

FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, January 11, 2011
Leacock Council Room - L232

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book.

DOCUMENTS: S-10-13 to S-10-15

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

(1) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

With the addition of a new award (Robert H. Mills Science Undergraduate Research Award [S-10-15]) under item #5, Reports of Committees, Prof. Levine moved, seconded by Prof. Gyakum, that the amended Agenda be approved.

The motion carried .

(2) PRESENTATION ON ACHIEVING STRATEGIC ACADEMIC PRIORITIES

502.1 Dean Grant introduced Provost Anthony C. Masi who gave a presentation on Achieving Strategic Academic Priorities (ASAP) at McGill.

502.2 Provost Masi's presentation is available on the Web at:

www.mcgill.ca/files/science/McGillASAP2012.pdf

502.3 Provost Masi said that he was pleased to have the opportunity to address the Faculty of Science regarding McGill's strategic directions, current serious economic constraints and plans concerning them, and steps McGill would be taking to achieve its overall goals.

502.4 Provost Masi began by stressing that McGill's mission and aspirations must now be sustained under a significant budget shortfall. The shortfall was the result of a number of factors, including some specific to universities in Québec. It was imperative that McGill: emphasize the urgency of acting immediately; stretch its resources by utilizing best practices cost efficiency measures; invest/reinvest in targeted academic areas; employ new ways of thinking; improve quality within the context of constraints; enhance accountability and transparency.

502.5 Provost Masi gave an outline of the budget situation over the coming years.

502.6 The shortfall meant that difficult choices had to be made. Under the Strategic Reframing Initiative (SRI), five key areas would be addressed immediately: cost efficiencies, enrolment mix, performance management, research and innovation, philanthropy.

502.7 Provost Masi said that Achieving Strategic Academic Priorities 2012 would consolidate and expand the gains achieved as a consequence of the 2006 White Paper, Strengths and Aspirations, and move forward from there. He said that the McGill community must work together in order to ensure and sustain the University's excellence and strength. He pointed out a number of areas that would be targeted for attention and to which initiatives would be applied over the next five years (2012-2016).

The motion carried.

- (2) Major & Honours Programs in Anatomy & Cell Biology AC-10-44

505.4 After briefly explaining that there were a number of complementary courses that were currently either not offered or not being taken by students in the Major and Honours Programs in Anatomy & Cell Biology, Prof. de Takacsy moved, seconded by Prof. Levine, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

SECTION C: NEW COURSES

- (1) Anatomy & Cell Biology
ANAT 565 Diseases-Membrane Trafficking AC-10-43
3 credits

505.5 Prof. de Takacsy introduced the above new course and said that there was a need for a more advanced membrane-trafficking course in the Major and Honours Programs in Anatomy & Cell Biology.

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

The motion carried.

- (2) Computer Science/Mathematics & Statistics
Double-Prefix Course
COMP 553/MATH 553 Algorithmic Game Theory AC-10-45/AC-10-46
4 credits

505.6 Prof. de Takacsy said that the proposed double-prefix course, COMP 553/MATH 553, would be given by a jointly-appointed faculty member in the School of Computer Science and the Department of Mathematics & Statistics.

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

The motion carried.

- (3) Bachelor of Arts and Science
BASC 449D1/D2 Integrative Research Project AC-10-47
6 credits

505.7 Prof. de Takacsy explained that BASC 449D1/D2, a six-credit research project course,

BIOC 690	Change in teaching unit [from Chemistry] 1 credit Seminars in Chemical Biology 4 Change in teaching unit [from Chemistry] 1 credit	AC-10-42
505.8	Prof. de Takacsy said that the above two courses would no longer be administered by the Department of Chemistry, but instead by the Department of Biochemistry.	

system more closely aligned with accepted accounting practices. In particular the new system will give a better picture of McGill's liabilities. The Provost then gave an overview of the progress on the 2006 White Paper and asked Senate to consider whether the objectives and targets for action needed to be modified in the light of experience.

showed an enrollment increase. Of particular note is the university-wide 19.7% increase in doctoral enrollments.

14. Annual report of the Committee on Enrolment and Student Affairs

Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning) Morton Mendelson in his report noted that the funds for scholarships and student aid in 2009-10 have increased to nearly \$75M, or 37% since 2002-2003. He also noted that McGill's student body is not as economically diverse as the population of Canadian university students. He concluded that more efforts are needed to attract students from less economically privileged backgrounds, and more financial aid is needed to ensure that these students succeed at McGill.

(7) MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD

507.1 A member suggested that calling for questions immediately after a presentation such as the Provost's, in which a great deal of new information was revealed, did not give members time to digest the information and come up with thoughtful questions. In response, Dean Grant said that at the next Faculty meeting scheduled for February 15, 2010, there would be a Committee of the Whole discussion of the topic lasting 15 minutes.

(8) OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, on a motion duly proposed and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.