

BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY
MINUTES
OF THE 391st MEETING OF SENATE

The 391st meeting of Senate, a Special Meeting, was held on Monday, 27 January 1997, at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, McGreer Hall.

Present: Mr. Baechler, Prof. Benson, Dr. Black, Ms. Bolduc, Ms. Carlton, Dr. Clark-Jones, Dr. Cook, Dr. Coyne, Dr. Crooks, Prof. Cunningham, Mr. Curran, Dr. El-Bassoussi, Dr. Gaskell, Dr. Forrest, Dr. Harvey, Ms. Montgomery, Dr. Norman, Prof. Robson, Prof. Siddiqui, Mr. Smith-Windsor, Dr. Stritch, Mr. Thorne, Dr. Yeats. Mrs. Hodder was in the Chair.

Regrets: Mr. Nowers, Mr. Sawyer

Guests: Mrs. Bandrauk; Prof. Drolet, Dr. Rittenhouse (members of the Senate Planning Committee)

1/391 The only item on the agenda for this meeting was a discussion of the Interim Report of the Senate Planning Committee, which had been deposited at the meeting of 20 January 1997.

Moved by Dr. Coyne, seconded by Prof. Benson, that Senate adjourn its deliberations at 9:00 p.m., and that discussion resume on Monday 3 February 1997, at 7:00 p.m., if it has not been completed by the time of adjournment.

Motion carried.

At the request of the Chair, Dr. Dean, Chair of the Senate Planning Committee, introduced the Report.

He drew Senate's attention to three changes to the Report:

- on page 4, second paragraph, 3rd line: "governing" should read "other"

- on page 5, in the list of new programme proposals, the following should be added:
 - B.A. Major in Women's Studies
 - B.A. Major in Gerontology

B.A. Communications and Cultural Studies Major

-- on page 5, in the list of new programme proposals, the B.A. in Public Administration/Public Policy is withdrawn for the present. A proposal for a BA in Information Technology and Management Science is to be presented at a later date.

Dr. Dean told senators that the purpose of the Interim Report was to allow them to see the direction the Senate Planning Committee (SPC) proposed to take, and to provide an opportunity for comments and suggestions. He noted that a number of the recommendations would be referred to the Divisions for consideration before a Final Report is prepared. He suggested that some of the recommendations in the Interim Report could be implemented at once, if approved.

Dr. Dean reminded Senate that the SPC had been working within the context of their mandate, which directed them to propose ways of delivering the academic programme within a budget of \$1.6 million in 1997-98; this translates to a reduction of 5.9% from the current budget, and the reductions are to be permanent. He noted that for the purpose of this exercise the SPC had assumed no decrease in continuing faculty positions.

Dr. Dean said that the SPC recognized that some of their recommendations could be seen as overlapping areas governed by the Collective Agreement; senators were invited to keep this in mind during the discussion.

Dr. Dean thanked all those who had submitted proposals to the Committee. He asked Senate to receive the Interim Report, and to refer specific recommendations to the Divisions for study, as appropriate.

It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Cook, that Senate deal with the Interim Report according to the following agenda:

- a. Section 9 Proposed Budget for 1997-98
- b. Section 8 Additional Recommendations and Workload
- c. Section 3 Department of Modern Languages and a New Division
- d. Section 5 Introductory Statistics and Double Listing
- e. Section 6 Graduate Programmes
- f. Section 2 New Programmes

Motion carried.

391/1/a Section 9: Proposed Budget for 1997-98

Dr. Dean informed senators that the budget proposal had been developed by taking the required bottom line of \$1.6 million and subtracting all known fixed expenses. Some of these are a consequence of provisions of the current Collective Agreement. The Committee had identified three areas in which decisions would have to be made:

- the rate of replacement for sabbatical leaves;
- the number of day-time part-time credits to be used;
- the disposition of the 17 tenured or tenure-track faculty positions which are now vacant.

The SPC suggested that the sum indicated at line 49b of the proposed budget, \$419,000, was the maximum amount which could be made available for faculty replacements. It is clearly desirable to have this line as large as possible; however senators were reminded that any increases to it would have to come from other budget lines.

Some senators asked how the SPC proposed to distribute this amount.

Dr. Cook said that the Committee had not attempted to assign priorities, but had developed a number of scenarios involving various mixes of full-time positions, part-time credits, and sessional appointments. Once Senate has approved some general guidelines, the SPC would return with a proposal for allocation of the funds as part of its Final Report.

It was moved by Dr. Coyne, seconded by Dr. Gaskell, that the Senate Planning Committee be asked to return to Senate with a fuller report on the disposition of funds in line 49b, within the guidelines of the proposed budget.

Motion carried.

Mr. Curran asked that the minutes reflect his concern that the proposed budget contains no provision for library resources to support any new programmes. Mrs. Hodder suggested that this question should form part of the discussion of the new programmes themselves.

1/391/b Section 8: Additional Recommendations and Workload

Mrs. Hodder acknowledged that some of the recommendations contained in this section had implications for the Collective Agreement. She asked senators to permit a general discussion to take place, noting that Senate decisions could not be binding on Collective Agreement negotiations.

Dr. Dean reviewed the recommendations in this section, which addressed class size, registration procedures, and criteria for

development of the timetable.

On the issue of class size, senators were concerned that pedagogical reasons for smaller classes should be taken into account, particularly in the case of upper-level and specialized courses. They mentioned that small classes have been part of the attraction of Bishop's for its students. It was pointed out that the recommendations were intended to be guidelines, albeit strong ones, and that courses with special requirements would be looked at individually. However, with fewer courses being offered, and (ideally) the same number of full-time students, it was inevitable that the average class size would increase.

It was moved by Dr. Cook, seconded by Prof. Robson, that the recommendations of the Interim Report dealing with proposals for new programmes be referred immediately to the Divisions, so that discussion of them can begin.

Motion carried.

It being 9:05 p.m., the meeting adjourned. It will resume on Monday 3 February at 7:00 p.m.