

## BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

### MINUTES OF THE 442<sup>nd</sup> MEETING OF SENATE

The 442<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Senate took place on Monday 10 December 2001, at 7:00 p.m., in Tomlinson Hall, McGreer 100.

**Members present:** Mrs. J. Hodder, in the Chair; Ms. V. Angell, Dr. S. Black, Mrs. R. Cavanagh, Mr. P-L. Chicoine, Dr. M. Childs, Ms. S. Doran, Dr. A. Drumheller, Mrs. W. Durrant, Dr. A. Ibrahim, Dr. A. Johnson, Dr. N. Jones, Dr. K. McLean, Ms. A. Montgomery, Ms. G. O'Rourke, Dr. J. Rittenhouse, Prof. B. Robson, Dr. C. Rose, Dr. M. Scarlete, Mr. L. Sowerby, Dr. V. Stroehrer, Dr. L. Thomas, Dr. G. Wickens, Dr. B. Willms, Dr. R. Yeats, Dr. L. Zubieta

**Also present:** Mr. K. Maharaj, Director of ITS

**Absent:** Dr. R. Brewster, Mr. M. Furrow, Prof. L. McRae

Mrs. Hodder opened the meeting with a reminder to Senators that normally Senate meetings are not expected to last longer than two hours; in view of the agenda for this evening, she said that if need be, Senate could reconvene at another time to continue the discussion. It was moved by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Dr. Jones, that Senate adjourn not later than 9:15 p.m. this evening.

**Motion carried.**

#### 1/442 AGENDA

Add: 5/442 Report from SPARC

It was moved by Ms. O'Rourke, seconded by Dr. Johnson, that the agenda be adopted as amended.

**Motion carried.**

#### 2/442 MINUTES

It was moved by Dr. Black, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that the minutes of the 441<sup>st</sup> meeting of Senate be approved.

**Motion carried.**

#### 3/442 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Mrs. Hodder announced that Dr. Lorne Nelson had been awarded a Canada Research Chair in Astrophysics, which would bring a total of \$1.65 million to the University over seven years in support of his research and infrastructure costs. A motion of congratulations to Dr. Nelson was moved by Dr. Yeats, seconded by Dr. Willms, and **adopted unanimously.**

The Principal indicated that the amount of the government grant for the current year is still unknown, but that planning parameters for next year are being prepared for the consideration of the Finance Committee using conservative estimates of what the funding decisions might be. In particular, we are concerned that the government could delay the promised re-investment, could change the funding rules, and is likely also to change the funding for exchange students coming to Bishop's. It is possible that we could incur a deficit of up to \$597,000, in contrast to the figure of \$260,000 we predicted in our planning last year.

The University administration is planning a meeting with government officials to discuss the proposed changes; CREPUQ is also suggesting that a working group be formed to look at the funding formula and make recommendations. For now, we are planning to proceed with Year 2 of the Performance Contract as originally planned, though we may have to make adjustments later on.

The Principal referred to the progress report submitted to the Minister on our Performance Contract, which had been circulated to Senators, and indicated that an English version would be available soon.

#### 4/442 BUSINESS ARISING

There was none.

#### 5/442 COMMITTEE ITEMS

SPARC.

i) Dr. Rittenhouse moved, seconded by Ms. O'Rourke, that Article 19 of the Senate-approved procedure for the Review of Existing Programmes be amended by the addition of the following provision: (...) the SPARC presentation of the programme review *will be deposited at the Executive Committee of Corporation at the meeting following the report's deposit at Senate and will be made available in the Old Library* (...).

**Motion carried.**

ii) Dr. Rittenhouse reported that, of the list of SPARC reviewers and alternates approved by Senate for the programme in Psychology, only one, Dr. Cynthia Matheson of Mount Saint Vincent, was available to undertake the review in Winter 2002. He moved, seconded by Prof. Robson, that Senate approve the nomination of Dr. Barbara Woodside of Concordia University as the second reviewer for Psychology.

**Motion carried.**

6/442 OTHER MATTERS

## ii) IT support.

Dr. Childs reported that the Division of Humanities had adopted a motion asking that the mandate of Information Technology Services (ITS) be broadened to allow it to provide support for software and hardware purchased through departmental budgets.

Mr. Maharaj reviewed the provisions of the current policy on IT support, noting that the resources available to his department did not permit unlimited maintenance of equipment and software which was not purchased through ITS.

It was moved by Dr. Childs, seconded by Dr. McLean, that the motion passed by the Division of Humanities be forwarded to the Computer Policy Committee and the Finance Committee for their consideration.

**Motion carried.**

## i) Hiring of part-time instructors.

It was moved by Dr. Rose, seconded by Dr. Johnson, that Senate move into Committee of the Whole for this discussion.

**Motion carried.**

The Principal noted that this issue included matters dealt with in the collective agreement, but that it also concerned academic matters which were the responsibility of Senate. She invited a discussion which focussed on these questions and not on individual cases.

Dr. Wickens referred to the wording of the Bishop's mission statement – “ (...) a sound and liberal education (...) [which] emphasizes excellence in teaching enriched by scholarship and research.” In his opinion, the principle of seniority in the hiring of part-time instructors is incompatible with the mission statement, in that it can prevent the hiring of the best possible person to teach a course, if another who may have lesser qualifications has previously taught it. In addition, he noted that an instructor who does not have a Ph.D. can become tenured by virtue of long service, without having to go through the same rigorous selection process as full-time faculty. He wondered whether our students were being best served by these provisions in the collective agreement.

Other Senators agreed that the lack of flexibility in assigning courses to part-time instructors had an effect on the delivery of the academic programme.

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that Senate move out of Committee of the Whole.

**Motion carried.**

It was moved by Dr. Wickens, seconded by Dr. McLean, that all hiring committees be guided by the principle of excellence in teaching enriched by scholarship and research.

**Motion carried.**

## 7/442 RECOMMENDATIONS

### 7.1 Williams School of Business and Economics

i) It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Dr. Rittenhouse, that the following new courses in Business and in Economics be approved:

- BHR 333 Employment Law
- BHR 328 Occupational Health and Safety
- BMS 332 Supply Chain Management
- BFN 335 Topics in Finance
- BCS 220 Management of Information Systems
- ECO 222 Economic Development I
- ECO 322 Economic Development II

**Motion carried.**

ii) It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that BMK 101 (formerly BMK 212) Consumer Behaviour be added to the primary core for Business, bringing it to 39 credits.

**Motion carried.**

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that Senate approve a new secondary core for BBA programmes, as given in the document circulated.

**Motion carried.**

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that the business elective (3 credits) be removed from both the 90 and 120 credit BBA programmes.

**Motion carried.**

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that in the Honours

programme in Business, BMG 312 be dropped from the requirements, and BMG 352, a thesis course, be increased to 6 credits.

**Motion carried.**

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that Senate approve the following course code changes:

BMK 212	becomes	BMK 101
BHR 311	becomes	BHR 224
BHR 323	becomes	BMG 323

**Motion carried.**

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that ECO 351 History of Economic Thought be removed from the list of required courses for the Honours programme in Economics, and that 3 credits of elective courses be added to the programme.

**Motion carried.**

7.2 Division of Humanities

i) It was moved by Dr. Childs, seconded by Dr. Wickens, that Senate approve a new minor in Film Studies. This will be an interdisciplinary programme of 24 credits, housed in Humanities, and managed by a programme committee. Dr. Childs noted that all courses in the proposed programme are already in the curriculum, and there is the potential to add other options in the future.

**Motion carried.**

ii) It was moved by Dr. Childs, seconded by Dr. Thomas, that Senate approve the following new courses in the Department of Modern Languages:

- SPA 314 The Central American Region and the Spanish Caribbean: Civilization and Culture
- SPA 317 The Southern Cone and the Andean Region: Civilization and Culture
- SPA 330 Major Hispanic Authors
- SPA 333 Hispanic Literature and Films

iii) It was moved by Dr. Childs, seconded by Ms. Doran, that Senate approve a change of name for the sections of the Modern Languages Department, as follows: Hispanic Studies Section, German Studies Section, Italian Studies Section, Japanese Language Studies Section.

**Motion carried.**

It was moved by Dr. Childs, seconded by Ms. O'Rourke, that Senate approve the following course title changes:

SPA 100b Spanish Language I-II Intensive Course  
 SPA 101a Spanish Language I  
 SPA 102b Spanish Language II  
 SPA 201a Spanish Language III  
 SPA 202b Spanish Language IV

and the following course number and title changes:

SPA 304	becomes	SPA 205 Spanish Composition
SPA 306	becomes	SPA 206 Spanish Conversation

also that SPA 320 be split to become SPA 323 Spanish Linguistics I and SPA 3224 Spanish Linguistics II; and a new course description for SPA 321 History of the Spanish Language.

**Motion carried.**

Mrs. Hodder inquired as to whether the Major in Spanish would now become a Major in Hispanic Studies; Dr. Childs undertook to raise this question with the department of Modern Languages.

7.3 Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

It was moved by Dr. Willms, seconded by Dr. Stroehrer, that Senate approve the creation of a Biochemistry Major and a Biochemistry Minor, to be implemented for the academic year 2002-03; that the Biochemistry Honours programme be modified in accordance with the recommendations of the SPARC review committee; and that a separate department of Biochemistry be created for the academic year 2002-03.

Dr. Willms indicated that the Division had voted 15 in favour of this proposal, with 6 preferring a model proposed by the Chemistry Department, and 4 supporting a third option. He said that the new programmes would be flexible and interdisciplinary, and could attract new students. They could be offered without additional cost by cross-listing courses and cross-appointing faculty. He also noted that there is at present a vacant position in Biochemistry within the Chemistry department. Students currently enrolled in the Biochemistry Honours programme would have the choice of continuing in that programme or following the revised one.

During the discussion, it became clear that the proposed changes did not have full support of faculty and students in the Biochemistry programme or the Division, although there was general agreement that some change was necessary. It was not clear whether the

new Honours programme would meet the criteria of the *Ordre des chimistes du Québec* for professional accreditation. Senators also questioned the wisdom of establishing a new small department in a time of decreasing enrollments.

Dr. Yeats read a statement outlining his reasons for opposing the proposal, and referred to options developed by the Chemistry department which would comply with the SPARC recommendations.

Senators were reluctant to make a decision on the information available to them at this meeting, especially with regard to the question of accreditation.

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Dr. Drumheller, that the motion be tabled until the January meeting of Senate.

**Motion carried.**

#### 7.4 Division of Social Sciences

There were none.

#### 7.5 School of Education

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Ms. O'Rourke, that the motion 7/441/7.5 be lifted from the table.

**Motion carried.**

With the agreement of the mover and seconder, the motion was amended to read: that new admissions to the Master of Arts in Education and the Master of Education be temporarily suspended until the University is able to provide the resources necessary to run these programmes.

In response to questions about the funding implications of this, Dr. Thomas said that with fewer programmes to manage the quality of those remaining would improve. The 30-credit graduate certificates are a popular option, and could attract more students and thus additional revenue.

**Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

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Janyne M. Hodder, Chair

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Ann Montgomery, Secretary

