

**SENATE OF BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY
540th SENATE MEETING**

Date: Monday, December 12th, 2011
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place Tomlinson Hall, McGreer # 100

AGENDA

- 540/ 1 Approval of Agenda
- 540/ 2 Approval of Minutes –
539th Senate Meeting
- 540/ 3 Communications from the Chair
- 540/ 4 Business Arising
- 540/ 5 Committee Items
 - 5.1 Senate Planning Committee Report / M. Childs
 - 5.2 SPARC : Computer Science / M. Childs
 - 5.3 Dean's Report – SPARC review, Fine Arts / B. Bacon
- 540/ 6 Other Matters
 - 6.1 Revised Terms of Reference – Animal Care Committee / M.Childs
- 540 / 7 Recommendations
 - 7.1 Williams School of Business / S. Harvey
 - 7.2 Arts and Science / B.-A. Bacon
 - 7.2.1 Division of Humanities
 - 7.2.1.1 Motion to withdraw the course Lib217 The Scientific Odyssey
 - 7.2.2 Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
 - 7.2.3 Division of Social Sciences

7.3 School of Education / C. Beauchamp

7.4 Continuing Education

540/ 8 Brief Information



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**MINUTES OF THE 540TH MEETING OF THE
SENATE OF BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY**

The 540th meeting of Senate took place on Monday, December 12th, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., in McGreer 100.

Chair: Principal Michael Goldbloom

Present: Dr. Madjid Allili, Dr. Benoit-Antoine Bacon, Ms Stephanie Battistin, Dr. Catherine Beauchamp, Dr. Claude Charpentier, Dr. Michael Childs, Dr. Gilbert Gagné, Mr. Bruno Gnassi, Dr. Trevor Gulliver, Dr. Rebecca Harries, Dr. Steve Harvey, Dr. Kerry Hull, Mr. James Laing, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Dr. Daniel Miller, Dr. Darren Millington, Mr. Dale Miner, Mr. Alexander Rossignol, Mr. Hans Rouleau, Mr. Daniel Taggart-Hodge, Dr. Trygve Ugland, Dr. Lourdes Zubieta.

Regrets: Prof. Chad Gibbs, Ms Jordan Morneau, Dr. Ross Osmun, Dr. Cranmer Rutihinda.

Secretary: Ms Victoria Meikle

ITEM 540/1: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Lourdes Zubieta moved approval of the agenda; Gilbert Gagné seconded the motion asking that item 5.4, Report of Senate Nominating Committee, be added.

The Agenda was adopted with the addition of Item 5.4, Report of Senate Nominating Committee.

ITEM 540/2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 539TH MEETING OF SENATE

Trygve Ugland moved approval of the minutes of the 539th meeting of Senate; Kerry Hull seconded the motion. Gilbert Gagné asked that Drs. Hull and Ugland be added to the list of Senators present at the 539th meeting of Senate.

The minutes were approved subject to the noted addition.

ITEM 540/3 COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair reported that an invitation to apply for B.E.S.T. funding had been sent to students and faculty. He encouraged student members of Senate to consider applying for these grants, and to urge their peers to do so, and stressed the importance of faculty involvement in mentoring and encouraging students.

Principal Goldbloom invited Senators to the holiday lunch planned for Thursday the 15th of December.

ITEM 540/4 BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business arising.

ITEM 540/5 COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Report of Senate Planning Committee - M. Childs

Senate received Document 540/5.1, the Report of Senate Planning Committee. Dr. Michael Childs, Chair of Senate Planning Committee, spoke to the three items covered in the report:

- ♦ a request that the decision on a tenure-stream position for the Department of Physics be reviewed;
- ♦ the impact of two additional retirements on priorities for tenure-stream positions; and
- ♦ an update on the development of base funding system to replace the differential multiplier system.

Physics Department

Senate Planning Committee had re-examined the request for a tenure-stream position in Physics, and had confirmed its October decision that a position cannot be recommended at this time.

Retirements

Two additional faculty retirements were announced following the approval by Senate of SPC recommendations on tenure-stream positions. One of these is in the English Department, and one in the Williams School of Business.

Dr. Childs indicated that, had SPC been aware of the retirements when setting Departmental priorities, it would have recommended that both these positions be recommended to Senate for approval. Given that a list of priorities had been established and approved by Senate on October 14th, SPC recommended adding the two positions at the end of the list to ensure funding for a sessional position and eventual inclusion in the list of approved tenure-stream positions.

The Vice-Principal moved that Senate modify the list of tenure-stream positions approved by Senate on October 24, 2011 by adding one position in the Williams School of Business and one position in the Department of English at 15th, position, the two equal in priority. Dale Miner seconded the motion.

The motion carried, none opposed.

Part-time credit allocation

Senate Planning Committee had undertaken to develop a base funding model that would guarantee the complement required to offer programs, whether through tenure-stream positions or part-time credits. This model is intended to replace the differential multipliers used to allocate part-time credits from 2007 to 2009, while providing another way of alleviating the impact of administrative service by faculty, and other reductions in course load, on a Department's capacity to deliver programs.

SPC did not expect to be in a position to recommend a fully-developed base-funding model for implementation in 2012-13. Instead, it proposed a version of such a model based on the following information:

- ♦ the number of **funded** courses offered on the main campus during the 2011-12 academic year;
- ♦ course offerings planned for 2012-13, with a rationale if the number of courses is different from above;
- ♦ the precise number of courses to be given in 2012-13 by regular faculty, including any positions presently on the tenure-stream list approved by Senate on October 14th, 2011 and revised on December 12th, 2011;
- ♦ details on courses normally given by regular faculty which will not be given due to sabbaticals, research course relief, chair's relief, or for other reasons.

Gilbert Gagné pointed out that there is a typographical error in Document 514/5.1. The first point under 'Part-time credit allocation' on page two should read 'number of **funded** courses offered [...] during the 2011-12 academic year', rather than 'during the 2010-11 academic year'.

5.2 Report of Senate Program Academic Review Committee on the Department of Computer Science - M. Childs

Senate received Document 540/5.2, the Report of the Senate Program Academic Review Committee on the review of the Department of Computer Science.

The Vice-Principal emphasised that, despite the large number of recommendations, the review was very positive, particularly regarding the research record of faculty in the Department, the M.Sc. and Co-op programs, and the cordial relations among members of the Department. He then reviewed the conclusions of Senate Program Academic Review Committee on those recommendations and the response to them by the Department of Computer Science.

Senate Program Academic Review Committee:

- ♦ supported the Departmental position that flexibility be retained in relation to the co-op program, and that it not be made mandatory;
- ♦ supported increasing the writing component in line with the goals of a Liberal Education;
- ♦ recommended that the Department assist the Recruitment Office in identifying suitable candidates to enhance capacity to recruit for Science programs;
- ♦ recommended that Department consult best practices on initiatives to attract more women to the program;
- ♦ suggested that the University and the Department work together to identify resources to support teaching assistantships for graduate students;
- ♦ suggested that the academic administration be charged with exploring ways to improve communication, discussion and exchange within divisions without recreating the previous academic administrative system;
- ♦ urged the Department to resist “lower[ing] its goals and expectations” unless additional funding is made available.

The Vice-Principal stressed that all Departments face resource constraints. Rather than lowering expectations, the University and Departments should work to allocate available resources to the most pressing needs for support of strong nationally and internationally competitive programs offered by faculty who maintain substantial research profiles.

In response to a question, the Chair indicated that the practice of Senate has been to receive SPARC reports, but not to vote on them.

During the course of discussion, it was suggested that a modification of the Academic Administrative Structures be considered, to add Assistant Dean(s) whose mandate would include fostering discussion within Divisions and assisting the Dean.

5.3 Report of the Dean of Arts and Science on the implementation of the recommendations of the Senate Program Academic Review Committee for the Department of Fine Arts - B.-A. Bacon

Senate received Document 540/5.3, the Report of the Dean of Arts and Science on the implementation of the recommendations of the Senate Program Academic Review Committee in relation to the Department of Fine Arts.

Dean Bacon endorsed the second SPARC review approved by Senate for the fall of 2012, and suggested that a positive review would have to begin with a joint submission to the Program Academic Review Committee from Fine Arts and Art History. He supported the position taken since the fall of 2010 that no additional long-term commitments will be made to the Department of Fine Arts until a positive SPARC review had been completed. And he indicated his intention to ask for a financial audit of the Knowlton campus.

Darren Millington, of the School of Education and the Fine Arts Department, noted that he had had a productive meeting with Dean Bacon on means to address the recommendations emanating from the SPARC review. However, he was concerned that comparing the Bishop's program leading to a B.A. with a major or honours in Fine Arts to programs leading to a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts was misleading, in that B.F.A. programs have a much higher ratio of Studio Art to Art History.

Dr. Millington also questioned the relationship between financial issues and the academic soundness of the Fine Arts program. During the course of discussion it was suggested that the review requested by Senate for the fall of 2012 should focus on the academic credibility of the Fine Arts program. The Dean could go forward separately, as an administrative matter, with a financial audit of Knowlton campus operations, which include offerings across several Departments. The results of the audit could be brought to Senate as a point of information.

5.4 Report of Senate Nominating Committee

Gilbert Gagné, Chair of Senate Nominating Committee, moved the appointment of Keira Constable as the student representative on the Institutional Repository Committee; Steve Harvey seconded the motion.

The motion carried, none opposed.

ITEM 540/6 OTHER MATTERS

6.1 Revised Terms of Reference for the Animal Care Committee – M. Childs

The Vice-Principal Academic introduced Document 540/6.1, Revised Terms of Reference for the Animal Care Committee. While the Animal Care Committee is set up under the aegis of the Canadian Council on Animal Care, not Senate, Committee guidelines are approved by Senate.

Although there is no animal research facility at Bishop's University, animals are occasionally involved in research carried out on campus. The Animal Care Committee is regularly reviewed by external reviewers, and the Revised Terms of Reference proposed for Senate approval flow from recommendations made during the last review. The reviewers' report was generally positive, but some practices need tightening up.

The Vice-Principal moved provisional acceptance of the Revised Terms of Reference for the Animal Care Committee set out in Document 540/6.1. Senators were given three days from the date of circulation to indicate objections, failing which Senate would be deemed to have approved the new Terms of Reference. Dale Miner seconded the motion.

The motion carried, none opposed, no abstentions.

ITEM 540/7 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE DEANS

7.1 Williams School of Business

There were no recommendations from the Williams School of Business.

7.2 Faculty of Arts and Science

7.2.1 Division of Humanities

7.2.1.1 Motion to withdraw the course Lib217, The Scientific Odyssey / B.-A. Bacon

After some discussion of the intent of the proposed motion, the Secretary General suggested that if the purpose of withdrawing Lib217 was to amend the Liberal Arts program as approved by Senate, Senate would have to approve the revised program. The Dean indicated that he would seek clarification.

7.2.2 Division of Natural Sciences

Dean Bacon had no recommendation from the Division of Natural Sciences.

7.2.3 Division of Social Sciences

Dean Bacon had no recommendations from the Division of Social Sciences.

7.3 School of Education

Dean Catherine Beauchamp had no recommendations from the School of Education.

7.4 Continuing Education

The Vice-Principal Academic had no recommendations from Continuing Education.

ITEM 540/8 INFORMATION

There were no points of information.

There being no further business, the 540th meeting of Senate adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Michael Goldbloom, Chair

Victoria Meikle, Secretary