

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
Minutes
October 27, 2014

The Senate meeting was called to order by Senate Vice President Terry Unruh at 11:02 a.m. in GC 4112. An announcement was made that Senate President Carlos Chale' was absent because of the recent death of his mother. Dr. Dominic Halsmer presented a thoughtful devotional on the meat and drink of our lives based upon John 6:54-56.

The minutes of the September 22, 2014, Senate meeting were accepted without change by consent of the Senate.

Dr. Lori Kantiz presented a proposal from the General Education Committee to resurrect a course, LGEN114 "On-line Learning Strategies." Dr. Catherine Klehm seconded the proposal. There was no additional discussion of this proposal, so a vote was taken. Due to technical difficulties in conducting the vote, Terry Unruh proposed that the Senate waive the normal anonymous voting and allow for a hand vote as it appeared this was a non-controversial proposal. Dr. Marshal Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed. A hand vote was taken and the proposal passed with 26 voting for the proposal, none against, and no abstentions.

Dr. Winston Frost, chair of the ad hoc committee which was appointed earlier this semester, presented formal proposals to amend the Senate by-laws as summarized below. The proposals were distributed electronically prior to the Senate meeting, in hard copy at the Senate meeting, as well as shown on the screen during the meeting.

- Article IV, section 1 add "the Dean of Online and Lifelong Learning" as a voting Senator.
- Article IV, section 2 to clarify who can be considered a candidate for Senate Vice President and to define the academic year as August 1 – July 31.
- Article IV, section 3 to clarify that each Senator has an individual alternate who can participate in Senate activities if the elected Senator is unable to do so, and to change the term of every Senator to two years.
- Article VI, section 3 add "The Vice President shall act as President if the president is unable or unwilling to serve."
- Article VII, section 1 to allow Senate meetings to be conducted electronically or in-person. Also to clarify that participation in meetings conducted during the summer would be considered voluntary, but Senators would be strongly encouraged to participate.

Article VII, section 2 to allow for Senators to be notified electronically of emergency meetings.

Article VII, section 3 to clarify that voting by the Senate must be conducted during the Senate meeting or within seven days of the meeting.

Article IX to allow for the creation of a Parliamentary Committee comprised of three Past Senate Presidents.

Dr. Frost moved acceptance of these proposals for discussion by the Senate and Dr. Ken Weed seconded. A small amount of discussion followed. The ad hoc committee which drafted these bylaw proposals recommended that the proposals be considered as four separate items based upon the four separate Articles of the bylaws which are being amended (Article IV, VI, VII, and IX). The following corrections were noted and accepted:

Article IV, section 2 type out the entire word “August” instead of abbreviating the month.

Article IX add a period at the end of the last sentence in Article IX.

Senate Vice President Terry Unruh asked the Senators to please share these proposals within their schools and departments before the Senate votes on these proposals in November. He also asked each Senator to make sure that each of them had an alternate specifically designated. The current roster of Senators does not reflect alternates for all departments.

Dr. Mark Roberts, chair of the Christian World View Committee, announced there was a good response to the first event held on campus featuring alum Phil Cooke on “The Gospel, Pop Culture and the Digital Future.” Dr. Roberts then introduced Ms. Ruby Libertus to discuss the upcoming “Re-Claim” conference related to human trafficking scheduled on campus November 8 – 11.

Dr. Patty Catts, chair of the Research Committee, announced that no research proposals have been submitted for the current academic year. Funding for faculty research has been based upon recovered funds being used, but no funds are available at this time.

Provost, Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez, provided a brief update on the activity of the University Planning Council (UPC). The Council is convening in the afternoon after the Senate meeting to further develop goals and objectives for the University based upon input received at the fall Faculty Connection and input from various departments throughout the University. The UPC hopes to develop goals with a rolling five year time frame. Dr. Reid-Martinez also shared that the Board of Trustees now only meets twice per year – once in November and once in March. All proposals which need trustee approval will need to be sent to the Provost by the middle of January at the latest in order to be included in the March meeting of the trustees.

A question was asked about Dr. Wilson's suggestion for the Senate to reconsider the proposal for a sixth item related to "Globally Focused" be added to the list of University outcomes. Senate Vice President Terry Unruh recently spoke to the President and was informed that a new proposal would be sent to the General Education Committee soon, but there was not a rush to discuss the item at the current Senate meeting.

Based upon no new items of business, Senate Vice President Unruh accepted a motion to adjourn at 12:01 p.m.