detailed response in the Fall.

Lastly, Vice-Principal Goldberg presented his views on the recent federal budget.

- Québec gets little new money from the Canada Social Transfer.
- CFI funding is up \$500 million.
- An additional 1000 graduate scholarships will be generated (from which program?).
- The Montreal Neurological Institute has been designated a Centre of Excellence.
- Québec will receive an additional \$2.3 billion in equalization payments, but it remains to be seen how much of this