

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL
MINUTES
October 19, 2020 – 11:00 a.m. to 12:34 p.m., GC 3116

1. **TOPIC:** Opening

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

2. **TOPIC:** Dr. Kay Meyers' passing

DISCUSSION: The Academic Council recognized and honored the life and work of former faculty member Dr. Kay Meyers, who recently died following an extended illness. Among her other accomplishments, the Council honored her love of students and her enduring work to establish and develop the ORU Honors Program. Most importantly, the Council thanked God for her Christian witness, along with her commitment to learning and excellence.

ACTION: None.

CLOSED

3. **TOPIC:** Approval of Minutes of the meeting on September 21, 2020.

DISCUSSION: Minutes were sent to members via email. There was a motion by Dr. Foster to approve the Minutes and it was seconded by Dr. Freudenrich. Dr. Lang requested a change to the Minutes to better clarify what was voted on and discussed. After the Minutes were changed, the Academic Council unanimously accepted the Minutes.

ACTION: None.

CLOSED

4. **TOPIC:** Updates from the General Education Committee – Dr. Andrew Lang

DISCUSSION:

- a. **Deadline:** The Committee requested an extension of the deadline for CCPs to be due to the Provost for review/approval to Tuesday, October 27. The rationale was that this date is the day after the next UFA meeting and completes this month's Shared Governance cycle. Dr. Sjoberg noted that the deadline will stay the same but all items currently in-progress through the Academic Council and University Faculty will be accepted
- b. MISS 244, 245 as GO courses. [Proposal: COTM-2020-40, 41]

- The General Education committee discussed this proposal in depth compared to the other proposals (items c and d, below). They requested that the syllabus for MISS 244 be more explicit as to how transformative, intercultural experiences were going to be a part of the assignments in the class. After this change was made the Academic Council proceeded to review and vote.
- Both courses were requested to be voted on together. Dr. Foster motioned, Dr. Ellis seconded. **Vote: Y: 17, N: 0, Abstain: 0.**
- c. MISS 398 as a GO Course. [Proposal: COTM-2020-42]
 - The General Education committee reported that this course satisfied the requirements of the GO-course rubric as the internship was a deliberate intercultural engagement.
 - Dr. Foster motioned, Dr. Weed seconded. **Vote: Y: 17, N: 0, Abstain: 0.**
- d. Language Courses as GO Courses. [Proposal: CACS-EML-2020-01]
 - Dr. Lang reported that all Language courses at ORU have had a strong intercultural component for the last few years. Dr. Farnsworth reported to Dr. Lang that language courses should be approved for GO-course recognition and the General Education Committee agreed with Dr. Farnsworth's comment based on the application of the GO-course rubric to each of the Language courses.
 - Dr. Ellis motioned, Dr. Huntley seconded. **Vote: Y: 17, N: 0, Abstain: 0.**
- e. GEN Activity Course: HPE 006 – Indoor Cycling [Proposal: COSE-2020-57]
 - Dr. Lang reported that the proposed new course titled Indoor Cycling would be taught by Dr. Hudgens and that this new HPE course would not require any additional equipment.
 - Professor Osborne motioned, Dr. Weed seconded: **Vote: Y: 17, N: 0, Abstain: 0.**

ACTION: None

CLOSED

5. **TOPIC:** AA Degree – Dr. Kathaleen Reid-Martinez

DISCUSSION: Dr. Reid-Martinez reminded the Academic Council that the AA degree must be discussed thoroughly in each College before the Academic Council will vote. For any new level of degree to be offered, the degree would be voted on by Academic Council, the University Faculty, the President and the Board of Trustees. In the case of the AA degree, the University Planning Committee has asked for a White Paper on this topic to be presented to them in Spring 2021. As this suggests, the Academic Council is working on the concept of the AA degree at two levels: 1) the desire of two colleges to put in place an AA degree and 2) providing a White paper to the University Planning Committee (UPC). The UPC will decide whether or not to advance their discussion and

the White Paper to the Board of Trustees. The January 2021 Academic Council agenda will include a presentation of the White Paper so that the Council can provide any feedback to those who write the paper. Note that the final decision about AA degrees is made by the Board of Trustees. Colleges were asked to share their goals for having an AA degree (i.e., rationale/philosophy and purpose). Dr. Jay Gary reported that a White Paper with PowerPoint was created for an Online AA degree and sent to Dr. Reid-Martinez by October 1. Additionally, clarification was given regarding the AA degree and its impact on graduation rates. A new committee will take the work of the last one on the AA degree and expand it to include ORU data and other issues on data reporting to external entities. Anna Vaughn College of Nursing and the College of Education asked that the other colleges represent them on the new committee. Thus, the committee will be composed of the following members:

College of Theology and Ministry

Dr. Ma and/or Dr. Buker, Dean and/or Associate Dean
Dr. Foster

College of Business

Dr. Huntley, Dean
One faculty member of the dean's choosing

College of Arts and Cultural Studies

Dr. Ellis, Dean
One faculty member of the dean's choosing

Academic Excellence and Institutional Effectiveness and College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Weed, Assistant to Provost for Academic Excellence and Institutional Effectiveness
One staff member from Institutional Research
One faculty member of the dean's choosing

General Education Committee

Dr. Lang, Chair

ACTION: Dr. Reid-Martinez requested that the above Committee continue the work on the White Paper, which they will presented to the Academic Council in the November and January 2021 meeting.

OPEN

5. **TOPIC:** Update from the Registrar's Office – Dr. Connie Sjoberg

DISCUSSION:

- a. Spring 2021 Enrollment begins 10/19/20.
- b. 2021-22 Degree Plan Sheets using the new template are due to the Registrar (registrar@oru.edu) by November 13, 2020. Degree plan sheets must include all approved CCP changes. Note that if any of these changes impact other majors, please communicate those changes to the respective department.
- c. Final Grades are due to Vision Tuesday, December 1st @ 11:59 pm.

ACTION: None

CLOSED

6. **TOPIC:** Announcements

DISCUSSION: None

ACTION: None

CLOSED

The Academic Council meeting adjourned at approximately 12:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Nelson, Ph.D., Academic Council Secretary