

BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE 446th MEETING OF SENATE

The 446th meeting of Senate took place on Monday 22 April 2002, at 7:00 p.m., in Tomlinson Hall, McGreer 100.

Members present: Dr. J. Rittenhouse, in the Chair; Ms. V. Angell, Dr. S. Black, Dr. R. Brewster, Mrs. R. Cavanagh, Dr. M. Childs, Dr. A. Drumheller, Mr. M. Furrow, Dr. A. Ibrahim, Dr. K. McLean, Ms. A. Montgomery, Ms. G. O'Rourke, Prof. B. Robson, Dr. C. Rose, Dr. M. Scarlete, Dr. V. Stroehrer, Prof. C. Viens, Dr. G. Wickens, Dr. B. Willms, Dr. R. Yeats

Absent: Mr. P-L. Chicoine, Ms. S. Doran, Mrs. W. Durrant, Mrs. J. Hodder, Prof. L. McRae, Mr. L. Sowerby, Dr. L. Thomas, Dr. L. Zubieta

Guest: Mr. Kent Maharaj, Director of ITS

1/446 AGENDA

add: 4/446/iii Report from the Research Office

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Prof. Viens, that the agenda be approved as amended.

Motion carried.

2/446 MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. O'Rourke, seconded by Dr. Stroehrer, that the minutes of the 445th meeting of Senate be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

3/446 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Rittenhouse congratulated those members of faculty who had recently been awarded research grants: Dr. Awad Ibrahim and Dr. Christina De Simone in Education, and Dr. Madjid Allili in Mathematics.

He informed Senators that Dr. Courtice Rose would be acting Dean of the Division of Social Sciences until a new Dean is elected.

4/446 BUSINESS ARISING

- i) 4/445/i Motion concerning cheating on examinations.
Mr. Furrow indicated that this report would come forward to Senate in September.
- ii) 7/445/7.1/i Honours concentration in Mathematical Economics.

Prof. Robson referred Senators to the document which had been circulated for the last meeting, explaining it would meet a need expressed by CEGEP graduates in particular for a more theoretical and mathematical programme in Economics than exists at present. The Honours concentration would not require the development of any new courses, and would be available in the context of either a B.A. or a B.Sc. degree, depending on the option courses chosen. Prof. Robson indicated that both the Department of Economics and the Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics had approved the new concentration.

It was moved by Prof. Robson, seconded by Dr. Stroehrer, that a new Honours concentration in Mathematical Economics be approved.

Motion carried.

- iii) Research Office.

Dr. Rittenhouse corrected information he had presented at the last meeting, to clarify that the new position of Director of Research Services had been evaluated, posted and filled in accordance with the provisions of the Employee Manual.

5/446 COMMITTEE ITEMS

Dr. Rose took the Chair for the discussion of the next item.

- i) SPARC.

Dr. Rittenhouse brought forward a series of changes that the SPARC committee proposed to make to the procedures for review of existing academic programmes, to reflect practice that has developed in this area, and also to ensure consistency in carrying out the reviews.

He outlined the revisions being proposed in paragraphs 7, 10, 14, 15, and 20, and moved, seconded by Prof. Robson, that Senate approve the revisions to the SPARC procedures as outlined in the document circulated.

During the discussion, a number of friendly amendments were proposed and accepted, as

follows:

Paragraph 7: “The reviewers, once named, will not make presentations (...)”

Paragraph 10 (i): “Resumés for all continuing faculty members currently associated with the programme, and contract faculty who have given courses in the programme since the last review.”

Paragraph 15: “(...) departmental student representatives (...)”.

Paragraph 20: add “SPARC Committee’s Report” to the list of documents to be provided to reviewers.

Motion carried.

Dr. Rittenhouse returned to the Chair.

ii) Academic Standing/Admissions Policy.

It was moved by Dr. Childs, seconded by Mrs. Cavanagh, that the requirements for new admissions to the Honours, Major and Minor programmed in Music be modified to include a formal audition.

Dr. Childs explained that, given the practical component of the courses, students without any prior musical training were unlikely to succeed in these programmes; in practice, applicants already routinely send in audition tapes for evaluation. He emphasized that this new requirement would not affect the candidate’s admissibility to the University, but only to the programmes in Music. The new requirement would not be applied to those students who had already been admitted to the programmes.

Motion carried.

iii) Computer Policy Committee.

a) Academic Support Policies (6/442). Mr. Kent Maharaj described some of the measures which had been put in place to improve support for both faculty and staff, most notably the addition of a Help Desk which has been staffed this year by a student. He indicated that he would be applying to the Finance Committee for funds to make this a permanent half-time position, as it has proven to be a very valuable resource for all users.

b) Mr. Maharaj described a project he is developing (Bishop’s Certification in Applied Technology, or BCAT) to provide technical apprenticeship opportunities for students, who could receive certification of computing skills by following a number of training modules. The proposal would combine employment for students with increased services to users, and would increase graduates’ attractiveness for future employers.

Senators approved the intent of this initiative; there were some questions about the way tutors would be paid, and whether students would pay fees for the certification, or be paid for their work. It was suggested that a name other than Certificate or Diploma be chosen, to avoid confusion with academic programmes.

Dean Willms and Dean Robson both urged that consultations take place before any decisions are taken about allocation of space for the programme.

6/446 OTHER MATTERS

There were none.

7/446 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) Dean Willms reported that the Division was unable to present to Senate a single proposal for programmes in Biochemistry, as requested by Senate (7/443/7.3). He moved, seconded by Dr. Wickens, that consideration of this issue be deferred to the next meeting of Senate.

Some Senators thought that the spirit of Senate's request had been complied with, and that the remaining details could be decided at this meeting. Others preferred to give more time for a resolution of the remaining differences within the Division before asking Senate to act.

Motion carried.

ii) (7/444/7.3/iii) It was moved by Dr. Yeats, seconded by Dr. Willms, that admissions to the Masters of Science programmes in Chemistry, Biology and Physics be re-opened effective immediately.

During the discussion, it was pointed out that graduate student supervision was essential in order for faculty to have access to research grants. Some Senators noted that access to graduate students was already possible through collaboration arrangements with the

Université de Sherbrooke; others were not convinced that Bishop's had the financial or physical resources to provide high-quality Master's level programmes.

Motion defeated.

7.4 Division of Social Sciences

There were none.

7.5 School of Education

There were none.

7.6 Continuing Education

There were none.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Jonathan Rittenhouse, Chair

Ann Montgomery, Secretary