

**BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY**  
**MINUTES**  
**OF THE 424th MEETING OF SENATE**

The 424th meeting of Senate took place on Monday 10 April, 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, Mrs. W. Durrant, Mr. E. Favelle, Dr. N. Ferguson, Dr. L-G. Harvey, Ms. K. Hughes, Dr. A. Johnson, Dr. N. Jones, Dr. N. Khouzam, Mr. A. Lacas, Ms. E. Leath, Dr. P. Leventhal, Dr. M. Lustigman, Ms. A. Montgomery, Ms. A. Murphy, Dr. J. Rittenhouse, Prof. W. Robson, Prof. F. Siddiqui, Dr. A. Stritch, Dr. R. Van Hulst, Dr. H. White.

**Absent:** Dr. L. Zubieta

**Guests:** Dr. Tom Gordon, Senate Research Committee; Dr. Melissa Clark-Jones, Senate Planning Committee

1/424 AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

2/424 MINUTES

The minutes of the 423rd meeting of Senate were approved.

3/424 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Mrs. Hodder informed Senate that the provisions of the recent provincial budget included \$120 million for the universities, of which about \$60 million would be added to base funding, and the balance allocated according to a series of sector priorities and performance indicators, still to be defined. Bishop's will be able to abolish its accumulated deficit, and will have about \$600,000 in new funding. However, as the funds promised over the next three years are non-recurring, and the government has also announced its intention to amend the funding rules, the long-term situation is still not very clear. The Finance Committee will recommend to the Executive Committee planning parameters for 2000-2001, based on 1850 full-time students, which will include an operating deficit of \$400,000, in order to avoid having to make further cuts in services or personnel.

The Principal reported on a recent meeting at AUCC, at which one of the topics of discussion was research funding. The trend is towards support of consortia or research teams, which are more easily put together by large institutions. There is concern that

smaller institutions will be in a less advantageous position for federal research support, and that a two-tier system may develop. The arrangements for collaboration presently being discussed between Bishop's and the Université de Sherbrooke will help our situation in this regard.

Three candidates for Vice-Principal are being interviewed this week; Senators were urged to meet them and convey their comments to the Search Committee.

A grievance filed by the APBU has affected the situation in Continuing Education. For the present, no change in the previously-announced interim arrangements will be made.

A selection committee is presently interviewing applicants for the position of Ombudsman.

4/424 BUSINESS ARISING

There was none.

5/424 COMMITTEE ITEMS

i) Senate Research Committee.

a) Dr. Gordon presented a synopsis of grants awarded by the Senate Research Committee (SRC) since 1997, noting that in the current year both the number of request received and the total of grants awarded had doubled. Research activity at Bishop's is growing, with requests exceeding funds available by a wide margin.

Dr. Harvey reported on the first few months of his tenure as Research Officer. His immediate goals were to take stock of research information available and to make it easily accessible; to meet with Bishop's researchers, especially younger scholars, to discuss their goals and problems; and to explore internal and external collaboration possibilities for better access to federal grants. The latter initiative has led him to discussions with the Université de Sherbrooke which should bear useful fruit. Two interns are working to assess and organize the data; this should be on-line by the end of April. A number of grant proposals have been submitted by individuals, including two substantial ones by research groups including local enterprises and municipalities.

b) As requested by Senate, the SPC presented a report outlining provisions which should be added to the Collective Agreement to permit the teaching load reductions and release time stipends which are a requirement of major research funding agencies. Dr. Gordon noted that departmental approval would still be needed for these arrangements, in order to preserve the integrity of the curriculum.

The Principal indicated that the report would be brought to the attention of the APBU and the Corporation.

5/424 ii) Senate Planning Committee.

Dr. Clark-Jones introduced the report of the Senate Planning Committee (SPC), noting that the Committee had based its work on the three-year plan approved by Senate last year. She reminded Senators of the guidelines enrollment distribution between programmes which Senate had adopted at that time, and re-affirmed the SPC's interest in seeing an appropriate balance between Divisions maintained.

She summarized the recommendations being presented, as follows:

1. A tenure-stream position for Computer Science;
2. A two-year limited term contract in Modern Languages (German);
3. An allocation of \$250,000 for regular part-time needs;
4. Full or half sessional positions in Business, Chemistry, Computer Science/Mathematics, Drama, English, Geography, Modern Languages (Spanish), Philosophy, Political Studies, Sociology/Anthropology, and Women's Studies;
5. Conversion of the half-time senior positions in Modern Languages (English Language Studies) to full-time;
6. Conversion of the three-quarters senior instructorship in Études françaises to full-time;
7. Appointment of a sessional instructor in Statistics for 2000-01 on an experimental basis;
8. A permanent transfer of \$75,000 from the Continuing Education budget to the regular academic budget to support the Department of Modern Languages

It was moved by Dr. Stritch, seconded by Ms. Murphy, that the Senate move into Committee of the whole for discussion of this report.

**Motion carried.**

Dr. Clark-Jones indicated that the SPC had adopted the basic principle that faculty resources should be allocated for full-time rather than part-time staffing where possible, even though in some cases this might mean fewer courses taught overall.

Several Senators expressed concern about the one-half sessional allocated to Geography, urging that this be increased to a full sessional appointment. It was noted that this would have an effect on the funds remaining for part-time credits.

Dr. Rittenhouse said that next year's Senate Planning Committee would be charged with preparing a new three-year plan, which might contemplate the conversion of some sessional positions into full-time.

It was moved by Prof. Siddiqui, seconded by Dr. Rittenhouse, that Senate move out of Committee of the whole.

**Motion carried.**

It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Dr. Van Hulst, that Senate approve the eight recommendations put forward by the Senate Planning Committee.

Dr. Crooks, seconded by Dr. White, moved to amend the motion to provide for a full sessional appointment in Geography, in place of the half-sessional proposed.

**Amendment carried.**

**Motion carried.**

Senate unanimously approved a vote of thanks to the members of the Senate Planning Committee for their efforts achieving an excellent result in this difficult task.

5/424 iii) SPARC.

a-c) Dr. Rittenhouse deposited the SPARC report on the Women's Studies Programme, along with the programme committee's response and the reviewers' comments. He noted that the recommendations in the report would be forwarded to the appropriate bodies or individuals for consideration.

Dr. Rittenhouse expressed the SPARC committee's concern with statements made by the reviewers regarding a perceived hostility for women's issues at Bishop's. Mrs. Hodder indicated that she would discuss this with the Committee on Life in the University as well as with the Harassment Committee.

d) It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Dr. Crooks, that Senate approve two minor changes to the SPARC procedures approved by Senate in October 1999:

para. 9, final sentence: Copies of the submission shall be retained by the Vice-Principal's Office and the Dean of the Division concerned (...)

para. 14: the SPARC coordinator shall: (...)

**Motion carried.**

iv) Teaching Evaluation Committee.

Dr. Jones reviewed the issues which had been on the agenda of the Teaching Evaluation Committee this year. These had included: posting evaluations on the website; provision

of data to the Faculty Evaluation Committee; a proposal for a teaching resource centre; a proposal for a seminar series on university-level teaching methods; a mentoring programme for new faculty.

It was moved by Dr. Jones, seconded by Ms. Murphy, that Senate recommend to the Office of the Vice-Principal the establishment of a fund to cover guest speaker expenses for a seminar series on Teaching and Learning, which is to be created for the next academic year.

**Motion carried.**

It was moved by Dr. Jones, seconded by Ms. Murphy, that Senate endorse a recommendation that all Divisions organize a mentoring programme for their new faculty, on the model of that which now exists in Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

**Motion carried.**

v) Advisory Committee on Writing in English

For the information of Senators, Dr. Rittenhouse outlined a proposed new structure for the Writing Proficiency Programme which would allow the staff to function more effectively. The new arrangements will be tried for one year and then evaluated.

6. OTHER MATTERS

There were none.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

There were none.

8. BRIEF INFORMATION

The Principal asked Senators to note that the next meeting would take place at 9:00 a.m. on Friday 12 May.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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Janyne M. Hodder, Chair

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Ann Montgomery, Secretary