

**ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
September 21, 2015 – 11:00 a.m., GC 3112**

1. **TOPIC:** Opening

Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez, ORU Provost and chair of the Academic Council, opened the meeting with a welcome and prayer.

2. **TOPIC:** Approval of Minutes of meeting on August 17, 2015

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:** Written minutes were distributed to the Council along with the agenda for the meeting. Move for Acceptance by Dr. Tim Norton, seconded by Dr. Kimi Boyd. Approved unanimously.

**ACTION:** None.

**CLOSED**

3. **TOPIC:** Provost Update

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:** Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez reported on her trip to China with Jenny Fang. She met Bob and Nicole Wang who are on the ORU campus this week sharing in the College of Business. Dr. Reid-Martinez also met with the members of the Ministry of Education in China. The ORU Whole Person Education concept was received favorably for Chinese students. ORU's five learning outcomes aligned perfectly with the Chinese educational goals.

The initiative to create a Chinese Leadership Institute at ORU is going well. The two week Bible Institute courses can be taken for certificate purposes or for up to six hours of university credit. The primary emphasis of the program will be in theology and business. The dates for the Institute are February 8 – 20, 2016.

A good visit was also conducted in Singapore. We can advertise and recruit for ORU on-line programs in Singapore without government registration, but will not be allowed to provide any on-ground or blended classes unless we do register with the government. A meeting with ORU alumni in Singapore was beneficial in providing an understanding of the highly competitive educational environment in their country.

The last part of the Provost's trip was in Geneva, Switzerland. The focus of meetings was on the creation of a Global Knowledge Network that could support global communities of programs to support efforts to solve problems that are difficult or seem impossible to solve. Core to the discussion was the role of integrative learning and the role of global virtual networks in that educational process. The real-world application of ideas is critical in this environment. The flipped classroom is one example of a learning approach that approximates this type of problem solving. A related problem that was used as a key example was the migratory wave of refugees throughout Europe, which creates challenges



on all levels within the cultures and demonstrates the need for integrative learning to include adult and professional education to assist immigrants to enter societies.

**ACTION:** None.

**CLOSED**

4. **TOPIC:** Mode of Operation for Academic Council Meetings

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:** Mr. Terry Unruh distributed a proposal which he and Dr. Tim Norton had drafted for the process of running Academic Council meetings as was requested in the August Academic Council meeting. The proposal was discussed and many positive changes were suggested.

**ACTION:** Terry Unruh and Tim Norton agreed to make the revisions to the proposal as recommended. A final version of procedures will be presented to the Academic Council for a vote in the October meeting of the Academic Council.

**OPEN**

5. **TOPIC:** Curriculum Change Proposals – process and forms to be used

Minor changes have been made to the form since our last meeting. These forms are now tracked through e-mails and provide for electronic signature.

**ACTION:** None.

**CLOSED**

6. **TOPIC:** Academic Committee Assignments

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:** Dr. Reid-Martinez indicated that the composition of most academic committees has been completed and submitted to her office. These committees will be posted on the Academic Council website when complete. The conflict in meeting times for the Academic Council and the committees which report to the Council, such as the General Education Curriculum Committee, must still be resolved. Both groups meet at 11:00 on the third Monday of each month.

**ACTION:** Dr. Reid-Martinez asked the Task Group on the Faculty Role in Governance to meet and draft recommendations for ways to resolve the time conflict before the next AC meeting.

**OPEN**

7. **TOPIC:** Future meeting dates

The potential dates for future meetings for the Academic Council were listed on the agenda and noted by Dr. Reid-Martinez.

**CLOSED**

8. **TOPIC:** Old Business - Recommendation for General Education Curriculum Review



**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:** In August, the proposal to do a comprehensive review of the General Education curriculum at ORU was approved by the Academic Council and forwarded to the University Faculty. The proposal was then approved at the August 24, 2015, meeting of the University Faculty.

**ACTION:** Final recommendations related to General Education changes will come back through the General Education Committee to the Academic Council.

**OPEN**

9. **TOPIC:** Old Business - Student-Engaged Research

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:** Contemporary complex problems continue to

**ACTION:** We need to verify that Dr. Weed received the input he requested at the August Council meeting.

**OPEN**

10. **TOPIC:** Old Business – Clarification of the distinctions between a BS and a BA degree at ORU.

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:** This item was sent back to the General Education Curriculum Committee in August.

**ACTION:** None.

**OPEN**

11. **TOPIC:** Announcements of upcoming events

None were presented.

12. **TOPIC:** Adjournment

The Council meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Terry Unruh*

Terry Unruh  
Vice Chair, Academic Council