

**ORU Faculty Senate
Minutes of 11/21/11 Meeting
03:45 pm in GC 4112**

In Attendance:

BEH SCI—	ENG/MOD LANG—Lenore Mullican, William Epperson
BUS—Marshal Wright	ENGIN/COMP/PHYS/MAT—
EDU—Tim Norton (Grad)	DEANS—Wendy Shirk, Steve Greene, Kim Boyd, Hal Reed (for Dominic Halsmer), Tom Mathew
Linda Dunham (UG)	PROVOST – Ralph Fagin
HIS/HUM/GOV—Felipe Ornelas	VPAA—Debbie Sowell
HPE/REC—	INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH – Cal Easterling
LRC—Sally Shelton, Dana Higeons	ATH—Terry Unruh
MUS—	UNIV TECH EDITOR—Ken Weed
NUR—Cheryl Swanson	COORD GEN ED—Mark Hall
DIST LRNG—Gweth Holzmann	SENATE COMMITTEE CHAIRS—Even Culp
THE—James Norwood, Trevor Grizzle, Ed Decker (Grad), Sam Thorpe (UG)	REGISTRAR –David Fulmer
BIO/CHEM— Rachel Budavich	
COM/ARTS/MEDIA—Agena Farmer	

1. President of the Faculty Senate Dr Tim Norton called the meeting to order and Faculty Senate Vice-President Dr Samuel Thorpe opened in prayer.

2. Several proposals and recommendations were presented to the Senate.

Proposal 1 from the Faculty Development Committee:

To discontinue the Teacher Excellence Program for promotion, effective February 1, 2012. The three individuals currently in the Teacher Excellence Program may continue to complete their work in order to be considered for promotion to the rank of assistant professor.

The first proposal, to discontinue the Teacher Excellence Program for promotion, required a vote of the body. In the discussion prior to the vote, it was suggested that perhaps the program was unnecessary since certain requirements for promotion have been approved by the Board of Trustees. Responses focused on the benefits of the program for the development of good teacher, not just achievement of advanced degrees. The need for ORU to develop our academic excellence was also suggested as a reason to continue the program. The vote to discontinue failed to pass (YES=5; NO=13). The issue was referred back to committee for input from members of the faculty.

3. The second proposal was a revision of the ORU catalog for 2012-2013, that emphasized in stronger language the intention of the faculty to reduce the number of incomplete grades given in any one semester. Discussion clarified that this wording would not necessarily affect the present policy of attendance at graduation. A suggestion was made to change some wording in the statement to include graduate students. This suggestion was passed by voice vote. Another suggestion requested that the term “catastrophic” be removed from the statement. This suggestion failed by voice vote. The entire revision was voted unanimously to be referred to the faculty for consideration.

Current Reading of 2010-2011 ORU Catalog

Incompletes

The grade of “I” is given for work that is incomplete at the time grades are given. It is given only after the instructor and the department chair or college dean approve a petition submitted by the student that his or her work is incomplete for good cause. It is the responsibility of the student to make up any

incomplete work and ask the instructor to submit a grade change to the registrar. If this is not done in the subsequent semester, the incomplete will be changed to an "F." Graduating seniors must make up any incomplete work by March 1 to remain eligible for commencement participation.

Extension of Incompletes

The grade of "E" is given for work that remains incomplete longer than the one semester allowed to make up incomplete work. It is given only after the student establishes with the instructor and the department chair or college dean, by written permission, that his or her work remains incomplete for good cause. It is the responsibility of the student to make up any incomplete work and ask the instructor to submit a grade change to the registrar. If this is not done within the second semester following enrollment in the course, the extended incomplete will convert to an "F."

Proposed Revision for 2012-2013 ORU Catalog (Revisions italicized)

Incompletes

On rare occasions, the grade of "I" may be given for work that is incomplete at the time grades are given. It is given only after the instructor and the department chair or college dean approve a petition submitted by the student that his or her work is incomplete for good cause. Good cause typically consists of a catastrophic event in which the student is prevented from completing the course requirements. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate the petition, make up any incomplete work and ask the instructor to submit a grade change to the registrar. If the work is not completed by the end of the subsequent semester, the incomplete will automatically convert to an "F." For graduating seniors, the degree will be awarded in the term that the student completes his or her course work, not the final term of enrollment.

Extension of Incompletes

On rare occasions, the grade of "E" may be given for work that remains incomplete longer than the one semester allowed to make up incomplete work. It is given only after the student establishes with the instructor and the department chair or college dean, by written permission, that his or her work remains incomplete for good cause. Good cause typically consists of a catastrophic event in which the student is prevented from completing the course requirements. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate this process, make up any incomplete work and ask the instructor to submit a grade change to the registrar. If the work is not completed by the end of the second semester following enrollment in the course, the extended incomplete will automatically convert to an "F." For graduating seniors, the degree will be awarded in the term that the student completes his or her course work, not the final term of enrollment.

4. **Proposal 3: To drop the policy that allows a student to change the B.A. to a B.S. or a B.S. to a B.A. degree offered by the major department.**

This policy will eliminate the paragraph on page 27 of the Catalog:

The bachelor of arts curriculum may be redesigned into a bachelor of science degree in any major by including two additional courses in mathematics and/or laboratory science in place of the modern foreign language requirement as determined by the major department. A bachelor of science curriculum may be redesigned into a bachelor of arts degree in any major by including two modern language courses, reaching a proficiency of at least the 203 level. In each case, a Petition for Policy Exception must be submitted.

Proposal number three requests that the policy that allows students to change their degree plans from BA to BS or vice versa be eliminated from university policy. Behavioral Science and Theology voiced disapproval of the proposal for the benefit of pre-med and/or transfer students, and those students who have some legitimate incapability to learn languages. Suggestions were made that such adjustments to a degree should be made either by petition for policy exception or by individual college policy. Another suggestion would require each department to publish in the ORU catalog requirements for both BA and BS degrees. The Senate voted to bring the issue to the faculty for decision.

5. Recommendation 4: That the Faculty Senate request the Honors Committee to reconsider the policy of allowing only one outstanding senior paper to be displayed by each department.

The fourth proposal was a recommendation that the Honors Council reconsider its decision to allow only one outstanding senior paper per department. The impetus for the recommendation was the opportunity to honor good students for their outstanding work, but the issue is a logistical problem of trying to hold an event that honors 64+ senior papers. The VPAA office hosts the event and the costs and resources available to do so are beyond the capacity of that office. It was also mentioned that such a decision is an administrative one that is not considered one to bring to a faculty vote. The vote to accept this recommendation failed.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 05:00 pm.