

## BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

### MINUTES OF THE 444<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF SENATE

The 444<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate was held on Monday 18 February 2002, at 7:00 p.m., in Tomlinson Hall, McGreer 100.

**Members present:** Mrs. J. Hodder, in the Chair; Ms. V. Angell, Dr. S. Black, Dr. R. Brewster, Mrs. R. Cavanagh, Mr. P-L. Chicoine, Dr. M. Childs, Ms. S. Doran, Dr. A. Drumheller, Mrs. W. Durrant, Mr. M. Furrow, Dr. A. Johnson, Dr. K. McLean, Prof. L. McRae, 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, Ms. C. Viens, Dr. G. Wickens, Dr. B. Willms, Dr. R. Yeats, Dr. L. Zubieta.

**Absent:** Dr. A. Ibrahim, Ms. A. Montgomery

After Dr. Rose agreed to act as Recording Secretary, Mrs. Hodder opened the meeting.

#### 1/444 AGENDA

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that the agenda be approved as circulated.

**Motion carried.**

#### 2/444 MINUTES

8/443/i The Principal said that she wished to clarify this point of information. Mrs. Hodder stated that the provision in 6.1.5.3 of the Rules, Orders and Regulations (stating that members of faculty must have completed two full years on the continuing faculty at the time their Senate term begins) has been variously represented in several versions of the RORs dating back to 1991. Although the preponderance of evidence suggests that this provision applies to both faculty members from the Divisions and those named by Faculty Council, she stated that it is perhaps better to obtain an opinion on this matter from each of the Divisions. Several questions from members ensued. Dr. Yeats asked if the relevant page of the RORs could be attached to the minutes of the 443<sup>rd</sup> meeting; Dr. Black stated that the issue was not all that serious.

Mrs. Hodder then asked that the final sentence of 8/443/i be deleted, and replaced with the following sentence: "Over the years, this provision has been variously represented in different versions of the RORs. It is now time to review the substance of this provision, and it should be referred to the Divisions for their views."

7/443/7.3 Dr. Yeats stated that, in his view, there was not enough detail included in the minutes particularly concerning his remarks regarding the approval of the new Biochemistry programmes by the *Ordre des chimistes du Québec*. He also asked to have his verbal remarks and other documents appended to the minutes.

After making the change in 8/443/i, it was moved by Ms. Doran, seconded by Dr. Black, that the minutes be approved as amended.

**Motion carried.**

3/444 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Mrs. Hodder stated that the new Minister of Education for the Province of Québec is M. S. Simard, but that, to date, we know very little regarding any changes in policy that might affect us.

4/444 BUSINESS ARISING

7/443/7.3 Dr. Willms reported that although three meetings had been held between the Biology and Chemistry departments and progress had been made on some of the details for the new Biochemistry programmes, there still was disagreement on several issues including the relationship of the Metabolism course (BIO 215) to BCH 211, 212 and 213, a sequence of courses central to the new programmes. The Biology department has agreed to handle the Genetics requirement and the Chemistry department will, in return, handle the Organic Chemistry requirement.

A second problem concerns the proposal, recently passed by the Division of Natural Sciences, to have the Biochemistry programmes jointly administered by a committee consisting of some faculty members drawn from Biology and others drawn from Chemistry. Since the department of Chemistry was still opposed to this solution, Dr. Willms has not yet presented it to Senate. Dr. Willms stated that he would report any further progress in this matter to the next meeting of Senate.

5/444 COMMITTEE ITEMS

i) Senate Planning Committee

It was moved by Professor Robson, seconded by Mrs. Durrant, that Senate receive the report.

**Motion carried.**

Dr. Rittenhouse made several remarks concerning this year's SPC report. He noted that: (i) the current report follows the same format as in the past except that more details on exact costs for the different recommendations have been included, (ii) the number of requests received for additional faculty is well beyond the reach of the projected 2002-03 budget allocation for academic expenditures, yet (iii) we are actually recommending 3.5 new tenure track positions. (iv) In light of the fact that we are also trying to pay down

part of the deficit from this year, and that no changes are foreseen in student numbers, and the tuition fee revenue for next year, a “one-time” contribution from the Foundation has been necessary to accomplish the overall staffing goal for next year. (v) Certain “system costs” for the academic portion of the budget have also risen and these cost increases were not allowed for in next year’s budget.

It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Prof. Robson, that Senate reaffirm its approval for the tenure-stream positions approved for 2001-02: Business (2), Education, Geography, and Computer Science (Rec. B.1).

Dr. Black stated that he was again disappointed that this SPC report lacked evidence for the specific recommendations given; he would have wished a more complete discussion of each recommendation accompanied by a description of the specific ratios for honours and majors and CRUs, as well as the guidelines met or not met. There were, he said “no benchmark criteria” by which Senators could decide which of these recommendations were merited and which were not. Dr. Wickens questioned whether the 10:1 ratio for honours and majors was too low (for an extra faculty member) and whether the CRU range (75 to 125) was perhaps too high. Dr. Rittenhouse responded that in the opinion of the SPC, other criteria such as programme coherence, innovation, and research potential were often applied but that yes, there were instances where specific departments might have been too low or too high on a given numerical criterion.

Dr. Wickens commented that the criteria in use by the SPC do, in effect, shape the kind of programmes that result. Perhaps Senate should be “up front” about this problem, and state this in an outright manner to the SPC.

Dr. Johnson lamented the fact that the SPC guidelines appear to change from one year to the next and no reasons are given by the SPC for these changes. For example, this year, Politics is set at 4 faculty, while last year they were set at 5 continuing members. In his opinion, this decision will result in the cutting of current programmes such as International Studies since there will be no continuing staff support for this programme. Dr. Childs said that the really hard decisions on programme cutting cannot be made using the current SPC guidelines and an increasing number of programmes in his Division (History, Spanish for example) will be delivered in a situation where more than half the courses are taught by part-time or sessional instructors. The very difficult question of actually closing certain programmes has not been addressed. Prof. Robson stated that with too many small departments, we will never get to the larger question of closing programmes. Perhaps the SPC should be instructed now to deal with this larger question.

A vote was then taken on Recommendation B.1. **Motion carried.**

It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Prof. Viens, that Senate support the tenure-stream positions in Physics and Modern Languages (German) (Rec. B.2). After

an intervention by Dr. McLean, the phrase “for 2002-03” was added to the motion.

**Motion carried.**

It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Dr. Thomas, that Senate approve the following new tenure-stream positions for 2002-03: Business (International Business), Education (Special Education), Biochemistry, Mathematics (½ position, joint position with Université de Sherbrooke) (Rec. B.3).

A long discussion ensued. Among the points raised were: (i) where do we put the new position in Biochemistry? should it be a cross-appointment? (ii) what about the impasse in the Division of Natural Sciences with regard to Biochemistry? (iii) the SPC does not wish to decide matters within the purview of the Division of Natural Sciences; (iv) there appear to be a number of options open as to where the Biochemistry appointment should go but the status quo is preferred; (v) no, there are other options here. At one point, Dr. Childs moved and Dr. Drumheller seconded a motion to amend the main motion to read: “Biochemistry (cross-appointed between Biology and Chemistry)”. After further discussion urging that this matter be left in the hands of the Division of Natural Sciences, the amendment was withdrawn.

Dr. Childs then stated that without agreement on the exact placement of the new Biochemistry position within an existing department or programme, Senate should not support the main motion. He then moved a second amendment, seconded by Dr. Drumheller, that the Biochemistry position be withdrawn from the main motion.

Both Dr. Yeats and Dr. Scarlete were opposed to the amendment and said that in the end the Biochemistry position was desperately needed, and that they both felt some compromise could be reached.

A vote was taken on the amendment: 18 in favour, 2 opposed, 1 abstention.

Further questions ensued with regard to the ½ position in Mathematics to be shared with the Université de Sherbrooke. After assurances from Dr. Willms and Dr. Rittenhouse that things will all work out because of the receipt of monies for our Canada Research Chair recipient (Dr. Lorne Nelson), the main motion was put.

**Motion carried as amended.**

It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Prof. McRae, that Senate approve the SPC’s recommendation for the following temporary or 10-month positions for 2002-03 (Rec: B.4):

Economics  
Geography

Sociology  
 Political Studies  
 Chemistry  
 Mathematics (2)  
 Statistics (instructor position)  
 Classics  
 English  
 History  
 Modern Languages (instructor position)  
 Music (1.5)

After some discussion, Dr. Johnson moved an amendment to the main motion, seconded by Dr. Drumheller, that the temporary position in Political Studies be changed to a tenure-track position.

Dr. Childs asked why we should change only this part of the recommendation, why not change some of the others to tenure-track positions? Dr. Rittenhouse stated that this year's financial constraints were exceptionally stringent and that we had been pressed beyond our normal levels of allocation in this section of the budget owing to a very large number of requests.

A vote was taken on the amendment: 9 in favour, 8 against. **Amendment carried.**

A vote was taken on the amended motion: **Motion carried.**

It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Mrs. Durrant, that Senate accept the SPC's recommendation for an additional 64 courses of part-time credits in 2002-03 (Rec. B.5):

Business and Economics	10
Education	10
Natural Sciences and Math	5
Social Sciences	5 (3 in Women's Studies)
Humanities	34

Dr. Childs then moved, seconded by Prof. Robson, that the motion be amended by the addition of the following: "that the Dean(s) in consultation with the Department Chairs, be allowed to combine some of the part-time course allocations in order to create sessional appointments, as necessary.

With this amendment, the motion was put: **Motion carried.**

It was moved by Dr. Rittenhouse, seconded by Prof. Viens, that an ad-hoc committee (the Vice-Principal, a Dean, two faculty members and a student) be struck to evaluate the

university's existing Strategic Research Plan and, as necessary, make recommendations for changes to the first meeting of Senate in fall 2002. Such evaluation should, among other things, take into consideration the relationship between the Strategic Research Plan and the university's other commitments to retention goals and teaching excellence.

**Motion carried.**

Prof. Robson then addressed the long-standing question of whether the mandate of the SPC should be changed so that it could actually recommend "hard" decisions such as the closing of programmes, the redundancy of faculty members, the wholesale modification of existing programmes, and the reorganization of all of our academic activities. After some discussion, it was decided to delay consideration of these matters until a later date.

6/444 OTHER MATTERS

There were none.

7/444 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Williams School of Business and Economics

i) Co-operative Education Programme. Prof. Robson introduced this new programme which had been passed by the School of Business. Enrolment will be restricted; eligibility will be based on academic performance; three new courses will be necessary. After some discussion, it was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Dr. Rittenhouse, that Senate approve the proposed Co-operative Education Programme, and the three new courses BMG 391 Co-operative Placement I, BMG 392 Co-operative Placement II, and BMG 393 Co-operative Placement III.

**Motion carried.**

ii) It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that Senate approve a new course BCS 316 Internet Technology.

**Motion carried.**

iii) It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Mr. Chicoine, that Senate approve two new courses ECO 460 Independent Research I and ECO 461 Independent Research II.

**Motion carried.**

7.2 Division of Humanities

There were none.

### 7.3 Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

i) It was moved by Dr. Willms, seconded by Dr. Rittenhouse, that Senate accept the following individuals as Adjunct Professors in Natural Sciences and Mathematics:

Dr. Denis Petitclerc, Biology	18 months
Dr. Gregory Jerkiewicz, Chemistry	3 years
Dr. John Emerson, Physics	3 years
Dr. Patrick Labelle, Physics	3 years
Dr. Wayne Giles, Physics	1 year

**Motion carried.**

ii) It was moved by Dr. Willms, seconded by Dr. Yeats, that Senate approve the programme changes and new courses in Chemistry outlined in the document circulated.

**Motion carried.**

iii) It was moved by Dr. Willms, seconded by Mr. Sowerby, that admissions to the Masters of Science programmes in Chemistry, Biology and Physics be re-opened effective immediately. After a short discussion, it was moved by Mr. Furrow, seconded by Dr. Yeats, that the motion be tabled.

**Motion carried.**

### 7.4 Division of Social Sciences

There were none.

### 7.5 School of Education

i) It was moved by Dr. Thomas, seconded by Ms. O'Rourke, that EDU 201 Orientation to Teaching be renumbered as EDU 200 for the Secondary Programme in Education, but that EDU 201 be retained for the Elementary Programme.

**Motion carried.**

### 7.6 Continuing Education

There were none.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

---

Janyne M. Hodder, Chair

---

Dr. Curt Rose, acting Secretary