

**ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES**

September 23, 2019 – 11:03 a.m. to 12:17 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 August 12, 2019.

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

ACTION: None.

CLOSED

3. **TOPIC:** Report from the General Education Curriculum Committee

- a. Biennial review process and externally accredited programs – Dr. Connie Sjoberg
- b. New SIC Course – GEN 322: Leading Through Disaster – Dr. Angela Watson
- c. GO Course Update – Dr. Angela Watson

DISCUSSION: Dr. Watson shared with Academic Council regarding the need for concise language and understanding related to SIC (Scaffolded Interdisciplinary Courses) and its organization on Vision under “General Studies,” instead of being labeled under their respective departments. Dr. Watson also reviewed and clarified the GO course requirement (i.e., proficiency) for all ORU graduates. Fall 2018-2019 Catalog did not have a GO-course requirement. All students under the 2019-2020 Catalog must complete a GO-course before graduation. The General Education Committee is currently taking GO-course proposals to be accepted into the 2020-2021 Catalog. Dr. Reid-Martinez clarified that SIC is a course curriculum and must be voted on in Academic Council whereas GO-course is a proficiency and is only reported to the Academic Council (i.e., no vote).

Additionally, Dr. Watson presented GEN 322: Leading Through Disaster. Discussion included the possibility of cross-listing this course as a Social Science Elective. If this is desired, then the General Education Committee may bring this update to a future Academic Council meeting. A vote was taken to approve GEN 322: Dr. Roberts moved, Dr. Jezek seconded.

Vote: (Y: 17, N: 0, Abstain: 0)

Dr. Watson noted that all changes to course proposals must be submitted by November 13th in order to be included in the 2020-2021 academic catalog and, therefore, must be submitted to the Academic Council before the next meeting in October. Additionally, Dr. Reid-Martinez recommended that the General Education Committee provide a few sentences of pertinent information about the courses that are voted on (SIC and GO) so that it can be read during University Faculty Meetings.

Dr. Reid-Martinez reminded members of the General Education committee to review documents related to committee meetings and report back to respective Departments/Deans on any issues that might arise from the documents or votes by the committee.

Lastly, Dr. Sjoberg reported that she is adding final updates to the biennial review process and externally accredited program document. This document will be sent to the Academic Council before its next meeting.

ACTION: None
CLOSED

4. **TOPIC:** AA Degree Update

DISCUSSION: Christine Welden reported that the Registrar's office can facilitate an AA degree with our current infrastructure. She reported that other colleges have AA degrees for mostly General Studies and that AA degree courses would be at the 100- and 200-level. In terms of retroactively awarding AA degrees, some institutions require those students to reapply and be considered under the new Catalog through the Admissions Department. Dr. Reid-Martinez emphasized that we need to find ways to help students be successful.

ACTION: Dr. Reid-Martinez would like the Deans to discuss the AA degree with their Colleges as it will need to be brought back to the October Academic Council meeting. The Registrar will begin researching AA programs within CCCU schools. Research will continue to be done until a final vote is taken in the next few months.

OPEN

5. **TOPIC:** Announcements

DISCUSSION: Dr. Roberts announced that ORU Press has published its first book, *Human Sexuality and the Holy Spirit*.

ACTION: None
CLOSED

The Academic Council meeting adjourned at approximately 12:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Nelson, Ph.D., Academic Council Secretary