

**ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES**

October 23, 2017 11:03 a.m. – 12:41 p.m. GC 3116

1. TOPIC: Opening

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

2. TOPIC: Approval of Minutes of the meeting on September 18, 2017.

DISCUSSION: Minutes were sent to members via email. Dr. Lyons moved and Dr. Weed seconded to approve the minutes. The Academic Council unanimously accepted the minutes.

ACTION: None.

CLOSED

3. TOPIC: Discussion of Credit Hours for Graduation.

DISCUSSION: All Colleges have discussed the proposal for 120 minimum credit hours at their October 9th meeting. The College of Nursing, Education, Theology and Ministry, Science and Engineering and the Library are in agreement with the proposal being taken for a vote at the next University Faculty Meeting. The College of Arts and Cultural Studies have a majority agreement, with a few nay votes and a few abstentions, but are in support of a vote. The College of Business also has a few nay votes, but overall are in support of a vote. The Minimum 120 Credit Hours requirement will be voted on at the next University Faculty Meeting on October 30, 2017.

ACTION: None

CLOSED

4. TOPIC: Report from the General Education Curriculum Committee

DISCUSSION: Dr. Lang presented the General Education courses that have been approved by Academic Council and asked that a vote be taken in blocks on a section of courses that have syllabi but are awaiting approval. Additionally, the outcomes and proficiencies created by the General Education Committee need to be approved by the Academic Council. The following courses were discussed and a vote was taken or a hold (no vote) was selected.

(1) Scaffolded Interdisciplinary Courses (SIC): Game Theory & Politics – GEN 434

- Dr. Hall reported that we may not have enough faculty to make every interdisciplinary course team taught as most faculty have full loads. However, interdisciplinary courses do not have to be team taught, but can be taught by a single faculty member.
- Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez reported that every student is on the current catalog and that a transition plan must be put in place by the Deans of each College. Therefore, the Deans will have to come up with a solution on how to make this transition as smooth as possible.

- Vote: Dr. Jezek moved, Dr. Baker seconded; (**Y: 21, N: 0, Abstain: 0**)

(2) COMP 102

- As with several other courses, COMP 102 no longer counts for Humanities credit, due to more stringent guidelines that were established for what can/cannot be counted as Humanities credit.
- An issue regarding an Honors section of COMP 102 automatically enrolling students in it with SAT Verbal scores of 640+ and ACT English scores of 28+ was noted. Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez recommended that we vote on COMP 102 as an appropriate course for General Education and that we leave the debate on Honors to the Honors Committee and the prerequisites to the individual Colleges.
- Vote: Dr. Livingston moved, Dr. Sanders– seconded; (**Y: 21, N: 0, Abstain: 0**).

(3) Humanities

- Six (6) hours total required
- Three (3) hours must be Humanities I/II (either 201, 202, 203, or 204); Honors students can instead take 3 hours of the following courses: HONR 101 – Artistic Expression (The Honors Committee will revisit this course to see if it is more appropriate to count for COMP 102 rather than for humanities credit), HONR 102 – Philosophy of Science, HONR 202 – History of Quantitative Thought, or HONR 310 – Faith and Civilization in Context.
- The second 3 hours can be from one of the courses above or from the Humanities II courses: HUM 225 – History of Dance I, HUM 260 – Music Appreciation, HUM 270 – Introduction to Theatre, HUM 275 – Theatre History I, HUM 250 – Art History Survey I, HUM 255 – Art History Survey II, HUM 307 – Art History Survey III, and HUM 333 – Humanities Travel Studies).
- Vote: Dr. Roberts moved, Dr. Jezek seconded (**Y: 21, N: 0, Abstain: 0**).

(4) Civics

- Can take any of the 5 classes (American Government and Politics, Comparative Government and Politics, American History Survey I (to 1877) American History Survey II (1877 – present), and HIS 200 – World History
- Dr. Hall noted that there are now five classes a student can take for the Civics requirement. These courses allow for more international topics such as Comparative Government and World History which allow for more interest from international students.
- Vote: Dr. Livingston moved, Dr. Lyons seconded (**Y: 21, N: 0, Abstain: 0**).

(5) HPE

- HPE 155 - Health Fitness is designed to be a second semester course.
- HPE 400 – Lifelong Wellness will be a completely-online class to allow for flexibility in students' schedules during their senior year (e.g., College of Nursing clinicals or College of Education student teaching)
- As Lifelong Wellness is one (1) credit hour, there was some confusion in the total number of hours HPE requires. As such, this vote was tabled.
- Vote: **No vote** (hold)

(6) Laboratory Science

- There was an error in labeling
- Vote: **No vote** (hold)

(7) Theology

- Theology now includes an 8-hour block: four classes with two (2) credits each: THE 104 – Spirit Empowered Living I- The Holy Spirit; THE 105 – Spirit Empowered Living II – Ministry of Healing and Miracles; BLIT 111 – Christian Life Through Biblical Engagement I: Old Testament; and BLIT 122 – Christian Life Through Biblical Engagement I: New Testament. Alternatively, students may take (BIB 222 - Old Testament Introduction and BIB 261 - New Testament Introduction, respectively).
- Each course can be taken independently of the other Theology requirements.
- In terms of pedagogy, Dr. Lyons reported that New Testament has more application whereas Old Testament has more text.
- Dr. Lyons moved, Dr. Jezek seconded (**Y: 21, N: 0, Abstain: 0**).

Additionally, Dr. Lang requested that the outcomes and proficiencies and their respective definitions be discussed as the General Education Committee would like the Academic Council's approval. Dr. Weed requested that we have the opportunity to take these definitions back to our Colleges before a vote is taken so that input can be given from each College.

ACTION: Dr. Lang will email the outcomes and proficiencies and their respective definitions to the College Deans to be discussed at the next College meeting. Comments that arise during the College meetings will be discussed at November's Academic Council Meeting and a vote will be taken. Additionally, a vote will be taken on the following General Education courses: HPE and Laboratory Science.

OPEN

5. **TOPIC:** Discussion of Ad Hoc Committee findings for the policy for faculty and student phone numbers.

DISCUSSION: Dr. Weed reported that this policy has been implemented into the ORU Handbook and that it will go before the Board of Trustees at their next meeting for approval.

ACTION: None

CLOSED

6. **TOPIC:** Discussion of "GO" courses from the Office of Global Service

DISCUSSION: Dr. Kevin Schneider discussed "GO" courses. Each "GO" course has a single, comprehensive assignment that is "transformative among people from various cultural backgrounds, countries, or regions." This single assignment is what differentiates it from a non-"GO" course. The "GO" course rubric evaluates students in the following areas: (1) Intercultural Engagement, (2) Cross-Cultural Communication, (3) Global Perspectives, and (4) Transformative Experience. Further review within the Academic Council of the "GO" course specifications is needed at this time.

ACTION: Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez requested that the Deans of each College assign one Academic Council member from their College to be on a "GO" Course Ad Hoc Committee. Dr. Schneider will work with the appointed Academic Council members over the next few weeks to review "suggested activities" that would fit into the "GO" course. The Ad Hoc Committee should

start by listing activities that are needed to make a “GO” course and then decide what score on the rubric is “acceptable” (i.e., what is the minimum requirement for each of the four areas evaluated on the rubric). Additionally, the committee member from the College of Education should focus on the assessment of each “GO” course from the rubric (what are the strengths and weaknesses). Lastly, the Ad Hoc Committee should make recommendations to the Academic Council during the 11/20/17 meeting.

OPEN

7. **TOPIC:** Announcements

- (1) Dr. Reid-Martinez encouraged the Academic Council to look at the pedagogy and andragogy and heutagogy of our teaching by focusing on what we need to do differently as we “cannot afford to do business as usual.” She requested that we look at *how* we are teaching, not only *what* we are teaching by throwing everything out and thinking again about what we are doing. She encouraged the Academic Council to use Augmented and Virtual Reality (AVR) in the classroom when possible as it increases the rate of learning by approximately 400% when compared to traditional learning. Lastly, she encouraged the Academic Council that we have the opportunity to be the thought leaders of best practices of AVR and Zoom technology.
- (2) Dr. Roberts made an announcement regarding the next ORU President’s Performing Arts & Lecture Series event occurs on Tuesday, November 28th, at 7 p.m. in the GLC auditorium. Mr. Mike Gonzalez, Senior Fellow of the Heritage Foundation, will speak about causing America to flourish so it can participate robustly in international affairs, including globalization. His talk is titled, “A Democracy Needs a *Demos*: A Global View of Why National Identity Is Essential for America and also Good for the World.” Gonzalez’s talk is timely for our country and for our university. Please incentivize your students to attend this second President’s Series event on Tuesday evening, November 28, in the GLC auditorium.
- (3) Dr. Hall will be giving a lecture on C.S. Lewis at 7PM on 10/24/17 in GC 3114.
- (4) The Theater program opens *Twelfth Night* running November 2-5.

The Academic Council meeting adjourned at approximately 12:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Philip Nelson
Academic Council Secretary