

**FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Meeting of Faculty
Tuesday, 23 May, 2017
Leacock Council Room - L232**

ATTENDANCE: As recorded in the Faculty Appendix Book

DOCUMENTS: S-16-31 to S-16-40

2) FACULTY OF SCIENCE EXCELLENCE AWARD

902.1 Dean Lennox, on behalf of Prof. Jacques Hurtubise, Chair, Faculty of Science Excellence Award Committee, said that the Exce

902.4 On behalf of the Faculty, Dean Lennox congratulated Ms. White and presented her with a cheque in the amount of \$2,000, along with a framed certificate commemorating her receipt of the Faculty of Science Excellence Award.

902.5 Ms. White said she appreciated the award very much, and thanked the Dean, the Department of Mathematics & Statistics, and the Faculty of Science Excellence Award Committee.

3) LEO YAFFE TEACHING AWARD

903.1 Prof. Edith Zorychta, Chair of the Leo Yaffe Teaching Award & Principal's Prizes Committee, introduced the Leo Yaffe Teaching Award for the Faculty of Science.

903.2 In alphabetical order, the nominees for the 2016-2017 Leo Yaffe Award were:

Prof. Andrew Cumming, Department of Physics
Prof. Melanie Dirks, Department of Psychology
Prof. Andrew Hendry, Department of Biology
Prof. Vojkan Jaksic, Department of Mathematics & Statistics
Prof. Michael Langer, School of Computer Science
Prof. Jean-Philip Lumb, Department of Chemistry

903.3 Prof. Zorychta read the following citation:

For advanced students, the experience is more intense. A course on Evolutionary Ecology attracts highly motivated students who must formulate and carry out a research project of sufficient depth to generate a scientific manuscript suitable for publication. In this process Andrew is both a role model of a successful scientist and a mentor who provides friendly guidance in design and analysis of their projects. He creates an ideal learning environment for those considering a career in research.

In summary, Andrew Hendry is a phenomenal teacher. He is passionate about his subject and transmits his knowledge and interest with an approach that is engaging, informative and enjoyable at the same time. Students recognize and appreciate that he goes to great lengths to keep them interested and focused, and they repeatedly state that his enthusiasm for teaching and research is contagious. He is an outstanding educator and it is a pleasure to announce Andrew Hendry as the 2017 recipient of the Leo Yaffe Award.

903.4 On behalf of the Faculty of Science, Dean Lennox congratulated Prof. Hendry, who unfortunately could not attend the current meeting. He mentioned that Prof. Hendry was not only a great teacher, but also a fine researcher.

903.5 Dean Lennox thanked Prof. Zorychta and the Committee members for their diligent work on the Leo Yaffe Award & Principal's Prizes Committee.

4) CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

a) Bachelor of Arts and Science

S-16-32

b) Bachelor of Science

S-16-33

904.1 On behalf of Director Allard, Associate Dean Nilson said there were 85 graduands for the B.A. & Sc. degree, and 734 for the B.Sc. degree. The corresponding figures for 2016 were 76 and 743.

904.2 Associate Dean Nilson said that the honorifics cut-offs for the B.A. & Sc. and B.Sc. degrees were:

B.A. & Sc.:

- Dean's Honour List (Top 10%) – 3.79 CGPA

- Distinction (Next 15% below Top 10%) – 3.68 CGPA

B.Sc.:

- Dean's Honour List (Top 10%) – 3.93 CGPA

The motion carried.

Associate Dean Nilson further moved, seconded by Prof. Damha, that the Dean be given discretionary power to make such changes as would be necessary to prevent injustice.

The motion carried.

5) **MINUTES OF 18 APRIL 2017** **S-16-31**

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

The motion carried.

6) **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

7) **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

a) Scholarships Committee **S-16-36**

907.1 Associate Dean Nilson, Chair, Science Scholarships Committee, gave the following report:

907.2 (1) The Scholarships Report, Document S-16-36, included Faculty and departmental awards and medals.

907.3 (2) The Governor General's Silver Medal has been awarded to **Zheng Dai, First Class Honours in Computer Science and Biology**. The Governor General's Silver Medal is awarded to a graduating undergraduate student who obtains the highest academic standing in a bachelor's degree program. There are only two medals given each year for the entire university. The medal will be presented by Principal Fortier at the Science Convocation ceremony on 5 June 2017.

907.4 (3) The Moyse Travelling Scholarship has been awarded to **Emilie Rose Storer, First Class Honours in Mathematics and Physics**. Out of 14 applications received, the selection committee invited five candidates to an interview. After one candidate withdrew his scholarship application, the four remaining candidates were interviewed. Two Moyse Travelling Scholarships are awarded annually (one scholarship awarded by the Faculty of Arts and the other by the Faculty of Science). The Scholarships are tenable for one year of advanced study, preferably abroad (i.e., a British or European university), although North American universities are also considered.

907.5 (4) For the 2016-2017 academic year, the CGPA cutoff for Faculty awards was 3.99. There were a total of 16 graduating students within this category.

b) Academic Committee **S-16-37**

907.6 On behalf of Associate Dean Western, Associate Dean Laura Nilson reported on the Academic Committee's report.

The following proposals were approved at the Academic Committee meeting held on 25 April 2017:

I. NEW COURSE

Computer Science
COMP 204

Comp. Programming for Life Sci
3 credits

AC-16-68

907.7 Associate Dean Nilson introduced a new computer programming course, COMP 204, designed for students in the life sciences programs.

907.8 Dean Lennox said that the creation of COMP 204 was an important initiative by the School of Computer Science.

Associate Dean Nilson **moved**, seconded by Prof. Kemme, that the course be adopted.

The motion carried.

II. COURSE REVISIONS

1) Anatomy & Cell Biology
ANAT 321

Circuitry of the Human Brain
Change in restrictions
3 credits

AC-16-69

907.9 Associate Dean Nilson said that ANAT 321 is currently restricted to U3 students only. Following a review of ANAT 321, the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology would like to remove the restriction and open the course to U2 and U3 students, provided that the prerequisites are successfully completed.

Associate Dean Nilson **moved**, seconded by Mr. Ware, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

ANAT 322

Neuroendocrinology
Change in prerequisites
3 credits

AC-16-70

907.10 Associate Dean Nilson said that the change to the prerequisites for ANAT 322 would better prepare students for the course. She pointed out that the new prerequisite, PHGY 210, is a Required course in the Major and Honours programs in Anatomy & Cell Biology. As such, the total credit weight of the programs remains unchanged.

Associate Dean Nilson **moved**, seconded by Prof. Damha, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

2) Psychology

PSYC 433 [from -532]

Cognitive Science
Changes: number change [from -532], schedule type,
description, prerequisites, restrictions

AC-16-72

907.11 Associate Dean Nilson described the above changes, and explained that the changes were due to a new instructor and an increased demand for cognitive science courses in various programs. PSYC 433 will now be taught as a lecture course instead of a seminar course and will serve a wide range of students.

Associate Dean Nilson **moved**, seconded by Prof. Lydon, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

For Information Only: PSYC 433 will replace PSYC 532 in the following programs:
PSYC 433 to replace PSYC 532 in List A in the following programs:

B.A. & Sc. programs:

Major Concentration Psychology (36 credits)

B.Sc. programs:

Liberal Program: Core Science Component Psychology (45 credits)

Major Psychology (54 credits)

Honours Psychology (60 credits)

B.A. programs:

Major Concentration Psychology (36 credits)

Honours Psychology (60 credits)

Honours Linguistics (60 credits)

907.13 Associate Dean Nilson said that currently CHEM 480 is restricted to Honours students, only. The Department of Chemistry would like to revise CHEM 480 to enable non-Honours students to take an additional research course, as a follow-up to CHEM 396 (Undergraduate Research Project, 3 credits) or CHEM 470 (Research Project 1, 6 credits).

Associate Dean Nilson **moved**, seconded by Prof. Damha, that the changes be approved.

The motion carried.

c) Committee on Student Standing (CSS)

S-16-38

907.14 Associate Dean Nilson, on behalf of Director Allard, briefly described the role of the CSS. She said that the CSS considers appeals by students regarding decisions made by the Director of Advising Services. One request to e-flag a course (course is excluded from the GPA and credit count) was not approved.

907.15 Dean Lennox added that it was very important that there be avenues that allow students to make appeals.

8) DEAN'S BUSINESS

a) Dean's Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research List (DMURL)

S-16-39

908.1 Associate Dean Nilson, on behalf of Director Allard, said that the DMURL provides recognition for students who have completed at least 9 credits of graded research-based courses in at least two different units, and who have a minimum GPA of 3.00 in these courses. She said that there were 68 B.Sc. students and seven B.A. & Sc. students listed in Document #S-16-39 who would be graduating with this honour. February and June graduates were also included in this document.

b) B.Sc. Global Designation

S-16-40

908.2 On behalf of Director Allard, Associate Dean Nilson said that the B.Sc. Global is a designation being given at graduation. Students must have at least three credits from a second-language course, at least three credits from an independent research project course, plus a third component, chosen from various preselected options. She said there were nine candidates who would graduate with the B.Sc. Global designation in Document S-16-40.

908.3 Dean Lennox said that the B.Sc. Global Designation has attracted a lot of attention within the McGill community. He added that he would like to promote the B.Sc. Global Designation and encourage more science students to apply for it.

c) Announcements

908.4 (i) The Faculty of Science Convocation is scheduled for June 5, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. This year's honorary doctorate recipients are:

a) Nobel Prize Winner Sir Paul Nurse, Director & Chief Executive of the Francis Crick Institute in London and former President of the Royal Society of London.

b) Nobel Prize Winner Professor Arthur B. McDonald,

- Senate Meeting of 20 April, 2017: Senator Gregor Fussmann

The meeting began with Dean Eidelman presenting a memorial tribute for Professor Mark Wainberg, who tragically drowned on April 11 while on vacation in Florida. With Professor Wainberg, McGill, the Jewish General Hospital and the global AIDS community lost one of their leading advocates and researchers. His research and collaborations on AIDS and HIV, including the initial identification of the 3TC antiretroviral drug, have saved millions of lives around the world. In his tribute, Senator Eidelman called Professor Wainberg “a true medical giant” and portrayed him as someone who “served as the voice for the voiceless, pushing hard for equitable treatment of all regardless of social status, sexual orientation or ethnic origin.”

Senate adopted the minutes of the last Senate meeting, the report of the Steering Committee and the agenda. As a matter arising from the March minutes, Deputy-Provost Dyens provided a verbal further response to the question regarding the sale of lecture materials by students and companies.

In her remarks from the Chair, Principal Fortier noted that the final report of the Advisory Panel on Federal Support for Fundamental Science (also known as the Naylor report) was released on April 10, and that it recommends reinvestments in this area. The federal and Quebec governments released their budgets in March; the Quebec budget features investments in the higher education sector over the next six years. Principal Fortier commented on the Quebec budget as “good news”, although “details are not known yet”; the federal budget was characterized as “little reinvestment”, and rather as “prudent reallocation.”

Members of the Faculty of Science featured prominently in the Principal’s Kudos: Professor Ehab Abouheif, who was awarded a 2017 Guggenheim fellowship; Professor

“Particular onus is placed on those in positions of academic and administrative authority: to be aware of what constitutes Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law and what procedures are in place to provide information and to address complaints; and to implement and use appropriate and active management practices consistent with the achievement of the goals of this Policy. Acts of Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Prohibited by Law are University offences subject to disciplinary measures.”

11) **MEMBERS' QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no members' questions.

12) **OTHER BUSINESS**

912.1 Dean Lennox wished everyone a great summer. He encouraged members to sign up for the upcoming Science Convocation to be held on 5 June 2017. The Science Convocation ceremony is always a very memorable one, highly appreciated by students.

There being no other business, Prof. Damha **moved**, seconded by Associate Dean Nilson, that the meeting be adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

The motion carried.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 12 September 2017