

**ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES
March 20, 2017 11:15 a.m. – 1:01 p.m., GC 3112**

1. **TOPIC:** Opening

Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez, chair of the Academic Council opened the meeting. The Provost along with Faculty led prayer for healing and recovery for faculty, including back surgery for one of the Faculty. Prayer for the General Education Committee concerning curriculum process was also included.

2. **TOPIC:** Approval of Minutes of meeting on February 20, 2017

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

ACTION: None

CLOSED

3. **TOPIC:** Faculty Emeritus

DISCUSSION: Discussion was presented by the Provost and the Deans, Dr. Weed and Dr. Hall from the Colleges of the candidates. The following candidates were approved with the 2/3 majority votes of the Academic Council members present: Dr. Kenneth Preston of Computer and Mathematics, Mr. Robert Kiel of Behavioral Sciences, Dr. Linda Gray of English and Modern Languages, and Dr. Ed Pierce of Music.

ACTION: Dr. Reid-Martinez will provide this information to the president and Board of Trustees according to university policy and procedures.

OPEN

4. **TOPIC:** Presentation of Current Proposed General Education Model - Dr. Andrew Lang, Chair of General Education Curriculum Committee

DISCUSSION: Dr. Andrew Lang presented a review of the Current Proposed General Education Model concerning the Proficiencies, the Core Model of General Education, the differences of requirements of a BS and BA degrees, explained the one major change from January 2017 proposal of a 3 credit hour Interdisciplinary General Education course and one Interdisciplinary Team taught course for graduation requirements. The Proposal is aligned with the vision and mission of the University and meets the New Intercultural Experience Graduation requirement. Discussion involved many faculty of each College represented. Dr. Andrew Lang answered questions and shared that the Proposed General Education Model does not change the process of approval for new courses. New general

education course proposals must be approved by the General Education Curriculum Committee, which is a continuation of normal, existing University practice. The Proposal allows for each College to determine the courses that will be taught for the General Education credit hours of the Core. Dr. Reid-Martinez shared on the importance of creativity, collaboration and innovation with learning skill sets related to complex global issues and the importance of ORU graduates obtaining, among others, visual thinking skills. Dr. Andrew Lang reported that each College has had 18 months to discuss the Proposed General Education Model. Dr. David Burkus moved to table the item for the next Academic Council meeting and then removed his motion. Dr. Synan motioned to approve the Proposal. Dr. Angela Watson seconded the motion. The Academic Council voted on the Proposal with the inclusion of Friendly amendments. The vote included 11 for approval, 1 opposed and 1 abstained. The Proposal of the General Education Model was approved by the Academic Council.

ACTION: The Provost will include this vote in the Academic Council report to the University Faculty.

OPEN

5. **TOPIC:** Report on Proposed 120 Credit Minimum Degree Plan from the Ad hoc committee- Dr. Andrew Lang

DISCUSSION: None

ACTION: Dr. Reid-Martinez tabled the item for the next Academic Council meeting in April.

OPEN

6. **TOPIC:** New Business

ACTION: None

7. **TOPIC:** Announcements

ACTION: No further announcements.

The Council meeting adjourned at approximately 1:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Corie VanArsdale

Corie VanArsdale

Vice Chair, Academic Council