Date: Monday, October 18th, 2010
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Tomlinson Hall, McGreer #100

AGENDA

528/1 Approval of Agenda

528/2 Approval of Minutes – 527th Senate Meeting

528/3 Communications from the Chair

528/4 Business Arising

528/5 Committee Items

5.1 Senate Nominating Committee / R. Sheeran

528/6 Other Matters

6.1 Motion to Approve the Creation of a New Part-Time Student Senator Position / E. Robichaud
6.2 Schedule for exams in Natural Science / J. Crooks
6.3 Education for Sustainable Development at Bishop’s / J. Crooks

528/7 Recommendations

7.1 Williams School of Business / S. Harvey

7.2 Arts and Science

7.2.1 Division of Humanities / J. Crooks
7.2.2 Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics / J. Crooks
7.2.3 Division of Social Sciences / J. Crooks

7.3 School of Education / C. Beauchamp

7.4 Continuing Education
8.1 Sabbatical Reports available for consultation at the Vice-Principal’s office from: Dr. Trygve Ugland, Dr. Susan Reid, Dr. Thomas Brüstle, Dr. Gerry Coulter, Dr. Lourdes Zubieta, Dr. Paul Gallina, Dr. Dale Stout, Dr. Claire Grogan, Dr. Bruce Gilbert, Dr. Jean Manore, Dr. Brad Willms, Dr. Ron Yeats / J. Crooks

8.2 The Faculty of Arts & Science is happy to welcome the following professors to our Contract Faculty:
Wadou Baré (Chemistry)
Andrew Clayden (Music)
Al Ford (Mathematics)
Anca Marina Ionascut Nedelcescu (Physics)
Robert-Falcon Ouellette (Sociology)
William Parsons (Biology)
Miriam Pruneau (Spanish)
Theodor Tudoroiu (Politics)
Esther Usborne (Psychology)
Ryan Wood (Economics) / J. Crooks
The 528th meeting of Senate took place on Monday, October 18th, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in McGreer 100.

Chair: Principal Michael Goldbloom

Present: Dr. Madjid Allili, Dr. Catherine Beauchamp, Dr. Claude Charpentier, Dr. Jamie Crooks, Ms Hazeline Delos Trinos, Prof. Chad Gibbs, Dr. Rebecca Harries, Dr. Steve Harvey, Mr. Félix Hivon-Vaillancourt, Mr. Yves Jodoin, Dr. Walter Marcantoni, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Dr. Daniel Miller, Dr. Elizabeth Prusak, Ms Elizabeth Robichaud, Dr. Cranmer Rutihinda, Ms Ruth Sheeran, Ms Jenna Smith Dr. Lourdes Zubieta.

Regrets: Dr. Michael Childs, Dr. Gilbert Gagné, Dr. JoAnne Kingsley, Dr. Elisabeth Levac, Dr. Darren Millington, Mr. Dale Miner, Dr. Ross Osmun, Mr. Nicholas Seebruch.

Secretary: Victoria Meikle

AGENDA ITEM 528/1: APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Dr. Jamie Crooks moved approval of the Agenda; Dr. Daniel Miller seconded the motion.

Dr. Harvey asked that an item be added as agenda item 8.3.

The motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM 528/2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 527TH MEETING OF SENATE
Dr. Cranmer Rutihinda moved approval of the minutes of the 527th meeting of Senate, Ruth Sheeran seconded the motion.

The motion carried, with Dr. Miller’s first name amended to Daniel.
AGENDA ITEM 528/3  COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Fall enrolment
Principal Goldbloom reported that, following the fall add-drop period, 2086 full-time students and 498 part-time students had registered, for a total of 2283 FTEs. These numbers put us ahead of where we needed to be in terms of our plan to balance the budget, and over the threshold number triggering a reduction of teaching load from 11 courses to 10 courses over two years.

One point of note is that international student enrolments increased by 18%, 2010 over 2009 and have increased by 48% in the last 5 years, adding an important dimension to the University.

The Principal asked the Secretary General to circulate the final enrolment figures to members of Senate.

Canada Research Chair and Canada Foundation for Innovation applications
The Principal mentioned that applications for three Canada Research Chairs (two accompanied by applications to the Canada Foundation for Innovation), in areas linked to three of our four research clusters, had been submitted on the date of the Senate meeting. He thanked those involved in preparing the applications for their work.

October 1st flood
The Principal mentioned that, on Friday, October 1st, the extent and speed of the flooding on College Street were greater than anticipated. Had we known earlier that College Street would be closed, we would probably have encouraged employees to leave work earlier in the day. The University was repairing damages, analysing our response to see whether we might be more proactive, and exploring means to reduce the risk of loss in future.

Centennial Theatre, located on the lowest part of the campus, suffered the most damage. Fortunately, we were in a position to resume operations at the Theatre on Friday October 15th. Dr. Rebecca Harries indicated that the box-office and Foreman Art Gallery had opened as of the date of Senate. Some electronics still had to be replaced, as well as the Turner Studio floor. All of our stage properties and many costumes were lost, and in some cases productions had to be postponed to the spring term.

Two student houses and two faculty houses on College Street were seriously affected, with basements and first floors flooding. Among other areas affected were Nicolls classrooms, the squash courts, mechanical rooms throughout the campus, and the soccer and football fields.
Vice-Principal Academic in China
Principal Goldbloom indicated that the Vice-Principal Academic was in China on a recruitment trip, and therefore unable to attend Senate.

B.E.S.T. Fund
The Principal closed his remarks by reporting on the success of the first round of the ‘Bishop’s Experiential or Service Term Projects Fund (B.E.S.T.)’, and urging Senators to encourage students with eligible projects to apply for support from this fund. Students who had applied for funding in the first round had in many cases been encouraged to do so by one of their professors.

He explained that the B.E.S.T. fund was established through a gift from a graduate of Bishop’s to support special initiatives by our students. As the name suggests, projects may be of many different types. They should be linked to the student’s plans for the future, whether within academia or in the broader community, and designed to give them experience that will position them to succeed. The projects can be undertaken at any time during the year, whether during the academic term or the summer break. The eight students who had benefited from funding during 2009-10 academic year agreed that the experience had been highly beneficial.

The Principal noted the range of the projects funded by the first round of awards to 8 students:

♦ presentations by a Physics student at three major academic conferences;
♦ establishment of a camp for children with AIDS in Uganda;
♦ enrolment in a course in Geneva for a student with interests in international peace and development; and
♦ an internship with the Canadian Press in Halifax.

The criteria for selection are available on the Bishop’s web site, at http://www.ubishops.ca/BESTprojectsfund/index.html.

AGENDA ITEM 528/4 BUSINESS ARISING
There was no business arising.

AGENDA ITEM 528/5 COMMITTEE ITEMS

5.1 Report of Senate Nominating Committee – R. Sheeran
Ms Ruth Sheeran presented the report of Senate Nominating Committee and moved that Senate accept committee membership as circulated. Elizabeth Robichaud seconded the motion.
Ms Sheeran accepted a motion by the Dean of Education amending the composition of the Senate Program Academic Review Committee, (SPARC) to add a member from the School of Education.

The motion carried, as amended, none opposed, no abstentions.

AGENDA ITEM 528/6  OTHER MATTERS

6.1 Motion to approve the creation of a new part-time student Senator position.
Ms Elizabeth Robichaud, V.P. Academic of the Students' Representative Council, moved the amendment of s. 5.1.7 of the Statutes to abolish the Senate seat for a part-time student. This seat will be replaced by one Senate seat for which a part-time student will be named by the Students' Representative Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Justin McCarthy.

During the course of discussion, Ms Robichaud explained that the Council of Part-Time Students had not been active for some years, and that there was agreement that part-time students be represented through the Students' Representative Council.

The process going forward was clarified during the discussion: the SRC would follow its procedures to name a part-time student to the new seat, and the Statutes of Bishop's University will be amended by the Board of Governors.

The motion carried.

6.2 Natural Sciences Exam Schedule
Dr. Jamie Crooks, Dean of Arts and Sciences, explained that an issue had arisen in relation to the scheduling of Science exams and the Senate-established requirement for a four-day period between the end of classes for Science students and the beginning of their exams. The schedule developed had been such that exams for large classes would occur on the last day of exams, making it extremely difficult to submit marks and record them in compliance with University deadlines.

In order to respect the rule that the exam schedule be posted before Thanksgiving, Dean Crooks had been forced to make a decision without the opportunity to seek the advice of Senate. He had decided to reduce the gap between the end of classes and the first exam to two days instead of four, in order to accommodate all those involved.
Dr. Crooks asked Senate’s advice for future dilemmas of the kind, outlining three possible courses of action:

1. Senate could adopt the position to the effect that the four-day period could never be compressed, regardless of the difficulties created by maintaining it;
2. Senate could endorse the exercise of judgment by the Dean of Arts and Sciences where the costs of complying with the policy outweigh the benefits; or
3. Senate could revisit the rule about the number of days required between the end of classes and the beginning of exams, and apply the same two-day rule to all Bishop’s students.

Dean Crooks indicated that, while he favoured the third option, faculty in the Division of Natural Sciences were in favour of maintaining the four-day rule under all circumstances.

During the course of discussion, a range of views were expressed about the need of Science students for more time to prepare for exams than students in other disciplines.

The Principal asked Dean Crooks and Science Senator Justin McCarthy to take the matter forward, including Records Office staff in the discussion, and:

♦ agree on an account of the issues;
♦ summarise the discussion at the Division of Natural Sciences;
♦ gather information about practices at other institutions in terms of study days between the end of classes and the beginning of exams; and
♦ agree on a structure for consultation with students.

6.3 Education for Sustainable Development at Bishop’s

Dean Crooks presented this item on behalf of Vice-Principal Academic Michael Childs. Dean Crooks explained that the Université de Sherbrooke, five Cégeps (Champlain, Sherbrooke, Drummondville, Granby and Victoriaville) and Bishop’s University have been granted $220,000 by the ministère de l’Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport over three years to integrate sustainable development into programmes, curricula and activities on campus.

In order to get the project under way, Dr. Crooks moved that Senate approve the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee on Education for Sustainable Development, with a mandate to develop an institutional plan for the integration of education for sustainable development. The committee is to report back to Senate at its March 21st meeting. Ms Elizabeth Robichaud seconded the motion.
Dean Steve Harvey moved a friendly amendment, that the composition of the Committee be amended to provide that: "faculty members broadly chosen from different disciplines be preferably, but not necessarily, from each of the five Divisions".

The motion carried, as amended, none opposed, no abstentions.

AGENDA ITEM 528/7 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE DEANS
There were no recommendations from the Deans.

AGENDA ITEM 528/8 INFORMATION ITEMS

8.1 Sabbatical Leave Reports
Dr. Jamie Crooks reported that Sabbatical Leave Reports were available in the Office of the Vice-Principal Academic for the following colleagues:

♦ Dr. Thomas Brüstle,
♦ Dr. Gerry Coulter,
♦ Dr. Paul Gallina,
♦ Dr. Bruce Gilbert,
♦ Dr. Claire Grogan,
♦ Dr. Jean Manore,
♦ Dr. Susan Reid,
♦ Dr. Dale Stout,
♦ Dr. Trygve Ugland,
♦ Dr. Brad Willms,
♦ Dr. Ron Yeats, and
♦ Dr. Lourdes Zubieta.

8.2 Faculty of Arts & Sciences Contract Faculty.
Dean Jamie Crooks reported that the Faculty of Arts & Sciences welcomed the following contract faculty members in 2010-11:

♦ Wadou Baré (Chemistry),
♦ Andrew Clayden (Music),
♦ Al Ford (Mathematics),
♦ Anca Marina Ionascut Nedelcescu (Physics),
♦ Robert-Falcon Ouellette (Sociology),
♦ William Parsons (Biology),
♦ Miriam Pruneau (Spanish),
• Theodor Tudoroiu (Politics),
• Esther Usborne (Psychology), and
• Ryan Wood (Economics).

8.3 The Williams School of Business Contract Faculty
Dean Steve Harvey reported that the Williams School of Business welcomed one contract faculty member for 2010-11, Akanksha Bedi (Business).

There being no further business, the 528th meeting of the Senate of Bishop's University adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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Michael Goldbloom, Chair

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Victoria Meikle, Secretary