

FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
Meeting of Faculty  
Tuesday, April 5, 2005  
Leacock Council Room - L232

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

**DOCUMENTS:** S-04-27A to S-04-30

Dean Shaver called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Prof. Bennewitz **moved**, seconded by Prof. Sieber, that the Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR WILLIAM MARTIN, DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS - Prof. Martin Grant

Prof. Grant read a formal resolution on the death of Prof. Martin (Appendix A, attached to the permanent copy of the minutes).

The resolution was passed unanimously.

(3) MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2005 S-04-28

Prof. Barrette **moved**, seconded by Prof. Bennewitz, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

(4)

(1) **BIOINFORMATICS OPTION**

**Computer Science**

- Description of the Bioinformatics Option AC-04-20/21
- M.Sc.; Computer Science (Bioinformatics Option) AC-04-20(Revised)
- Ph.D.; Computer Science (Bioinformatics Option) AC-04-21(Revised)

**Biology**

- M.Sc.; Biology; Bioinformatics Option AC-04-77
- Ph.D.; Biology; Bioinformatics Option AC-04-78

**Associated New Course:**

**Computer Science**

COMP 616D1/D2      Bioinformatics Seminar      **AC-04-22**  
3 credits

Prof. Sieber **moved**, seconded by Prof. Whitesides, that the above be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

**For Information:**

COMP 618      Functional Genomics (Approved: Faculty of  
Science Meeting, November 9, 2004)  
PHGY 603      Systems Biology and Biophysics  
BINF 621      Molecular Biology  
BMDE 652      Proteomics

(2)      **AD HOC MINOR IN NEUROPHARMACOLOGY**      **AC-04-142**

Mr. Lee **moved**, seconded by Associate Dean Mendelson, that the **ad hoc** program be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

**SECTION B: MAJOR PROGRAM CHANGES** - None

**SECTION C: NEW COURSES**

(1)      **EARTH & PLANETARY SCIENCES**  
EPSC 478      Short Research Project      **AC-04-122**  
1 credit

Prof. Arkani-Hamed **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gyakum, that the course be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

(2)      **PSYCHOLOGY**  
PSYC 545      Topics in Language Acquisition      **AC-04-134**  
3 credits

Prof. Onishi **moved**, seconded by Associate Dean Mendelson, that the course be adopted.

**The motion carried.**

(3)



(ii) **Work Group on Women Professors' Academic Careers**

- 805.6 Prof. Hendren, Chair of the Work Group on Women Professors' Academic Careers, listed the members of the Committee:
- Prof. L. Hendren (Chair, Computer Science)  
Prof. P. Ariya (Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences and Chemistry)  
Prof. H. Darmon (Mathematics & Statistics)  
Prof. T. Moore (Geography)  
Prof. D. Moskowitz (Psychology)
- 805.7 Prof. Hendren said that the mandate of the Committee was to examine the current situation for women professors in the Faculty of Science and to recommend improvements. She said that the Committee had settled on three focal points:
- 1) to consider professors only in the Faculty of Science
  - 2) to consider also recommendations that affect both male and female professors, since many of the issues relating to women also relate to men
  - 3) to not carry out a multi-year study, but rather look for whatever information could be found
- 805.8 Prof. Hendren said that in the Faculty, about 60% of undergraduate students are females, and about 40% of graduate students. She said that tenured faculty members were overwhelmingly male, but that among recent hirings (last five years) the proportion of females was 33%.
- 805.9 Prof. Hendren said that the Committee had obtained a lot of literature on the subject of female professors.
- 805.10 She said that the Committee would be making recommendations in five areas:
- 1) hiring and promotion
  - 2) family issues
  - 3) parental and family leaves
  - 4) clear and fair policy for stopping the tenure clock
  - 5) general recommendations relating to both women and men
- 805.11 Prof. Hendren said that the Committee would be meeting the following week, and that she would welcome feedback.

(6) **DEAN'S BUSINESS**

There was no Dean's business.

(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 February 2, 2005 - Prepared by Prof. D. Harpp, read by Associate Dean Mendelson**

Two resolutions were given on the passing of faculty members from the Medical and Agriculture Faculties.

**Steering Committee**

VP Vinet gave Senate his response to a question previously asked in Senate about the new scheduling process for classes. There were several questions as to keeping professorial preferences for this (basic meaning "prime time" hours in the morning for most in

this Faculty). He indicated that the new system was very flexible but declined to be predictive on any aspects. He indicated that the scheduling of irregularly held seminars would not be part of this exercise. VP Vinet responded about a question concerning "Past Professors" and their library privileges. After discussion, it was agreed that further consultation was necessary and the issue was referred back to the Senate Steering Committee on this topic.

#### **Chair's remarks**

The Principal reported on her continuation of regular meetings with the McGill community and that the searches for 6 new Deans were progressing.

#### **Questions**

**1. Pharmaceutical interface-** A very lengthy question was posed by Senator Noumoff regarding ethical guidelines re-the pharmaceutical industry. The complexity of the question and the numerous points raised about practices at the University of Toronto did not permit a clean and clear answer by interim VP Research Hurtubise. He indicated that McGill had a number of guidelines in place regarding the points raised and that McGill's conflict of interest policy will be revised soon. The Principal took under advisement a suggestion from Senator Acheson that an *ad hoc* committee be struck to establish guidelines.

#### **2. Cost of course packs**

A lengthy discussion and explanation of a complaint against the "inferior" and expensive course packs from Eastman took place. It was centered on the packs put out for courses in the Law Faculty. It was clarified that Eastman sorted out copyright clearances while the McGill Print Shop did not thus adding to the higher cost from Eastman. The discussion centered mainly on the issues in the Law Faculty that are different from most other Faculties.

#### **3. Posting of course grades**

A question about the late posting of course grades was answered by VP Vinet and he said he would get back to Senate at the next meeting.

#### **4. Washrooms**

A question as to the disrepair of many of the University washrooms in high-traffic areas was answered by VP Yalovsky. His response indicated that there were 39 projects taking place in this domain with a budget of \$1.2M. Inasmuch as the University's deferred maintenance requirements are much greater than the funds to complete them, it is limited to fix the system immediately. Senate recommended that washroom maintenance is of the highest priority.

**Task force on student life**

The Principal presented the organizational scheme for the Task Force on Student Life and Learning at McGill; she was formulating the committees. It was indicated that the Task Force would not be connected to Senate but that the Senate would be kept up to date with their activities. The scope of the Task Force is quite significant and is presented in detail on the McGill home page.

**OTT**

A question was asked if the users of OTT were consulted by the Senate Committee on this topic and VP Hurtubise said he would take the suggestion under advisement.



#### REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Deputy Provost presented the Report of the Nominating Committee (D04-56).

Report of the Work Group on Campus Life Committee, was noted. Mr. Reed asked for the reason of the delay in submitting the Report. Professor Masi stated that he could only advise that the report was sent back to the subcommittee for further consultation.

Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures, Senate approved and agreed to recommend to the Board of Governors that Professor Vikram Bhatt, School of Architecture, be named Vice-Chair of the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures, for a term commencing immediately and ending August 31, 2006.

Senate approved and agreed to recommend to the Board of Governors that Professor James Brawer (Anatomy and Cell Biology) be re-appointed to serve for a term on the Committee on Staff Grievances and Disciplinary Procedures commencing September 1, 2005, and ending August 31, 2007.

Professor John Hayes (Animal Science) be appointed to serve for a term commencing immediately and ending August 31, 2008.

#### SETTING MCGILL'S AGENDA IN QUEBEC

Dr. Janyne Hodder, Vice-Principal (Inter-Institutional Affairs) presented an upbeat presentation "Setting McGill's Agenda in Quebec" (D04-58). Vice-Principal Hodder replied that it was her experience that Quebec universities worked together. Vice-Principal Hodder replied that she had no privileged information on the improvement in financial aid. If the indirect costs are used as a means of support should they be made more transparent? Vice-Principal Hodder explained that McGill University is recognized as an English-language University in Quebec, accepted within the French-speaking milieu and viewed with some pride. However, she also pointed out that McGill should continue to improve the presence of French within the institution.

Vice-Principal Hodder explained that her reference to the need to grow the resources of the University included tuition. Vice-Principal Hodder replied that McGill University is compared with



To a question regarding wireless access, Professor Masi indicated that wireless access would be available in all public areas and where requested in classrooms. As yet it was not economical to replace all wired access. If however the number of classrooms is to be reduced, then all may have to have wireless access and the facility to turn it off.

Professor Masi replied to a comment regarding modernization of classrooms stating that the University is working to ensure that all classrooms are well equipped and is testing other technologies.

Professor Masi replied to a question regarding the effectiveness Prltion /BE

The report of the Steering Committee stated that the Policy on Conflict of Interest and the Policy on Research Misconduct will be brought to Senate on Dec. 7, 2005; the University Strategic Plan will be presented to Senate on May 4, 2005.

- departure of Provost Vinet:

Senate unanimously approved a resolution extending thanks and wishes for success to outgoing Provost Luc Vinet.

- report of the APPC:

The report of the Academic Policy and Planning Committee contained no items directly related to Science.

- report of the Dining-at-McGill Advisory Committee:

Vice-Principal (Administration and Finance) Yalovsky presented the report of the Dining-at-McGill Advisory Committee and its related action plan. Prof. Martin Grant (of Physics), who chaired the Advisory Committee, and its members were thanked. VP Yalovsky recommended that the Advisory Committee reconvene to advise on standards for delivery of food services, as well as on the development of