IEC meeting minutes  
January 20, 2017

Present: Gareth Barkin, Alva Butcher, Carmen Eyssautier, Lea Fortmann, Eowyn Greeno, Diane Kelley (chair), Kriszta Kotsis, John Lear, Roy Robinson, Nicholai Sekino

The meeting was called to order at 11am.

Robinson mentioned the study abroad application deadline was January 31.

Fortmann reported on comments from the Faculty Senate on revised charges. Minor concerns regarding the order of revised charges were discussed.

Kelley brought up the scheduling of future IEC meetings; the Committee decided to stay with Fridays at 11am, every other week.

Robinson reported on the Study Abroad Working Group’s (SAWG) recent progress. He noted the Cabinet had approved the current PacRim Program students to keep their full aid packages, including merit aid, on a trial basis. The Committee discussed the broader goal of the SAWG to change the policy for study abroad financial aid for all semester-long programs. Robinson discussed the ongoing concerns the SAWG had run into regarding the potential shift in financial policy. These included the potential for increasing numbers of students going abroad and how that might affect the budget, as well as the place of summer programs in the current financial model. SAWG members Barkin and Lear discussed their interviews and meeting with Northwest peer institutions, and the varying financial and pedagogical approaches these institutions have toward study abroad. Willamette’s policy of using the Intercultural Development Inventory to measure effectiveness of their programs and interventions was discussed, as well as Lewis & Clark University’s development of in-house programs. The Committee discussed possible collaborations with Lewis & Clark on their in-house programs, and the administrative support that would be required for such ventures.

Kelley then moved the discussion to remaining charges and sub-committee work.

Charge 3: In collaboration with the Committee on Diversity and the Student Life Committee, develop recommendations for how Puget Sound can best recruit, welcome and support international students.

Greeno discussed her sub-committee’s work on international student recruitment, conversations with Admissions staff, and the desire to take advantage of alumni living abroad. Kelley described the sub-committee’s efforts to connect with other campus groups, as per the charge, and the active effort to focus on alumni as well as communicating with current international students. Kukreja suggested connecting with Parent Relations office to draw on their relationships with alumni and donors.
Charge 1b: With respect to the issue of sexual violence: Finalize and distribute the sexual violence crisis response documents drafted last year.

Kotsis discussed her sub-committee’s progress on an informational and contact card related to sexual violence that will be distributed to Puget Sound students studying abroad, which was described as nearly complete. The Committee discussed the role of the charge moving forward, and its integration into the review process for new and existing programs. It was suggested that student safety and wellbeing be integrated into the broader set of evaluation criteria being developed, and/or the petition form for new programs.

Standing Charge 1: Establish criteria and assessment procedures for international education programs.

Finally, the committee discussed the new criteria for reviewing programs, and the document that was developed. It was suggested it be updated with language related to sexual violence and/or general wellbeing. The Committee agreed to develop the document such that it could also be integrated into the petition/application process for new programs, and be featured prominently on the International Programs website.

Robinson suggested that there would likely be two new faculty-led study abroad programs coming in for review by the IEC soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50am

Respectfully submitted by Gareth Barkin