

**ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES**

November 20, 2017 11:00 a.m. – 12:27 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. Jezek moved and Dr. Bosch seconded to approve the minutes. The Academic Council unanimously accepted the minutes.

ACTION: None.

CLOSED

3. TOPIC: Report from the General Education Curriculum Committee

DISCUSSION: Dr. Lang presented the General Education Proposals that need approval by the Academic Council. It was agreed that the eight proposals and their respective classes be discussed together and a vote taken at the end of the discussion. Additionally, the General Education Outcomes and Proficiencies and their respective definitions have been revised so discussion and a vote on these is needed.

- **Foreign Language**

- Dr. Lang reminded the Academic Council that every student in every program must take at least one language course and that all 101 level language courses include an intercultural experience. Dr. Hall stated that a student can “test out of” any of the foreign language requirements.
 - ARA 101 Elementary Arabic I
 - ARA 102 Elementary Arabic II
 - ARA 203 Intermediate Arabic I
 - ARA 204 Intermediate Arabic II
 - CHI 101 Elementary Chinese I
 - CHI 102 Elementary Chinese II
 - CHI 203 Intermediate Chinese I
 - CHI 204 Intermediate Chinese II
 - FRE 101 Elementary French I
 - FRE 102 Elementary French II
 - FRE 203 Intermediate French I
 - FRE 204 Intermediate French II
 - HEB 101 Elementary Hebrew I
 - HEB 102 Elementary Hebrew II
 - HEB 203 Intermediate Hebrew I
 - HEB 204 Intermediate Hebrew II
 - SPA 101 Elementary Spanish I
 - SPA 102 Elementary Spanish II

- SPA 203 Intermediate Spanish I
- SPA 204 Intermediate Spanish II

- **Honors Fellows Seminars**

- All courses (except Artistic Expression which can only be taken by Honors Program Fellows) are restricted to Honors Program Fellows and Scholars. A friendly amendment was made so that the catalog will state that Honors courses can be open to non-Honors Program students who request it and course professor approval.

<u>Honors Fellow Seminar</u>	<u>Substitutes for:</u>
▪ Artistic Expression (HONR 101)	COMP 102
▪ Philosophy of Science (HONR 102)	Humanities or BLIT 111
▪ <i>Principles of Leadership (HONR 201)</i>	<i>Social Science Elective</i>
▪ <i>History of Quantitative Thought (HONR 202)</i>	<i>Humanities</i>
▪ <i>Science & Global Sustainability (HONR 203/203L)</i>	<i>Laboratory Science</i>
▪ Faith and Civilization in Context (HONR 301)	Humanities or BLIT 122
▪ Science and the Imagination (HONR 303)	COMP 303

- **Laboratory Sciences**

- BIO 105 is 3 hours, all other courses except HLSS 319 (4-hour integrated lab/lecture) are 3-hour lecture/1-hour lab combinations.
 - BIO 105 Fundamentals of Biology
 - BIO 112/112L Introductory Biology II
 - BIO 150/150L Human Biology and Global Health
 - CHE 112/112L General Chemistry II
 - HLSS 319 Applied Anatomy and Physiology
 - PHY 102/102L General Physics II

- **Theology**

- Dr. Lang reminded the Academic Council that the 3-hour BIB 222 and BIB 261 would be open for all students to take.
 - BIB 222 Old Testament Introduction
 - BIB 261 New Testament Introduction

- **Quantitative Literacy**

- Students that require calculus as part of their degree will be encouraged to take MAT 325. All other students are required to take MAT 232 and will have a required co-requisite of MAT 231 if the prerequisite is not satisfied. MAT 231 will require students to take an hour of a Statistics “lab” taught by faculty and an hour of tutoring.
 - MAT 325 Probability and Statistics (3 Credit Hours)
 - Prerequisite: MAT 202
 - MAT 232 Elementary Statistics (3 Credit Hours)
 - Prerequisites/Corequisites: A prerequisite of MAT 105 (with a grade of C or higher), 106, 201, NUR 230, SAT math score of at least 520, or ACT math score of at least 22; or a corequisite of MAT 231 – Essentials for Elementary Statistics.
 - MAT 231 Essentials for Elementary Statistics (1 Credit Hour)
 - Co-requisite: MAT 232 – Elementary Statistics. Mandatory Tutoring

- **Scaffolded Interdisciplinary Courses (SIC)**

- Every student must take COMP 303. GEN 434 (Game Theory & Politics) was approved last Academic Council. Dr. Lang clarified single instructor versus team-taught courses. For courses that are taught by a single instructor, the course likely covers a single discipline that impacts many areas of life. This type of course usually has guest speakers and has teaching that focuses from one discipline. For courses that are team-taught, two viewpoints of the professors are provided so that students can observe conflict and resolution. Additionally, the rubric for scaffolding must (1) include active learning (2) be interdisciplinary (3) have critical thinking and (4) be 300+ level. Students are expected to be in their last two years of undergraduate and will have taken most of their general education courses by this point. Furthermore, Dr. Hall stated that instructors will determine maximum class size for each course and Dr. Lang added that it is unlikely there will be multiple sections of SIC. Lastly, Dr. Reid-Martinez reported that we will need to open up more SIC over the next few years to accommodate an influx of students who will be on the new catalog. Four new courses are proposed:

- GEN 301 Global Development and Sustainability
 - Prerequisites: COMP 102 & Lab Science. Crosslisted with EVR 201. Single-instructor
- GEN 380 Israel - The People and the Land
 - Prerequisites: None. Crosslisted with BIB 380 and THE 380. Team-taught
- GEN 420 A Biblical Approach to Middle Eastern Religious Literature
 - Prerequisites: BLIT 111 & BLIT 112. Crosslisted with BIB 420 and THE 420. Team-taught
- GEN 456 Biomedical Ethics
 - Prerequisites: None. Crosslisted with BIO 456. Single-instructor

- **Oral Communication**

- Currently matches the new outcomes and proficiencies.
 - COM 101 – Oral Communication

- **HPE**

- GEN 150 and HPE 155 will both be 1-Credit Hour each. All of the other activity courses, including HPE 400, can be 0.5 Credit Hour.
 - HPE 155 Health Fitness (1 Credit Hour)
 - HPE 400 Lifelong Wellness (0.5-1 Credit Hours)
 - HPE 003-199 HPE Activity Courses (0.5-1 Credit Hours)

Vote: Dr. Jezek moved, Dr. Thorpe seconded (**Y:15 , N: 1, Abstain: 1**).

All General Education Curriculum Committee Proposals have been approved by the Academic Council and will be presented to the University Faculty Meeting on 11/27/17.

- **Outcomes and Proficiencies**

- ◆ A concern was presented regarding the level of complexity of the definitions in the Outcomes and Proficiencies. A Student Learning Subcommittee that would be involved in the iterative process of the Outcomes and Proficiencies was proposed in order to assess

if the complexity/level of the definitions is appropriate (e.g., Bloom's Taxonomy) and if the correct artifacts are being measured by the appropriately leveled proficiencies.

- ◆ Dr. Sjoberg wondered if the definitions should be more diverse in how the items are described.
- ◆ Dr. Lang reminded the Academic Council that Outcomes and Proficiencies come from our mission and guide our curriculum. Therefore, we must create assessments from the Outcomes and Proficiencies and integrate them into the curriculum. Then, we must assess if our students are learning what we want them to learn. As such, this will become an ongoing, iterative process.
- ◆ Dr. Lang shared that faculty may use a subset of the master rubric for individual artifacts. Through the iterative process, analysis of all artifacts will reveal which proficiencies are not being utilized.
- ◆ Dr. Boyd recommended that we pay attention to the validity and reliability of our assessment as we develop the rubrics for all courses, specifically regarding different artifacts (from different areas of study) that are measuring the same proficiency or outcome.
- ◆ Outcome 5 (Professionally Competent) is a program-specific outcome that will be determined by its respective department and will report to the Ad-Hoc Student Learning Committee for feedback.
- **Vote:** Dr. Weed moved, Dr. Thorpe seconded (**Y:17, N: 0, Abstain: 0**).

ACTION: Dr. Reid-Martinez recommended that a Student Learning Committee (subset/Ad-Hoc type committee) be created from the Institutional Improvement University Committee to focus specifically on student learning (if this committee will be a handbook committee, it must be created by March, 2018). This committee will give evidence to the HLC in regards to the assessment process. Additionally, this committee needs to report back to the Academic Council periodically (at least once per year) on how the iterative process is working (i.e., are we getting students to the level we want them to get based on the outcomes being generated from the assessment). Furthermore, Bloom's Taxonomy (or another taxonomy that is used) should be highlighted so that the Academic Council can see if it matches the level it needs to for each of the Outcomes and Proficiencies.

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

DISCUSSION: Dr. Reid-Martinez reported that the Board of Trustees recommended that the policy for faculty and student phone numbers be an interim policy in the Handbook as it leaves faculty in the "power seat" requiring the student to say "no." The Board of Trustees requests that an app be utilized or created to send out texts or messages.

ACTION: Academic Council feedback is appreciated regarding the app to be used/created.

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

DISCUSSION: Dr. Kevin Schneider presented a specific GO course created by Dr. Cal Easterling (SOC 101 – Introduction to Sociology) for a vote. The Ad Hoc Committee reported that the “GO” designation requires that each student have a “transformative” experience that changes in the direction of or is aligned with the values, mission, and vision of Oral Roberts University. There is no mandate on the percentage the transformative activity/artifact must be. Additionally, there is a list of suggested activities/artifacts faculty should implement in order to meet the GO course designation. The GO Course Ad Hoc Committee states:

Based on the above definition, students must participate in course activities that include engagement with people from a distinct cultural background, country or region. The instructor must assess how the students had a transformative experience as a result of the engagement.

- Approved activities include, but are not limited to, discussions, interviews, focus groups, surveying, interactive teaching, tutoring, Zoom [or other video] conferences, practicums, ministry, participation in cultural events, service activities, etc.
- The activities must be face to face, or through video conference, where two-way, cross-cultural communication is occurring.
- Assignments can include, but are not limited to, projects, presentations (e.g. power point, video), research or reflection papers, etc.

Vote: Tabled

ACTION: The Academic Council asked that the rubric indicate the direction of change expected of learners. Thus, the definition of transformative experience should include: “...in alignment with the values, mission, and vision of Oral Roberts University.” Additionally, the GO course rubric will be sent to all Academic Council members and Dr. Easterling who will then make track changes and/or provide comments to Dr. Schneider. Lastly, Dr. Weed recommended that Dr. Schneider work with other faculty who are measuring spiritual formation to see how a transformative intercultural activity can best be measured. Dr. Schneider will report to the Academic Council at the next meeting on progress with the GO course.

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6. **TOPIC:** Announcements

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.

The Academic Council meeting adjourned at approximately 12:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Philip Nelson, Academic Council Secretary