

General Faculties Council (GFC) Snapshot – December 9, 2010

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Reports from Senior Administration

- Interviews for the position of Dean of Health and Community Studies are taking place this week. Short listing for the position of Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services will take place before Christmas. Searches for the Deans of Science and Technology and Business will begin in the New Year.
- The parkade is expected to open for the winter semester.
- A standing committee on undergraduate research has been formed. Faculty are welcome to join a broader special interest group that will be listening in on its discussions.

Decision Items

- All curriculum submissions on the agenda from Communication Studies, Science and Technology, Business, Arts, and Health and Community Studies were passed.
 - There were concerns raised around the growing number of subject-specific statistics courses being offered across the institution. APPC has recommended that a subcommittee be struck to examine this issue.
- POL 960-08.xx: Distinguished Faculty Awards—Credit was passed.
- POL 960-08.xx: Distinguished Teaching Awards—Credit-Free was passed.
- The Academic Schedule 2011- 2012 was passed.

Report from the Academic Program and Policy Committee (APPC)

- The Chair of APPC thanked the members of the committee for their hard work in reviewing the large number of course submissions the committee received this fall.

Report from the Appointments, Promotion and Tenure Committee (APTC)

- The Chair of APTC indicated that faculty councils are currently working on faculty and discipline interpretations of tenure and promotion criteria, and that faculty representatives on APTC are keeping the lines of communication open during this process. The Chair and the Vice-Chair of APTC visited ISP small group sessions throughout the fall to discuss tenure criteria and standards with new faculty members. A summary of their comments is available upon request. APTC has reviewed the Collective Agreement and forwarded recommendations around changes in wording around tenure and promotion criteria to the negotiating committees. The committee also plans to review the section on APTC in the GFC bylaws to ensure that they reflect the current state of the committee and its work.

Report from the Learning Outcomes Standing Committee (LOSC)

- LOSC is ready to begin consultations with the Mount Royal community around updating/reconsidering the current institutional learning outcomes. Faculty, selected staff and students will be asked to fill out a survey on this issue. The committee hopes to bring forward specific recommendations by the end of the Winter term.

Question Period

- A GFC councillor asked what policies currently exist at MRU around double majors. Right now students need to fill the provisions of both majors. It was indicated that this issue will be brought to the attention of the Registrar upon his return in January.
- A concern around course numbering practices was raised, in particular around what courses are using the 2000 designation. The Acting Associate Vice-President, Enrolment Services and Registrar will consider this issue.