FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING

**3:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 10, 2012**

# Browsing Room, Edmon Low Library

**AGENDA:**

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of the March 13, 2012 Minutes

3. Approval of Agenda

4. President Hargis – Remarks and Comments

5. Special Report:

A. Kerry Alexander/Dr. Trevor Richardson – Remember the 10

6. Report of Status of Faculty Council Recommendations:

Provost Sternberg, and/or Vice Presidents

7. Reports of Standing Committees:

a. Academic Standards and Policies: Ed Harris – Update

Recommendation: OSU Academic Regulation 3.4: General Education Requirements\*

b. Athletics: Steve Damron – No Report

c. Budget: Rodney Holcomb – No Report

d. Campus Facilities, Safety, and Security: Robert Emerson – No Report

e. Faculty: Shelia Kennison – Update

f. Long-Range Planning and Information Technology: Nick Materer – Update

g. Research: Jim Smay – No Report

h. Retirement & Fringe Benefits: Stephen Clarke – No Report

1. Rules and Procedures: Robert Avakian – Update

j. Student Affairs and Learning Resources: Bob Miller – No Report

8. Reports of Liaison Representatives

9. Old Business

10. New Business – Spires of Excellence Report, OSU Strategic Plan

11. Adjournment

*Refreshments will be served at 2:45 p.m.*

*\*Attached*

**Amended by Passed Failed**

**Recommendation No.**   12-04-01-ASP 1.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Moved by:**    ASP Committee 2.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Seconded by:**  3.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Passed**         **Tabled**         **Failed**  4.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Title:**        **OSU Academic Regulation 3.4: General Education Requirements**

**The Faculty Council Recommends to President Hargis that:** The OSU Academic Regulation 3.4: General Education Requirements be changed as follows:

Delete the “lower-division restriction” portion of Academic Regulation 3.4. This restriction, which was added by OSU and is not part of State Regents’ (OSRHE) policy, specifies that, for OSU undergraduate degrees, at least one course in each of four general education areas (A, H, N, S) must come from the approved general education *lower-division* course list.

**Rationale:**

The “lower-division restriction” portion of this regulation first appeared in the OSU Catalog in 1991-92, and it was added to CASNR degree sheets in 1992-93, to COHS degree sheets in 1996-97, and to COE degree sheets in 1997-98. It is not reflected in degree sheets from CAS, SSB, and CEAT. This restriction is not required by OSHRE policy and is not uniformly enforced by all Colleges during the graduation clearance process. Preliminary discussions with College representatives and the Office of the Registrar have failed to discover a current-day compelling purpose for this restriction.

**OSU Academic Regulation 3.4**

**General Education Requirements**. Although the University has a general education program, each college determines and publishes the general education requirements for its degree programs. College requirements may exceed the minima for general education established by the University, which are 40 semester credit hours (exclusive of physical education activity courses by OSRHE policy):

1. six semester credit hours of English composition;
2. three semester credit hours of American history (HIST 1103 or equivalent), and three semester credit hours of American government (POLS 1113);
3. at least six semester credit hours in each of the approved general education designated areas of Analytical and Quantitative Thought (A), Humanities (H), Natural Sciences (N), and Social and Behavioral Sciences (S) (~~at least one course in each of these four areas must come from the approved general education lower-division course list, and~~ at least three hours of Analytical and Quantitative Thought (A) must be earned in a general education Math course);
4. at least one course designated as International Dimension and one course in Scientific Investigation and, beginning in Fall 2008, one Diversity course.

Substitution of general education courses is allowed when background for the major demands greater depth in an area in which a general education requirement is stated. Only in the Analytical and Quantitative Thought (A) and Natural Sciences (N) areas is substitution of the more advanced lower-division course permitted. Such a substitution requires the recommendation of the student's academic adviser and dean and the approval of the Office of Academic Affairs.

Courses used to fulfill general education requirements are identified by code letters that appear preceding the course titles listed in the back of the *Catalog* and in the class schedule. The code letters designate the general education category for which the course may be used:

A Analytical and Quantitative Thought  
D Diversity  
H Humanities  
I International Dimension  
L Scientific Investigation  
N Natural Sciences  
S Social and Behavioral Sciences

General education courses are also identified in the Student Information System (SIS) and on the Internet site maintained by the Office of the Registrar at [registrar.okstate.edu](http://registrar.okstate.edu/).

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education require computer science proficiency prior to graduation. This requirement could be met by:

1. successfully completing a high school computer science course that meets State Regents' high school curricular requirements;
2. satisfying an institution's computer proficiency assessment; or
3. successfully completing college-level course work that the institution designates.

The method by which a student demonstrates computer science proficiency at OSU varies by major. This requirement does not increase the number of courses required to earn a degree. The use of computers is an integral part of every degree program; hence a student demonstrates proficiency by satisfactorily completing degree requirements.

Related OSRHE Policy

**3.14.5 Standards for Awarding Baccalaureate Degrees**

The baccalaureate degree is comprised of three separate parts: general education, specialized education, and elective elements. In a typical program, the three parts will be approximately equal in length, which means that about one-third of the student credit hours required for the degree will be devoted to each of the three parts or segments. In a traditional baccalaureate degree program, the part devoted to general education will predominate, whereas in a professional program, specialized courses will consume a larger share of the total hours required for the degree.

A. General Education Core

The completion of a basic general education core of a minimum of 40 semester credit hours shall include the following (Note: this 37 basic general education core is also required for the Arts and Science Associate degrees):

1. English Composition 6 hours
2. U.S. History and U.S. Government 6 hours (see Section 3.14.7)
3. Science 6 hours (One course must be a laboratory science)
4. Humanities 6 hours (Chosen from nonperformance courses defined as humanities by the institution granting the degree)
5. Mathematics 3 hours
6. At least one course from the following areas: Psychology, social sciences, foreign languages, fine arts (art, music, drama) 3 hours
7. Additional liberal arts and sciences courses as needed to meet the minimum total of 40 credit hours required in this policy.

A discussion of the framework for the development of the general education curriculum appears later in this policy.

Courses required for the general education program are not necessarily synonymous or mutually exclusive with the liberal arts and sciences. An institution may determine the content and distribution of courses within the bounds of these guidelines and may adopt such additional requirements (e.g., foreign language competence for the BA). Such additional degree requirements must be approved by the State Regents and published in the official catalog of the institution. Credits earned consistent with the State Regents' *Credit for Extrainstitutional Learning Policy*, may be used to satisfy general education requirements.

**Discussion/Approval Record Date**

1. General Education Advisory Council Approved February 13, 2012
2. Student Academic Services Directors Approved February 15, 2012
3. Instruction Council Approved March 9, 2012
4. Academic Standards and Policies Committee Approved March 27, 2012
5. Faculty Council
6. Council of Deans
7. Provost