

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES
February 20, 2017 11:03 a.m. – 11:53 a.m., GC 3112

Dr. K. Reid-Martinez, Chair of the Academic Council, opened the meeting with prayer.

1. **TOPIC:** Approval of Minutes for January 23, 2017

DISCUSSION: Minutes were posted electronically prior to the meeting via the Academic Council website. Dr. Weed moved for acceptance of the minutes. Dr. Newberg seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved with no changes.

ACTION: None

CLOSED

2. **TOPIC:** Report on Proposed 120 Credit Minimum Degree Plan from the Ad hoc committee

DISCUSSION: Mr. David Fulmer represented Dr. Andrew Lang as chair of the Ad Hoc Committee. The report included a review and discussion of the proposal presented. The Ad Hoc Committee met on February 10th and February 15th. The proposal is intended to address internal/external influences, accreditation requirements, and competitiveness of programs, while assuring a positive effect for transfer students. According to the report, the Ad Hoc Committee members voted unanimously to approve the Proposed 120 Credit Minimum Degree Plan. Mr. Fulmer presented proposed new language for the University catalog on pages 29, 31 and 34. He clarified that uniformity between pages 29 and 31 would be needed. The Academic Council members had an in-depth discussion of the proposal. C. VanArsdale motioned to accept the proposal. Dr. Synan seconded the motion. Discussion centered on question about questions about Christian college expectations on this topic and the need to take this information to departments and colleges for review. Key comments from Dr. Mark Hall, Dr. Julie Huntley, Dr. David Burkus, Dr. Jim Russell, Mr. Nathan Opp and Dr. Kenda Jezek. After further discussion, the vote from the Academic Council stated:

1. Ask the Ad Hoc Committee to meet again to provide more information on the question, “How many Christian Colleges have 120 minimum credit hour degree plans?”
2. Have the Ad Hoc Committee send an email to the Academic Council prior to the Departments/Colleges next meeting in order for the Academic Council members to bring more discussion within their Departments/Colleges.

Dr. Reid-Martinez shared that the Deans and Faculty need to consider, “What is best for ORU student learners and what is the role of Christian Liberal Arts education in the midst of society?” Mr. Nathan Opp motioned for acceptance on

the 2 criteria for the Ad Hoc Committee. Dr. Synan seconded the motion. The results were 12 in favor and 4 opposed. The motion carried.

ACTION: The Ad Hoc Committee will send deans copies of the proposal prior to the department and college meetings. Deans will discuss this at their college meetings and encourage chairs to discuss this at their department meetings. Deans will bring reports of these meetings to the next Academic Council meeting.

OPEN

3. **TOPIC:** Update on current process for new keys for faculty and staff- Dr. Reid Martinez

DISCUSSION: Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez reported that since this is an Administrative task, she has added it to the Academic Deans' agenda to review and make any necessary changes to the process.

ACTION: None.

CLOSED

4. **TOPIC:** Naturally evolving learning communities

DISCUSSION: Dr. Weed gave a report on the Hyperloop Project that ORU students attended in California. ORU was one of the 27 competitors at the competition. Dr. Weed stated the event displayed great technology development and ORU students performed extremely well on the tests. Dr. Reid-Martinez tabled further discussion for the March Academic Council meeting.

ACTION: To be brought back to the next meeting.

OPEN

5. **TOPIC:** New Business

ACTION: None

6. **TOPIC:** Announcements

ACTION: No further announcements.

The Council meeting adjourned at approximately 11:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Corie VanArsdale

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Vice Chair, Academic Council