

**ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL MINUTES**

November 20, 2023

11:04 – 11:46 AM in GC 4114

Chair: Dr. Reid-Martinez

Voting members in attendance: Rebecca Attah, Chris Brown, Chris Foster, Jay Gary, Janet George, Mark Hall, Julie Huntley, Jared Johnston, Ruby Libertus, Dean Prentice, Kenneth Weed, Stephen Wheat, Amanda Wilson, Jan Woerner

Voting members on Zoom: Audrey Thompson

Voting members not in attendance: Bill Buker, Dave Crowell, Curtis Ellis, Adrian Hinkle, Jamie Kitchens

Supporting guests: Kyle Jones, Andy Lang, Jonathan Weed, Christine Welden

1. **TOPIC:** Opening

Dr. Kathleen Reid-Martinez opened with prayer.

2. **TOPIC:** Approval of October 23, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

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

ACTION: None.

CLOSED

3. **TOPIC:** Update from the General Education Curriculum Committee – Dr. Andy Lang

DISCUSSION: Dr. Lang presented the following items from the previous General Education Curriculum Committee's meeting:

- New GEN Special Topics Courses (GEN 368 and GEN 468) unanimously passed the General Education Curriculum Committee's acceptance as a GEN Special Topics course. These will be housed in the Department of English and Modern Languages. . (Note: All colleges may use these course listings for General Education special topics. After college approvals, the proposed topic is reviewed by the General Education Committee to ensure its fit and purpose as a General Education course.)
 - a. A vote was taken to accept these two courses. Dr. Gary motioned; Dr. Attah seconded.
Vote: Y: 15, N: 0, Abstain: 0
 - b. Renaming of COM 346 and GEN 346 (from "Business & Professional Speech" to "Corporate & career Communication"). Dr. Gary motioned; Dr. Huntley seconded.
Vote: Y: 15, N: 0, Abstain: 0
 - c. New Scaffolded Interdisciplinary Course (SIC): HIS/GEN 309 – History of Apologetics. Dr. Gary motioned; Dr. Huntley seconded.

Vote: Y: 14, N: 1, Abstain: 0

- d. Updated Catalog wording regarding exemption to the foreign language requirement for speakers of languages other than English. The updated ORU Catalog states, "However, those who can demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English may petition for a waiver from the foreign language requirement. The foreign language waiver exempts the student from the course(s) but does not contribute credit hours towards the student's degree." Dr. Wheat motioned, and Dr. Johnston seconded.

Vote: Y: 15, N: 0, Abstain: 0

- e. Cross-list GEN 344 with THE 404 – C.S. Lewis: His Life and His Legacy. Dr. Libertus motioned; Dr. Prentice seconded.

Vote: Y: 15, N: 0, Abstain: 0

ACTION: Dr. Foster will engage in a conversation with college faculty members about the "History of Apologetics" course. Subsequently, he will communicate with the Academic Council and/or the General Education Curriculum Committee about the potential of developing a specific SIC Apologetics course. Additionally, Dr. Reid-Martinez will inquire with the International Student Center office about how to best communicate with international students regarding the foreign language requirement. Lastly, the Provost Office will explore the challenges affecting team-taught 400-level General Education courses.

OPEN

4. Updates from the Registrar's Office – Christine Welden

DISCUSSION: Christine Welden shared the following information and dates:

- a. Student Opinion Surveys open 11/20/23.
- b. Deadline to apply to Graduate for Dec '23, May '24, Aug '24 is December 1, 2023. Students should visit: www.oru.edu/commencement
- c. DegreeWorks Training for Educational Degree Plan Templates is scheduled for 12/11/23 @ 11:00 a.m. in the Computer Labs or via Zoom.
- d. Educational Degree Plan Templates in DegreeWorks are due 12/15/23.
- e. Main Term Fall Grades are due no later than 12/13/23 @ 7:59 a.m. and are open 11/27/23 for submission.

ACTION: None

CLOSED

The Academic Council meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Nelson, Ph.D., Academic Council Secretary