

BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY
MINUTES
OF THE 393rd MEETING OF SENATE

The 393rd meeting of Senate, a Special Meeting, was held on Monday 17 March 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. Crooks, Prof. Cunningham, Mr. Curran, Dr. Dean, Dr. Forrest, Dr. Gaskell, Dr. Harvey, Ms. Montgomery, Dr. Norman, Prof. Robson, Prof. Siddiqui, Mr. Smith-Windsor, Dr. Stritch, Prof. Taseen, Dr. Yeats. Mrs. Hodder was in the Chair.

Guests: Mrs. Bandrauk, Prof. Drolet, Dr. Rittenhouse

Before the meeting began, it was agreed that the next regular meeting of Senate, scheduled for March 24, would take place between 6:00 and 7:15 p.m. on that evening, to accommodate a special guest speaker. An additional meeting, if needed, will be scheduled later.

1/393 The only item on the agenda was the Final Report of the Senate Planning Committee.

Dr. Dean presented the report, noting that it had been issued as promised on March 10th, and that responses received from the Divisions had been taken into account in the final version.

He recommended that the proposals for new programmes be put on the agenda for the next regular Senate meeting, on March 24th.

With regard to the Section 4, Allocation of Funds and Ranking, Dr. Dean indicated that the SPC had contemplated only three possible types of teaching position: tenure-track, 10-month sessional, and part-time credits. The SPC's proposals in this area meet the budget target originally set, and allow Departments some flexibility in the use of their resources.

The Deans were invited to summarize the responses of their Divisions to the recommendations of the final report:

Social Sciences.

- if classes with fewer than 70 students are not to be split, then Research Methods and Statistics courses should be added to the list of exemptions to the rule.

- sessional and part-time credits should be allocated separately to the Departments of Business and Economics.
- Geography and Economics should be given next priority for the allocation of further tenure-track positions.
- the Division commended the efforts of the SPC and endorsed the Committee's final report.

Business Administration

- our immediate short-term concern must be the maintenance of student enrollment.
- the approval of 6 tenure-track positions is necessary, and will send a positive message to students and the community.
- there is no Divisional support for new programmes at this time; existing high-enrollment programmes should be strengthened.
- sessional and part-time credits should be allocated separately to the Departments of Economics and Business.

Humanities

- the SPC did not sufficiently consider academic criteria in coming to its recommendations.
- there should be no tenure-stream appointments in 1997-98; funds should be allocated to contractual appointments.
- academic viability of existing programmes should be the first priority.
- the management of timetable and class size should be left to the Departments and Divisions.

Natural Sciences and Mathematics

- the sessional positions recommended for Chemistry and Physics should be converted to tenure-track.
- the option of 3-year contractual appointments should be considered as an alternative to the types of appointment specified in the report.

1/393/a Section 4, Allotment of Funds and Ranking from 49b of the Interim Report.

Moved by Prof. Siddiqui, seconded by Prof. Robson, that Senate accept the recommendation of the SPC for tenure-track replacement positions in the following Departments, in order of priority: Business, Biology, Business, Mathematics, Sociology, Psychology.

There was some discussion of the merits of 3-year contractual appointments versus tenure-track. It was pointed out that tenured appointments offer continuity, and will attract better candidates, as well as sending a positive message to current and prospective students. Tenure-track appointments were felt to be necessary to maintain the quality of programmes in these areas. Some members felt the University could not afford such a commitment at this time, and that 3-year appointments could be a bridging measure. It was noted that the SPC's recommendations were within the budget limits prescribed.

It was moved by Dr. Yeats, seconded by Dr. Crooks, that a seventh tenure-stream position in Physics be added to the list.

Amendment defeated.

Moved by Dr. Yeats, that a seventh tenure-stream position in Physical Chemistry be added to the list. This motion was not seconded.

The question was called on the main motion, and it was **carried.**

It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Cook, that Senate accept the SPC's recommendation for sessional appointments in the following Departments, subject to clarification of the allocation of funds for Economics and Business: Chemistry, Physics, Drama, Geography, Mathematics, Business and Economics.

Motion carried.

Moved by Prof. Siddiqui, seconded by Ms. Bolduc, that Senate accept the SPC's recommendation for the allocation of part-time credits to the following Departments: Fine Arts, Modern Languages, Business and Economics.

Motion carried.

1/393/b Section 2: Modern Languages.

It was moved by Dr. Forrest, seconded by Dr. Harvey, that the Departments of German and Foreign Languages be replaced by a Department of Modern Languages. The new Department would offer majors in German and Spanish, and minors in German, Spanish, Italian, and Japanese and ESL.

It was proposed by the Humanities Division that no new students would be admitted to the Foreign Languages programme in the Fall Semester 1997, though students currently enrolled in it would be guaranteed courses to finish the degree. The Division also indicated that adequate financing for the new major and minors must be made available.

Motion carried.

1/393/c Section 3: Class Size

It was moved by Dr. Cook, seconded by Ms. Bolduc, that classes with fewer than 70 students should not be split into two or more sections. Exceptions may be made for language instruction classes, studio courses, laboratories and non-introductory case study courses.

Moved by Dr. Clark-Jones, seconded by Prof. Siddiqui, to amend the motion by adding “research methods and statistics courses” to the list of exemptions.

Amendment carried.

Members of the Humanities and Business Divisions spoke against the principle of this motion, indicating that the need for sections could be managed within the Departments and Divisions.

Motion defeated.

Moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Stritch, that the SPC’s guidelines for small classes be adopted, as outlined in the Final Report.

Some Senators felt that class size was best dealt with within the Departments; others felt that guidelines would be helpful in ensuring that appropriate consultation takes place.

Motion carried.**1/393/d** Funding

It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Stritch, that Senate endorse the Academic Budget for 1997-98 as proposed by the Senate Planning Committee.

It was noted that some line items in the budget presented were liable to be changed as a result of recommendations coming forward from the Committee reviewing Academic Administrative Structures. Some members felt that Senate’s jurisdiction did not extend to the approval of individual budget lines, but only to the approval of the principles guiding the budget.

Motion defeated.

Moved by Prof. Siddiqui, seconded by Dr. Yeats, that Senate commend the Senate Planning Committee for having produced an academic plan for 1997-98 within the budget guidelines given to them.

Motion carried.

1/393/e Section 3: Timetabling

It was moved by Dr. Cook, seconded by Dr. Dean, that the Registrar's Office should, in consultation with the Departments, develop the timetable for Fall 1997 using the following three criteria: i) class size, ii) programme conflict, iii) choice of course format by instructor.

After some discussion, it was moved by Dr. Stritch, seconded by Prof. Siddiqui, that this motion be referred to the Timetable Committee.

Motion carried.

Moved by Dr. Cook, seconded by Prof. Siddiqui, that the SPC's recommendation with regard to changes to timetable blocks be referred to the Timetable Committee.

Motion carried.

Professor Cunningham moved, seconded by Prof. Siddiqui, that the Senate Planning Committee be commended for their hard work and the excellent results achieved.

Motion carried, with applause.

There being no further business, the Special Meeting of Senate adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Janyne M. Hodder, Chair

Ann Montgomery, Secretary