

FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
Meeting of Faculty  
20 March 2018  
Leacock Council Room - L232

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book

DOCUMENTS: S-17-26, S-17-27

Dean Kenzie Prof. moved, seconded by Prof. Roulet, that the Minutes be approved.

The motion carried.

702.1 Dean Lennox said that, with regard to the discussion that took place on 20 February 2018, on "What is a McGill Science Ph.D. in the 21

st Century?", he encouraged members to bring the valuable points and suggestions (Item #4 of the Minutes, Page 1-4) back to their individual units for discussion. There will be a working group, to be convened by Associate Dean Nilson, to look at current practices and to recommend Faculty guidelines and policies on graduate education in the Faculty of Science for Fall 2018.

3) BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

over the last couple of decades, but reaction to these expectations often lags behind.

704.7

Dr. Parmar illustrated how the AAU-STEM project is envisioned, involving the integration of students into the freshman STEM course in redesigning and implementation. Pedagogical reform will occur through collaboration and idea-sharing among professors and students across the different subject matters. The goal for Winter 2019 will be to implement the program in four courses.

704.8

STEM Teaching Fellows, Ms. Emilie Parent and Mr. OuLin Yu, and Ms. Sisi Wang, T-PULSE undergraduate mentor, are working with Prof. Ragan on the AAU-STEM project for Physics 101/131. The focus is on the lab component, rather than just the lecture portion, of Physics 101/131 in trying to make some improvements. The aim is to replace the “cookbook” style by something more exploratory to help students build their intuition and develop the students' understanding of physical concepts. In Fall 2017, a survey was conducted on students' viewpoints about the labs, and the response rate from students was about 10% for both courses. Some of ceHsco

- (1) Mathematics & Statistics  
 MATH 356 Honours Probability AC-17-74  
 Changes: prerequisites, corequisites  
 3 credits

705.2 Associate Dean Hundemer explained that the prerequisites have been revised in order to better prepare students to succeed in MATH 356. Also, the corequisites were removed since the material covered in the corequisite courses was not adequate to successfully complete MATH 356.

Prof. Devroye moved , seconded by Prof. Neslehova, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

- (2) Psychology  
 PSYC 427 Sensorimotor Neuroscience AC-17-76  
 Changes: title, prerequisites  
 3 credits

705.3 Associate Dean Hundemer said the change in title was to reflect the course content, and the changes in prerequisites were to ensure that psychology students had sufficient background to succeed in PSYC 427.

Prof. Lydon moved , seconded by Prof. Damha, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

### III. Program Revisions

- (1) Computer Science  
 (i) B.Sc. Programs:  
 - Honours in Software Engineering AC-17-70  
 - Major in Software Engineering AC-17-71  
 - Liberal - Core Science Component in Software Engineering AC-17-72  
 (ii) B.A. & Sc. Programs :  
 - Major Concentration in Software Engineering AC-17-73

705.4 Associate Dean Hundemer described the above Software Engineering Programs in the B.Sc. and B.A. & Sc. degrees. Two new Engineering courses (ECSE 326, ECSE 437) have been added, and relatively minor changes were made in the list of Complementary courses.

Prof. Devroye moved , seconded by Prof. Kemme, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

- (2) Microbiology & Immunology  
 - Liberal – Core Science Component in Microbiology & Immunology AC-17-53

705.5 Associate Dean Hundemer said that the proposal was the addition of a newly approved course, MIMM 301, Scientific Writing Skills-MIMM (approved at the Faculty of Science meeting that took place on 20 February 2018), thus increasing the program credit by one (from 49 credits to 50). In addition, two new research courses (also approved at the last Faculty meeting), were included in the program, as well as other Complementary courses, to allow for more flexibility and choice.

Prof. Grütter moved , seconded by Prof. Damha, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

IV. For Information Only

- Computer Science  
B.A. Program:
  - Major Concentration in Software Engineering

(6) DEAN'S BUSINESS

- Announcements

(I) Budget

The fiscal year 2019 Faculty budget was in the final stages of development. With the federal budget and the upcoming provincial budget, it was likely that it would be a positive budget in many regards. Nonetheless, McGill is under constant pressure in trying to manage its expenditures, especially with respect to huge infrastructure costs, renovation costs and deferred maintenance costs. What we are looking at is a pretty conservative university budget; this will most likely have an impact on the Faculty of Science.

- The Faculty will be able to find financial resources to hire three account administrators in departments, even though the budget has not yet been approved.

- An undergraduate program coordinator position for one or more departments has been created to assist with undergraduate affairs, because one of the Faculty's highest priorities is student support.

- The Faculty also has funding for an education specialist for the OSE.

The budget is expected to be finalized somewhere between the middle and end of April 2018.

(II) Awards

(a) **Professor Catherine Potvin**, Department of Biology, has been awarded the 2018 Principal's Prize for Public Engagement through Media. The value of the prize is \$5,000.

(b) **Professor Joe Schwarcz**, Department of Chemistry, Director of the McGill Office for Science and Society, is the winner of the 2018 Principal's Prize for Public Engagement through Media – Outstanding Achievement Award – The value of the Prize is \$5,000.

(c) **McGill Chemistry Outreach Group**, a group of students, faculty and staff TD E3954 Tw [(M)6.5

Dean Lennox said that the deadline to submit nominations for the Faculty of Science Excellence Award is also on 30 March 2018. This year is the first time that three awards will be offered to acknowledge outstanding performance by members of the clerical, technical and management staff. Dean Lennox encouraged members to nominate their staff. He thanked Prof. Jacques Hurtubise for Chairing this important committee, and thanked the members of the committee.

7) REPORTS OF DIRECTOR AND ASSOCIATE DEANS

a) Director (Advising Services) Nicole Allard

There was no report for the current meeting.

b) Associate Dean (Graduate Education) Laura Nilson

b) Am not sure there was a single particular outcome, but common themes were teaching space is important, the need for innovation, and the importance of reflection/adaptation.

(4) There has been discussion regarding the composition of Senate. This has been tabled till it is revisited in the regular Senate cycle in 2019.

(5) Progress Report on the Principal's Task Force on Respect and Inclusion in Campus Life by Professors Lennox and Ramanujam, with a mandate to McGill to ensure our core principles are represented. The committee is comprised of 3 students members, 4 faculty members, and 2 staff members. They have undertaken surveys, focus groups, an open forum, group submissions, task force consultations, and policy research and analysis.