

**ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL MINUTES**

**April 11, 2022**

**11:00 a.m. to 12:23 p.m.**

**GC 3114**

**Chair:** Dr. Reid-Martinez

**Voting members in attendance:** Kim Boyd, Bill Buker, Bill Crawford, Curtis Ellis, Chris Foster, Cristi Freudenrich, Jay Gary, Janet George, Elena Gregg, Rebecca Gunn, Hallett Hullinger, Julie Huntley, Jane Malcolm, Hal Reed, Norah Swiney, Kenneth Weed

**Voting members on Zoom:** Dean Prentice, Wonsuk Ma

**Voting members not in attendance:** Brenna Bohatec

**Supporting guests:** Connie Sjoberg, Christine Welden (Zoom), Kyle Jones, Andrew Lang

**1. TOPIC:** Opening

Dr. Kathleen Reid-Martinez opened with prayer.

**2. TOPIC:** Approval of March 21, 2022, Meeting Minutes.

**DISCUSSION:** Members received copies of the minutes via email. Dr. Weed motioned, and Dr. Freudenrich seconded to accept the Minutes. The Minutes were unanimously accepted by the Academic Council.

**ACTION:** None.

**CLOSED**

**3. TOPIC:** General Education Curriculum Committee Discussion on General Education Outcomes

**DISCUSSION:** Dr. Lang notified Academic Council that the new General Education outcomes discussion will be postponed and discussed during the first Fall 2022 meeting. Dr. Lang also presented the following new course and course substitution, which were approved at the General Education Curriculum Committee meeting on April 6. A friendly amendment to the GEN 115 syllabus was made to include the correct Academic Mission and Outcomes, per the Faculty and Staff Handbook, and to remove “taglines” of the five University learning outcomes. Subsequently, Academic Council voted on accepting GEN 115 as well as accepting GEN 115 as a course substitution for GEN 114.

CACS-2022-01. New Course: GEN 115 – Whole Leader Foundations.

Dr. Gregg motioned, Dr. Reed seconded. **Vote:** Y: 15, N: 0, Abstain: 0

CACS-2022-02. Contingent. Course Substitution: GEN 115 Whole Leader Foundations as a substitute for GEN 114 Online Learning Strategies.

Dr. Weed motioned, Dr. Buker seconded. **Vote:** Y: 15, N: 0, Abstain: 0

**ACTION:** Dr. Gary will make the friendly amendments to the GEN 115 syllabus before submitting it to the Provost for a signature.

**CLOSED**

4. **TOPIC:** 2023-2024 Academic Calendar Discussion and Vote

**DISCUSSION:** During faculty College meetings on April 4, each College discussed the 2023-2024 Academic Calendar based upon the three options presented at the March Academic Council meeting.

The three options voted on in the Colleges with their respective votes were:

- (1) 15-week, 60-minute MWF classes, 7:15 AM start time, 12:00 - 1:30 PM lunch
  - **83 faculty in favor**
- (2) 16-week, 60-minute MWF classes, 7:15 AM start time, 12:00 - 1:30 PM lunch
  - **19 faculty in favor**
- (3) 16-week, 55-minute MWF classes, 7:30 AM start time, 12:00 - 1:15 PM lunch, incorporates an additional class period on Monday, Wednesday and Friday
  - **29 faculty in favor**

Notably, 8 faculty abstained.

Some faculty believed that a vote should be taken between a 15-week and 16-week semester (Option 1 and 3). This suggestion may be raised by any faculty at the University Faculty meeting.

The Athletic Department raised a concern that a 15-week semester would impact their budget as they would incur extra expenses related to feeding and housing athletes outside of the academic year. The Provost responded to this budget challenge by stating the 15-week semester would be advantageous for the overall University budget.

**ACTION:** Dr. Reid-Martinez will present the total votes from every College to the President before a vote is taken at the University Faculty Meeting on April 25, 2022.

**CLOSED**

5. **TOPIC:** Updates from the Office of the Registrar

**DISCUSSION:** Dr. Sjoberg reported that 924 applications to graduate have been submitted, making up 911 graduates. Additionally, 164 students applied to graduate in August after finishing coursework over the summer. Between December 2021 and March 2022, 148 degrees have been awarded. Lastly, DegreeWorks Student Planner is being prepared to launch and 10 groups on campus have been trained on DegreeWorks so far this Spring. Over the summer, staff will have updated DegreeWorks training and student training will be done this summer through Marketing.

After a brief discussion about graduation rates, the Provost requested that the Registrar's office update the Academic Council in Fall 2022 regarding graduation rates among students at the 4-year, 6-year and 8-year mark.

**ACTION:** A report from the Registrar's Office to the Academic Council in the Fall 2022 semester should be made regarding the challenges and issues of graduation rates and what the University is doing to close that gap.

**OPEN**

The Academic Council meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Nelson, Ph.D., Academic Council Secretary