

**ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES
February 15, 2016 – 11:00 a.m., GC 3112**

1. **TOPIC:** Opening

Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez, Chair of the Academic Council, opened the meeting with prayer and accepted prayer requests.

2. **TOPIC:** Approval of Minutes of meeting on December 4, 2015.

Minutes were distributed electronically prior to the meeting. Dr. Reid-Martinez asked if there were any corrections to the minutes, and none were offered. Mrs. Corie VanArsdale moved for acceptance of the minutes. Motion seconded by Dr. David Burkus. Approved unanimously.

3. **TOPIC:** General Education Curriculum issues

- a. Dr. Lori Kanitz, Chair of the General Education Curriculum Committee, presented a proposal for a new online leveling course, COMP 099 “Preparation for Composition I” (3 credit hours). Dr. Kanitz moved to accept the proposal and Dr. Edward Watson seconded acceptance of the proposal. Discussion of the proposal included questions about whether this three-hour course would be acceptable towards any ORU degrees. In line with other 099 courses, this course would not count towards any degrees, but would be acceptable in meeting full-time course load requirements. Students will be placed into this course based upon TOEFL scores or having completed or be concurrently enrolled in READ 099. A suggestion was made to consider making this course less than a three-hour course in order to lower the total cost to those required to take the course. Concern was expressed with accreditation requirements and HPE courses, which are listed as course numbers 0 _ _ and are treated as regular courses. This course will be developed in a 15-week format as well as a seven-week format.

Mr. Nathan Opp called for the vote. The proposal passed unanimously.

ACTION: This course will be developed and staffed as quickly as possible.

CLOSED

- b. Dr. Lori Kanitz motioned and also handed out copies of a proposal to clarify the distinctions between the BA degree and the BS degree at ORU and to eliminate the flexibility to “redesign” a degree from one to the other by simply taking two modern language courses versus two additional courses in math and/or laboratory science or vice versa. Mr. Nathan Opp seconded the motion. Discussion included concerns that this proposal might limit the total number of degrees available at ORU because of low enrollment in certain programs. One of the degrees mentioned was the bachelor’s of fine arts (BFA). Dr. Reid-Martinez noted that accreditation issues would have to be considered. She then indicated new programs requiring major additional costs could be a problem.

Dr. Edward Watson called for the vote which was seconded by Mr. Nathan Opp. The proposal passed unanimously.

ACTION: Individual departments will need to develop separate degree plans in order to allow students the option between a BS or a BA within their department.

CLOSED

4. **TOPIC:** Old Business – Transfer of last 30 hours at ORU

Dr. Reid-Martinez shared that this issue had been discussed at most College meetings in January and February. She asked for input from Council members from each College and received very favorable comments about the policy. The policy does not remove any authority from the department chairs who remain empowered to accept or reject all transfer courses within their program.

The current policy on page 30 of the University catalog reads:

A maximum of 72 semester hours may be transferred into ORU from a community or junior college. A maximum of 98 hours can be transferred from four-year institutions. The last 30 semester hours of a degree program, including at least six hours in the major field and the senior paper or project, must be taken at ORU. Transcripts submitted to ORU become the property of ORU and are stored in students’ permanent files. They cannot be copied or reissued except for on-campus advisement purposes, in which case the documents are delivered directly to academic departments.

The revised policy approved by the Academic Council:

A maximum of 72 semester hours may be transferred into ORU from a community or junior college. A maximum of 98 hours can be transferred from four-year institutions. Thirty semester hours of a degree program, including at least six hours in the major field

and the senior paper or project, must be taken at ORU. Transcripts submitted to ORU become the property of ORU and are stored in students' permanent files. They cannot be copied or reissued except for on-campus advisement purposes, in which case the documents are delivered directly to academic departments.

Dr. David Burkus called for the question. Dr. Kenneth Weed seconded the motion. The proposal passed unanimously.

ACTION: It was recommended to move this proposal to the University Faculty.

5. **TOPIC:** Old Business - Summer School Issues

Dr. Mark Hall, Dean of the College of Arts and Cultural Studies, investigated the concern related to students being forced to move from one dorm to another during the summer because of the needs of summer camp participants. Through discussions with Dr. Dan Guajardo, it was determined that students had previously been asked to move only because of summer campus renovations in various dorms.

ACTION: None

CLOSED

6. **TOPIC:** Other Committee Reports

Mr. Terry Unruh contacted all committees that report to the Academic Council to determine their need to report to the Council. No business was expressed for today's meeting, but there will likely be business to consider at the March 21 Council meeting.

ACTION: None

CLOSED

7. **TOPIC:** New Business – no items were presented

8. **TOPIC:** Future meetings

Dr. Reid-Martinez pointed out the Council meetings listed on the agenda for March 21 (third Monday) and April 11 (second Monday). A meeting in May might be required, if there is pressing business to be conducted following the spring meeting of the Board of Trustees. No Council meeting is currently planned for May or any of the summer months.

9. **TOPIC:** Announcements

Mrs. Corie VanArsdale mentioned there is a campus-wide cultural event this Friday night at 8:00 p.m. in Zoppelt which is open to the public.

Dr. Reid-Martinez announced that visitors from Singapore would be on campus this week.

10. **TOPIC:** Adjournment

The Council meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Unruh

Terry Unruh
Vice Chair, Academic Council