

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, October 11, 2005
Leacock Council Room - L232**

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-05-7 to S-05-17

Dean Grant called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Prof. Gale **moved**, seconded by Prof. Green, that the Agenda be adopted.

The motion carried.

(2) CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

a) Bachelor of Science S-05-8

Associate Dean Leighton **moved**, seconded by Prof. Mucci, that the above candidates be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Bachelor of Science degree.

The motion carried.

b) Bachelor of Arts and Science S-05-9

Associate Dean Leighton **moved**, seconded by Prof. Gyakum, that the above candidates be recommended to the Senate Steering Committee for the Bachelor of Arts and Science degree.

The motion carried.

c) Diploma in Environment S-05-10

There were no candidates recommended for this Diploma.

d) Diploma in Meteorology S-05-11

There were no candidates recommended for this Diploma.

(3) **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2005**

S-05-7

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

The motion carried.

(4)

SECTION B: MAJOR PROGRAM CHANGES

None

SECTION C: NEW COURSES

None

SECTION D: MAJOR COURSE CHANGES

None

SECTION E: MINOR COURSE CHANGES (For Information Only)- Report on Minor Course Changes (**AC-05-2**)**SECTION F: MINOR PROGRAM CHANGES (For Information Only)**- Report on Minor Program Changes (**AC-05-P1**)**SECTION G: OTHER (For Approval)**

- WebCT

S-05-17**205.5**

Associate Dean Hendren introduced the above document and answered members' questions.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Ms. Upham, that Recommendation 1(a) in Document S-05-17 be approved. C7P /MCID 29 BDC Bs6on2 0 0 10.02 72 52 0 0 10.02 143.9983Tj61 10

205.12 There was some discussion on the recommendation during which it was pointed out that making course materials publicly available could raise copyright issues. However, upon further discussion it became clear that these issues of copyright already exist for current WebCT material.

The motion carried.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Ronis, that Recommendation 2 in Document S-05-17 be approved.

205.13 **Recommendation 2:** The Faculty of Science, fully recognizes that the academic laptop program is an excellent initiative for supporting the use of technology in teaching. The Faculty of Science recommends that Academic Laptop Program should be modified, starting with the next offering, so that any bona fide use of laptops in teaching could be used as a sufficient condition for qualifying for the laptop program. This could include, but should not be restricted to, the use of WebCT.

205.14 A member asked how one would determine a 'bona fide' use. Associate Dean Hendren replied that the application form could be amended to allow for a short description of the intended use of the laptop.

The motion carried.

- **Course & Program Proposal Forms (<http://www.mcgill.ca/sctp/guidelines>)**

205.15 Associate Dean Hendren explained that SCTP would be introducing new Course and Program Proposal Forms, and that these could be filled out online. She said that it would be beneficial to the Faculty of Science to be involved in the pilot project, in order to soon be able to use the new online forms, and to provide feedback to SCTP.

Associate Dean Hendren **moved**, seconded by Prof. Andrews, that the Faculty of Science be involved in the pilot project for online forms.

The motion carried.

SECTION H: OTHER (For Information Only)

- Update on Research Project Courses (3 Credits)

205.16 Associate Dean Hendren said that participating units in the Faculty of Science would be offering three-credit elective undergraduate research courses (XXXX 396) which would be available to B.Sc. students at all levels, thus promoting undergraduate research in the Faculty. She said she would provide more details at a future Faculty meeting.

(6) DEAN'S BUSINESS

i) Family-Friendly Policies

Discussion: Committee of the Whole (15 minutes)

206.1 Associate Dean Burns took over the chair of the Committee of the Whole at 3:53 p.m.

Report of the Committee of the Whole

206.2 There was a general discussion on family-friendly policies that would ease the transition of professors into their new life at McGill. Among the issues that commonly arose for

207.2 Dean Grant thanked Ms. Sudarshan for the Report.

(8) 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 September 14, 2005 – Prof. M. Baines

In response to a previous question, Professor Masi indicated that he will report back to Senate on daycare services at McGill within a month.

1. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Professor Noumoff expressed agreement with the views expressed by Professor GowriSankaran. He stated that the University should have a coherent set of regulations and should not deprive Librarians from their rights and dignity. He urged Senate to adopt these regulations until new ones come forward.

Dean of Science, Professor Grant supported referring these regulations to the Interim Provost for further consultations and asked for a timeframe for bringing them back to Senate.

Mr. Hobbins supported the need to keep parallelism until new library regulations are brought forward.

The Director of University Libraries Schmidt spoke against the motion noting that the proposed regulations could not be viewed as simply a matter of housekeeping, nor was parallelism appropriate since neither faculties nor departments were structured in the same way as the library. Thus, extreme caution should be taken when discussing these regulations. Ms. Schmidt recognized the need to address the current regulations governing librarians and that action should be taken for the benefit of all librarians. She informed Senate that she has been working to obtain information and documentation from other universities on this issue, and a group has been struck to work through the drafts available. She noted that three meetings have been scheduled within the coming six weeks to discuss these regulations.

Ms. Schmidt then moved, seconded by Dean Lund, to refer the regulations back to the Interim Provost Professor Masi with a timeframe to bring the new regulations to Senate in February.

The vote on the motion was called. The motion carried with the Chair of Senate, breaking the tie between members of Senate.

3. 373Rd REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Professor Masi presented the 373rd Report of the Academic Policy and Planning Committee (D05-01).

4. REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Professor Masi presented the Report of the Nominating Committee (D05-05).

5. NOTICE OF MOTION TO AMEND THE STATUTES REGARDING THE RETIREMENT OF D.D.S.

The Notice of Motion to Amend the Statutes regarding the retirement of D.D.S. (D05-12) was received.

6. NOTICE OF MOTION TO AMEND THE UNIVERSITY STATUTES

The Notice of Motion to Amend the University Statutes (D05-13) was received.

7. THE 23rd ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY APPEALS COMMITTEE

The 23rd Annual Report of the University Appeals Committee (D05-06) was received. Mr. Hobbins indicated that there are usually three stages for an appeal and asked at what stage was the case, mentioned in the report, settled. Professor Healy replied that this case was resolved at a preliminary level.

8. 2004-2005 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STUDENT AFFAIRS

The 2004-2005 Annual Report of the Committee on Student Affairs (D05-10) was received. In reply to a question from Ms. Yaloui regarding the contract with Turnitin.com, Dean Shore explained that the mandate of CSA is restricted to policy issues; it does not extend to implementation of decisions. The Interim Provost then advised that the

reason the Office of the Provost has undertaken a review of reappointment procedures across the University

Deans of Faculties have already been contacted with regard to this matter and have been asked to provide descriptions of the reappointment processes in their units. The Interim Provost noted that he will report back to Senate when the analysis is complete.

Senator Pare also asked a second question which was "*A Task Force on Non-Tenure Track Academic Personnel began work in January 2002 and completed its mandate at some point in 2004. When will the report from that Task Force be made public?*"

The Interim Provost replied that the Principal had set up a "Task Force" on non-tenure track academic staff" and that group presented a report in April, 2004. However, no actions were taken on the basis of that report for two reasons. First, the Task Force was not provided with appropriate terms of reference, and it was not given detailed guidelines as to structure that the report should follow. Second, the internal data that were employed were inadequate to the task of reviewing the rather complex situation of non-tenure track staff at McGill and no attempt was made to obtain information from peer publicly funded, research intensive universities in the G10 or AAU. Thus, the review of the role of non-tenure track academic staff will be continued this semester with the goal of developing more effective policies and practices for the recognition and regulation of our non-tenure track colleagues. It is hoped to communicate the next phase of this review to the University community in early October.

There were a number of nominations from the Nominating Committee of Senate.

Besides, some 'housekeeping' amendments to Statutes were approved. Also Senate received 2003-04 and 2004-05 Annual Report of the Committee on Continuing Education.

(9) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

There were no members' questions.

(10) OTHER BUSINESS

210.1 Prof. Shaver said that he would like to propose a resolution of thanks to Prof. Morton J. Mendelson for his service to the Faculty of Science in the capacity of, initially, Associate Dean (Academic & Student Affairs) and, later, Associate Dean (Academic). He said that over the years Prof. Mendelson had had a large impact not only on the Faculty of Science, but also on the university. Prof. Shaver said that during his time in the Student Affairs Office, Prof. Mendelson both set high standards and developed a well-deserved reputation for compassionate dealings with students. Prof. Mendelson also engaged students in an ongoing discussion concerning the ethics of being a student, thus introducing an avant-garde approach to ethics in the Faculty of Science. Nor did Prof. Mendelson hesitate to become engaged in controversial issues.

210.2 Prof. Mendelson was intimately associated with the Faculty of Science's success in meeting its enrolment targets, hence avoiding strain on the Faculty's resources. He served the Faculty both as a Senator and as a member of the Board of Governors, representing not just the Faculty of Science but the values of the Faculty of Science, and he had great influence on the university in general.

210.3 Prof. Mendelson was deeply involved in the development of the new Bachelor of Arts and Science degree, placing his stamp on the education of students at McGill.

Prof. Shaver **moved**, seconded by Associate Dean Hendren, the following resolution:

210.4

Be it resolved that the Faculty of Science extends its sincere appreciation and gratitude to the outstanding work of Morton Mendelson over the past years, and wishes him continued success in his new appointment as Associate Provost.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.