

FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
Meeting of Faculty  
Tuesday, December 7, 2010  
Leacock Council Room - L232

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-10-11, S-10-12

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

Pre-Agenda Item s:

- (a) McGill Centraide Campaign

(4) REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- a) Academic Committee S-10-12

The Academic Committee approved the following on October 26 and November 23, 2010:

SECTION A: NEW PROGRAM

## Biology

- B.Sc. Major in Quantitative Biology AC-10-10(Rev)

## Associated Courses:

- New Course:

BIOL 395 Quantitative Biology Seminar 1 AC-10-11(Rev)  
1 credit

- Course Revisions:

BIOL 495 Quantitative Biology Seminar 2 AC-10-12(Rev)  
Changes: title and credit weight [from 3]  
1 credit

404.1 Prof. de Takacsy introduced the above new program and associated courses.

Prof. Brown moved , seconded by Prof. Gale, that the above proposals be approved.

The motion carried .

SECTION B: MINOR AND MODERATE PROGRAM CHANGES

1. Computer Science/Biology  
- Major in Computer Science & Biology AC-10-20

## Associated Courses:

COMP 364 Computer tools for Life Sciences AC-10-18  
Changes in restrictions and description  
3 credits

COMP 401 Project in Biol. And Comp. Sci AC-10-19  
Changes in description and prerequisites  
3 credits

404.2 Prof. de Takacsy said that the introduction of the Quantitative Biology program (above) resulted in a change in credit weight for BIOL 495, which had been a required course for the Major in Computer Science & Biology. The change in credit weight for BIOL 495 necessitated the above changes.

Prof. Vogel moved , seconded by Prof. Levine, that the above proposals be approved.

The motion carried .

2. Biology and Mathematics  
-

The motion carried .

3. Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences  
Undergraduate Programs:
- Liberal Program: Core Science Component in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences AC-10-24
  - Major in Atmospheric Science AC-10-25
  - Major in Atmospheric Science: Atmospheric Chemistry AC-10-26
  - Honours in Atmospheric Science AC-10-27
  - Honours in Atmospheric Science: Atmospheric Chemistry AC-10-28
  - Diploma in Meteorology AC-10-29
- Associated Courses:  
ATOC 315 T37 0 Td3 -0.002 Tc 41 1 Tf 3.5y ams:10-Oceanic Sciences

SECTION C: NEW COURSES

- |    |                          |   |          |
|----|--------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. | Physiology<br>- PHGY 524 | Chronobiology<br>3 credits                  | AC-10-34 |
| 2. | Psychology<br>- PSYC 444 | Sleep Mechanisms and Behaviour<br>3 credits | AC-10-35 |

404.5 Prof. de Takacsy said that the above two courses covered related ground, one from a physiological and the other from a psychological perspective. Consultations had taken place between the units.

Prof. de Takacsy moved , seconded by Ms. Ma, that the courses be adopted.

The motion carried .

- |            |  |          |
|------------|--|----------|
| - PSYC 180 | Crit Thinking: Biases & Illusions<br>3 credits | AC-10-36 |
|------------|--|----------|

Prof. de Takacsy moved , seconded by Prof. Levine, that the above course be adopted.

The motion carried .

- |    |                            |  |          |
|----|----------------------------|--|----------|
| 3. | Redpath Museum<br>REDM 410 | Writing Research Articles<br>3 credits | AC-10-17 |
|----|----------------------------|--|----------|

Prof. Green moved , seconded by Mr. Djafarian, that the above course be adopted.

The motion carried .

SECTION D: MAJOR COURSE CHANGES

- |                        |   |              |
|------------------------|---|--------------|
| Psychology<br>PSYC 302 | The Psychology of Pain<br>Renumbered from 505; changes in prerequisites,<br>restrictions<br>3 credits     | AC-10-37     |
| PSYC 328               | Health Psychology<br>Changes: number [from 429], description, prerequisites,<br>restrictions<br>3 credits | AC-10-9(Rev) |
| PSYC 506               | Cognitive Neurosci of Attn<br>Renumbered from 365; changes in prerequisites,<br>restrictions<br>3 credits | AC-10-38     |

404.6 Prof. de Takacsy said that the above three courses had been renumbered to various levels for various reasons.

Prof. de Takacsy moved , seconded by Prof. Zuroff, that the above changes be approved.

The motion carried .

SECTION E: MINOR COURSE CHANGES (For Information Only )

- Report on Minor Course Changes

AC-10-16(Rev)

SECTION F: OTHER (For Information Only )

Geography (B.A. Program Change )

- Honours in Urban Studies
- Major Concentration in Geography; Urban Systems
- Minor Concentration in Geography; Urban Systems

(5) REPORT: LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PROJECT

405.1 Ms. Sharon Roy, Director of CCS and Project Manager of Phase 1 of the Process to select a new Learning Management System (LMS), gave a presentation on the LMS Project. She described the project's goal, scope and structure, including the memberships of the various committees involved. The presentation is available at:

[www.mcgill.ca/files/science/LMS.pdf](http://www.mcgill.ca/files/science/LMS.pdf)

405.2 The project's blog is <http://blogs.mcgill.ca/mycourses>.

405.3 Dean Grant thanked Ms. Roy for her presentation, and said that the Faculty's contact for the project was Professor Audrey Moores, Department of Chemistry.

(6) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

There were no members' questions.

(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/>.

- Prof. K. Franklin will report on the Senate Meeting of October 20, 2010, at a future Faculty meeting.

Senate Meeting of October 25, 2010 - Prof. J. Hurtubise

The meeting focused entirely on Graduat

1.
  - a. Work on obtaining the large interdisciplinary grants
  - b. Better and more applications to Quebec funding
  - c. Support for student scholarship applications
  - d. Work on international student funding
  - e. Leverage sources against each other.
  
2.
  - a. Develop pipelines for undergraduates (Science: BSc-MSc)
  - b. Gear research internships towards a pre-acceptance into graduate studies
  - c. Better graduate housing
  - d. Work on your web site
  - e. Research exchanges
  - f. Sell Montreal
  
3. Soft skills
  - a. PhD coop program
  - b. Non-academic training

The mode of interaction with the assembly was a point of departure, and an interesting one. On the one hand, it was certainly more engaging than the usual brain-numbing powerpoint, and is certainly the best way of getting information out of a group that size, but one might wonder about its eventual use as an input, and the reversal of the line of reporting that it implies: one more meeting safely navigated.

Senate Meeting of November 17, 2010 – Prof. P. Grütter

1. Resolution on the Deaths of Professor Catherine Shaw (Department of English) and Professor Guy Mehuys (Soil Science)
2. Remarks from the chair:  
Madame Principal talked about the Strategic Reframing Initiative (SRI), which is a collaborative senior administrative project that aims to enhance McGill's quality, revenues and levels of performance in 5 core areas:
  1. student enrolment (Martin Grant)
  2. transformative research and innovation (Bruce Lennox),
  3. philanthropy,
  4. cost efficiencies, and
  5. performance management.
  - Is our enrolment mix of students progressive and optimal in support of our mission?
  - How do we attract more research funding to the University, and lead in research and scholarly quality, innovation, dissemination and societal impact?
  - How do we build a sustainable and stable fund-raising culture that will generate high performance well into the future?
  - Are we doing all we can to leverage the dollars that we have in support of our academic mission?
  - Are we doing all that we can to understand, manage and measure performance throughout our complex organization?

With the help of the pro-bono input from 2 McGill alumni now at McKinsey. Checkout video interview (15 minutes) at <http://www.mcgill.ca/principal/>
3. Questions:
  1. Senator Joshua Abaki (undergraduate representative, SSMU VP University Affairs, Microbiology & Immunology Major) had several questions.



The Dean of Students answered that she is happy to report that Bill 100, which puts limits on the hiring of managerial staff in universities and other public bodies, specifically excludes staff providing services to students. Advising and other student affairs staff are exempt from the provision of the law. This also means that professional development and training opportunities for academic advisors will not be compromised.

#### 4. Motions and Reports from Organs of the University Government

1. Joint Board -Senate Meeting (which was on graduate student education)

2. The Current State of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (noteworthy items: SKILLSETS, Future Student Website, and Recruitment and Retention BEST workshops! Newly proposed funding formula for graduate students based on suggestions by faculties is more transparent)

3. White Paper 2012- 2016: Follow -up discussion . Not much discussion on the content, as Senators were more interested in the nature of the White Paper document itself. Concern was expressed that the overly broad nature of the document rendered it more like a mission statement than a strategic paper. Also 'discussed' were concerns about the various aspects of university rankings and how McGill responded to them. Senators noted that rankings were imperfect instruments and that not all of the University's goals may, or should, be in alignment with ranking.

4. Report on Campaign McGill: Has reached \$579.5 million towards its \$750 million goal. The Campaign was producing good results despite the economic downturn in 2009. McGill community has a lot of work to do in order to reach the goals. The Vice-Principal (Development and Alumni Relations), Mr. Marc Weinstein finished the report by asking Senators to give to the Campaign and talk about the campaign.

So maybe we should remind Faculty of Science meeting attendees to give to the cause.

Meeting ended 17:30

#### (8) OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.