

BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY
MINUTES
OF THE 423rd MEETING OF SENATE

The 423rd meeting of Senate took place on Monday 13 March 2000, at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, McGreer Hall.

Members present: Mrs. J. Hodder, in the Chair; Dr. J. Crooks, Ms. S. Curran, Dr. A. Dean, Dr. A. Drumheller, Mr. E. Favelle, Dr. N. Ferguson, Dr. L-G. Harvey, Dr. N. Jones, Dr. N. Khouzam, Mr. A. Lacas, Ms. E. Leath, Dr. P. Leventhal, Dr. M. Lustigman, Ms. A. Montgomery, Dr. J. Rittenhouse, Prof. F. Siddiqui, Dr. A Stritch, Dr. R. Van Hulst, Dr. H. White, Dr. L. Zubieta

Absent: Mrs. W. Durrant, Ms. K. Hughes, Dr. A. Johnson, Ms. A. Murphy, Prof. W. Robson

1/423 AGENDA

5/423 add new i) Senate Research Committee; renumbering ii) and iii)
6/423 ii add "for fall 2000" to the text of the motion
7/423 7.4 add new course GEO 365

It was moved by Dr. Khouzam, seconded by Dr. Zubieta, that the agenda be approved with these additions.

Motion carried.

2/423 MINUTES

It was moved by Dr. Crooks, seconded by Dr. Harvey, that the minutes of the 422nd meeting of Senate be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

3/423 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair apologized to Senators for showing impatience at the last meeting.

She reported with regret that M. Luc Gagné, who had accepted an appointment as Director of Computer and Communications Services, had decided to remain with his current employer, and she expressed her concern that we are now in the third year without a long-range vision of development for academic and administrative computing services. She invited Senators to convey any suggestions they might have for solutions.

Mrs. Hodder reported that she and the Vice-Principal Administration had met with the parliamentary commission of the National Assembly last week, and that the tone of the interview had been encouraging.

As the provincial budget is to be brought down tomorrow, the meetings of the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee scheduled for this week had been cancelled, to allow time to analyse the budget provisions for higher education and to prepare a proposal of planning parameters for next year.

In response to a questions from Dr. Stritch, Mrs. Hodder said she had no clear indication so far as to what the government's policy on the universities' deficits will be.

The Principal reported that she had recently visited Mount Allison University as an external consultant on their strategic planning exercise, and had found some useful ideas in their process. She proposed that if we find ourselves in a stable funding environment for the next few years, we could begin to engage in medium-term planning in a number of areas. This kind of exercise would also permit us to develop our own data with regard to "performance indicators", which are becoming a government priority.

4/423 MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

5/423 COMMITTEE ITEMS

i) Senate Research Committee.

Dr. Harvey described changes taking place in the policies and procedures of agencies funding university research, particularly with regard to the funding of research release time. Noting that Senate's policies had not kept pace with these changes, he moved, seconded by Dr. Stritch, that Senate mandate the Senate Research Committee to develop new guidelines which take into account the new types of leaves and funding arrangements, and that the SRC report back to Senate in time for new procedures to be put in place for Fall 2000.

Motion carried.

It was pointed out that the provisions in the collective agreement with regard to research leave follow from the guidelines determined by Senate. Senators also noted that the new funding arrangements could lead to additional costs to the University for research leaves.

5/423 ii) SPARC.

a) Quality Indicators.

Dr. Rittenhouse presented a series of recommendations from SPARC as to how the quality indicators adopted by Senate last April could be made operational. He said that some of the indicators were adequately addressed by present procedures; however in four areas new practices could be considered.

With regard to the utilization of cognates, it was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Dr. Van Hulst, that the procedure for SPARC be amended to read: 4. (...) The review will take into account all relevant aspects of the programme, including academic standards; utilizations of cognates; (...) 10.(a) A self-evaluation of the programme (...) an examination of how the programme relates to the other offerings of the University (including utilization of cognates)...

Motion carried.

SPARC proposed changes in the mandate of the Teaching Evaluation Committee to address the issue of student course evaluations. It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Dr. Khouzam, that the mandate of the Teaching Evaluation Committee be amended to add: The Committee also ensures that the data obtained from questions 16-24 of course evaluations be collected on a departmental level, that departmental averages be calculated question by question, and that these data be made available to the University in the same manner as course evaluation information concerning instructors.

There was some discussion as to the utility of this information, and of the validity of the data from small departments. The motion was amended to provide for a trial using the data from the last five years of course evaluations, which would be reviewed by faculty experts in statistical analysis, and the result brought back to Senate before a final decision on this matter is taken.

Motion carried.

It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Dr. Khouzam, that Department Chairs ensure that all graduating students are surveyed in their last semester and that the survey be the same as that used in the SPARC process. The results of these surveys will be made available to departments and Deans.

Motion carried.

It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Dr. Van Hulst, that in their annual reports Department Chairs and Deans will indicate the numbers and percentages of graduating

students proceeding to further study, from among those who applied.

Motion carried.

It was noted that the information produced through these measures would also respond to the proposed “performance indicators” which are to be developed by the Ministry and the universities.

b) It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Dr. Van Hulst, that the SPARC report concerning non-compliance with SPARC recommendations by particular departments be referred to the Divisions for consultation.

Motion carried.

c) It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Dr. White, that Senate approve the schedule of SPARC evaluations proposed for 2000-2002, as distributed.

Motion carried.

5/423 iii) It was moved by Dr. Khouzam, seconded by Dr. Dean, that the Senate Planning Committee will meet with a department, should that department request a meeting.

Motion carried.

6/423 OTHER MATTERS

i) Status Report on the School of Education.

Dr. Dean reviewed the changes to the programme in Education in recent years, noting that the change from a graduate diploma to a four-year undergraduate degree, combined with rapid growth in enrollment, had led to certain difficulties. Administratively, the School is not part of a Division, reporting directly to the Vice-Principal. With this position vacant, and with the resignation of the last Director, there has been a lack of co-ordination which has caused the students concern. An external administrator, Mr. Grant Hawley, has been hired to provide some leadership in the School, and is working with students, faculty and the community to identify the problems and propose solutions. He is to report to the Principal on these matters by the end of the summer.

Dr. Dean acknowledged that there were legitimate concerns with the programmes in Education, but said that these were being addressed and that recommendations would come to both Senate Planning Committee and Senate in due course. He was confident that the quality of Education programmes at Bishop’s could be maintained with the support of the rest of the University.

ii) It was moved by Ms. Curran, seconded by Dr. Lustigman, that the Senate ask the School of Education to present a report on its current status and future planning needs to the Senate Planning Committee, for the Fall Semester 2000.

In response to questions, Ms. Curran indicated that Education students are concerned that the School is not structurally integrated with the rest of the University, and they find it difficult to combine Education with other programmes. In addition, they are not represented on decision-making bodies such as Senate, as students in other programmes are.

It was pointed out that both SPARC and CAPFE will review the programmes in Education next fall, which should help to clarify the issues and lead to recommendations for change.

Mrs. Hodder indicated that if Senate should determine that changes in the administrative structures are needed, there is a process which can be put in place to facilitate this.

Motion carried.

7/423 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Williams School of Business and Economics

There were none.

7.2 Division of Humanities

There were none.

7.3 Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

i) It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Van Hulst, that the course and lab BIO 199 /BIL 199 be re-numbered BIO/BIL 191.

Motion carried.

ii) It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Van Hulst, that Senate approve the following changes to programmes in Mathematics, in response to SPARC recommendations:

- CSC 101 to be added to the Mathematics CSC requirements
- Science Options credits to change from 12 to 9
- Mathematics Major to include 24 credits of Math from 200 level or higher
- Mathematics Minor to include at least 6 credits of Math from 200 level or higher

Motion carried.

iii) a) It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Van Hulst, that Senate approve a new course in Biology BIO 193 Introductory Biology (for Education students), with its lab BIL 193.

Motion carried.

b) It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Van Hulst, that Senate approve two new courses in Mathematics MAT 101 Further Excursions in Mathematics (for non-Science students), and MAT 111 Further Excursions in Mathematics (for Science students).

Motion carried.

It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Crooks, that Senate approve a new course in Mathematics MAT 104 History of Mathematics.

Motion carried.

c) It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Van Hulst, that Senate approve a new course CHE 235 Scientific Visualization in Chemistry, to be taught in an on-line version for students who are not full-time Bishop's students.

Motion carried.

7/423 7.4 Division of Social Sciences

It was moved by Dr. Jones, seconded by Dr. Crooks, that Senate approve two new courses in the Environmental Studies minor: GEO 365 Mid-latitude Weather Systems, and GEO 366 Ethical Perspectives on Environmental Problems.

Motion carried.

7.5 School of Education

i) It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Drumheller, that Senate approve the following changes in the Secondary Teacher Education programme:

a) Discipline requirements change from 24 credits in the first teaching discipline to a Major in the first teaching discipline; and from 21 credits in the second teaching discipline to a Minor in the second teaching discipline.

b) the course requirements for the Minor in Education change so as to increase the

number of Education credits, and eliminate the ELA requirement.

Dr. Ferguson confirmed that these changes met the criteria imposed by the Ministry of Education.

Motion carried.

ii) It was moved by Dr. Dean, seconded by Dr. Ferguson, that Senate approve a new course in Education EDU 311 Secondary School Curriculum.

Motion carried.

8/423 BRIEF INFORMATION

The Principal drew Senators' attention to the items listed, with particular reference to the schedule of meeting dates for 2000-2001.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Janyne M. Hodder, Chair

Ann Montgomery, Secretary