

- B.Sc. Program Changes

Joint Major in Computer Science and Biology

AC-16-3

Prof. Langer introduced the program change. He said that the School of Computer Science is proposing to make MATH 240 (Discrete Structures 1) a co-requisite for COMP 251 Algorithms and Data Structures. MATH 240 currently is on the Complementary Courses list for the Joint Major in Computer Science and Biology, but COMP 251 is on the Required Courses list. He explained that the co-requisite change means that MATH 240 would effectively become a Required Course and thus the proposal to move MATH 240 from the Complementary list into the Required list and adjust the credit requirements for the two lists accordingly (namely, reducing the number of Computer Science Complementary credits by 3).

Director Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Duchaine

Program. Associate Dean Western said that the time had come to formalize this program offering and that the discussions initiated through this ad hoc offering could be a start towards formalization.

Director Allard **moved**, seconded by Prof. Cumming, that the ad hoc Joint Honours in Physics and Computer Science program be approved.

The motion carried.

(7) MINOR IN NANOTECHNOLOGY

AC-16-5

Associate Dean Western explained that the Department of Chemical Engineering in the Faculty of Engineering had approved a new 21-credit minor program in Nanotechnology last year but, for various reasons, a consultation was not done with the Faculty of Science. Given that the minor can be taken by B.Sc. students and has a Science advisor in Prof. Grutter, Associate Dean Western said it was important for the Faculty of Science to decide if they will allow students to enroll in this minor.

The Academic Committee expressed many concerns that largely related to the fact that the minor is almost entirely composed of 400- and 500-level courses that have a number of prerequisite courses, thus making many of these courses inaccessible to students, considering the stipulation that 18 credits must be used exclusively for the minor. Prof. Hales, for example, expressed concerns with the inclusion of PHAR 504 (Drug Discovery and Development 2) and said that it will be very difficult and even unrealistic to expect that students will be able to complete the pre-requisites for the this course (i.e. PHAR 301 or PHAR 303). Associate Dean Western explained that this is why the Complementary Course offerings are so broad though she states that this is not ideal for minor programs. Director Allard explained that it is possible to offer a minor program to students with the understanding that this program may be difficult to complete though she also expressed agreement that this is not a well-

(11) **SUS ACTIVITIES**

Ms. Jasmine Leung, V.-P. (Academic Affairs), of the Science Undergraduate Society (SUS), informed the committee of various initiatives that the SUS has undertaken this semester. These include offering an Excel workshop to Faculty of Science students, working in collaboration with the McGill Writing Center to develop a workshop series, planning a number of events such as the Graduate and Professorial Schools Fair, a networking event designed to help first year students choose their major, an undergraduate research information session with Mr. Chisholm of the Science Office of Undergraduate Research, and Academia Week to be held in the second week of February 2017. Other upcoming events mentioned by Ms. Leung included Life After Undergrad for students in both the life science and the physical sciences, a Professional Skills event and workshop series and Social SUSTainability Month wherein funds will be raised to support the charity L'abri en Ville. Finally, Ms. Leung noted that the SUS was in the process of appointing an Executive Director.