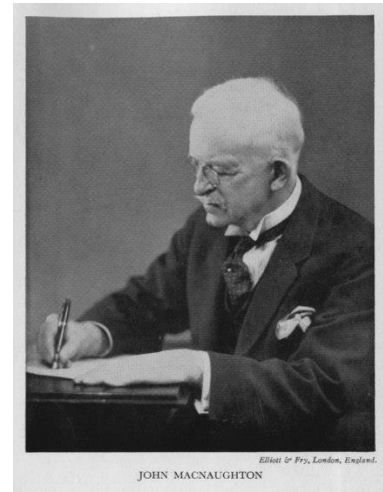# John MacNaughton and his Named Chair in Classics at McGill University (by Hans Beck)

John MacNaughton (born January 28, 1858, Remony, Scotland; died February 5, 1943, Montreal) was professor of Classics at McGill University from 1903 to 1904 and 1908 to 1919.

MacNaughton received his Master of Arts from Aberdeen University in 1881. He went on to do graduate work in Cambridge, Heidelberg, and Berlin. In 1888 he was ordained and became Minister of Lairg, Sutherland. The following year, in 1889, he assumed the position of Appointed Professor of Greek at Queen's University (1889-1903 and again from 1904 to 1908). Later he was professor of Classics at the University of Toronto (1919-1925).

After his retirement, MacNaughton lived in England, first in London, then at St. Leonard's-on-Sea. He returned to Canada in 1939, and died in his Montreal home at 1700 McGregor Avenue. The funeral service was held at Montreal's Mont Royal Crematorium. In an obituary that was published in *The McGill News*, he is remembered "for his trenchant style, his striking phrases, his strong language, his tremendous vitality. A regular volcano of a man, he swept away all who met him on the current of his own enthusiasm" (volume 24, 1942-43: 24).

Source: John MacNaughton, *Essays and Addresses*. Selected by D.D. Calvin. Kingston 1946.

The MacNaughton Chair in Classics was established in 1983 at McGill University. Previous incumbents include Professors Paolo Vivante, Michael Woloch, and Ann Carson. I came to the chair in 2005.

My graduate students receive a fellowship from the endowed chair's fund. Recent recipients were Paul Vadan (2010), Brahm Kleinman (2011), Ruben Post (2012), François Gauthier (2013), and Katrina Van Amsterdam (2014).