

**Academic Council**  
**December 17, 2020**  
**Zoom**  
**2:00 - 3:30 pm**

**Attendees:** See Roster

The Provost reviewed the Virtual Meeting rules of engagement with members.

**Approval of November 19, 2020 Minutes:** Dr. Elizabeth Beavers made a motion to approve the November 19, 2020 Academic Council minutes which was seconded by Dr. Vivien McClendon. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**A. Duolingo Proposal**

Global In guests, Dr. Gigi Do and Dr. Johna McClendon shared the proposal with the committee. They provided a summary stating that the Office of International Admissions and Programs is proposing to utilize the English Proficiency Exam Duolingo as an additional option for international students to submit English Proficiency for the purpose of Admissions. Duolingo is a web-based, digital language proficiency assessment exam administered to international students around the world. The Duolingo minimum score requirement will be a score of 105 which is the equivalent to a TOEFL IBT with score of 79. Duolingo English tests are valid for 2 years. UH and UHV currently utilize the exam for meeting the English Requirement. Course catalog will be updated along with the UHCL website with requirements and date specifics (attached).

Dr. Rebecca Huss-Keeler, recommended update in second paragraph to show "Upon approval, the course catalog (page 89) verbiage will indicate **one of the following will be submitted** to satisfy by Test Results:" The bolded words are the additions.

*Dr. Elizabeth Beavers made a motion to approve which was seconded by Dr. Paul Withey. The policy was unanimously approved.*

**B. Open Discussion**

Dr. Elizabeth Beavers opened a discussion on delineating the differences between an academic policy vs. endorsed statement (i.e.: diversity and inclusion statement for syllabi) vs. guideline (ie: travel abroad) vs. catalog entry (i.e.: new program). In recent communications with the Policy Management office the need for clarity was brought to attention. In reviewing AAUP and our internal policy, results are vague. There is a critical need to distinguish academic policies from other items going through shared governance. She requested members consider and make note of how this can be articulated. The current UHCL policy on policies is being revised and will require updating the criteria for clarity in the shared governance process.

Next meeting: January 21, 2020

ACADEMIC COUNCIL 2020-2021

DATE: 12-17-20

Title	Member	Alternate
Snr V.P. for Academic Affairs & Provost (Chair)	Steven Berberich ✓	None
AVP - Academic Affairs	Kathryn Matthew ✓	Pat Cuchens
Interim AVP - Enrollment Management	Charlotte Tullos	Bryan Heard
AVP - Student Success and Initiatives	Tim Richardson ✓	Maria Ramos
VP - Student Affairs	Aaron Hart	David Rachita
Council of Professors	Jeff Mountain ✓	James Dabney
Dean - COB	Ed Waller ✓	Dorothy Kirkman
Interim Dean - HSH	Samuel Gladden ✓	Christal Seahorn ✓
Dean - CSE	Miguel Gonzalez ✓	David Garrison
Dean - COE	Joan Pedro ✓	Felix Simieou
Director - Library & Learning Resources	Vivienne McClendon ✓	Chloris Yue
FSEC - Senator At Large (COB)	Faiza Zalila	
FSEC - Chair, Budget & Facilities (CSE)	Brian Stephens ✓	
FSEC - Chair, Curriculum (COE)	Becky Huss-Keeler ✓	
FSEC - Chair, Faculty Life (COE & HSH)	✓ Roberta Raymond - COE (fall) Sara Costello-HSH (spring)	
FSEC - Chair, Teaching & Research (COB)	Randall Xu ✓	
FSEC - Past President (HSH)	Heather Kanenberg ✓	
FSEC - President (COE)	Elizabeth Beavers ✓	
FSEC - President-Elect (CSE)	Paul Withey ✓	
<b>Charise Armstrong x 3004</b>	60% Quorum	

✓ Johna McClendon guest  
 ✓ Gigi Do