

IEC Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2016, Misner Room, Collins Library

Present:

Gareth Barkin, Alva Butcher, Debbie C Chee, Carmen Eyssautier, Lea Fortmann, Eowyn L Greeno, Diane D Kelley, Kriszta Kotsis, Sunil Kukreja, John R Lear, Zoe D Scott, Roy Robinson, Mike Z Spivey, Nicholai J Sekino.

Fortmann called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

Approval of minutes:

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with minor modifications.

Announcements:

Kelley reported that the new display focused on study abroad experiences will be installed shortly (possibly next week) in the Doug Edwards Case on the first floor of Wyatt Hall.

Fortmann noted that Kathryn Adler will reapply for study abroad next year.

Old Business:

Follow-up on Lotus Perry's application to add programs in China and Taiwan to replace current programs

Following Robinson's report that Lotus Perry decided to keep all CET programs but eliminate the SIT program in Yunnan from those she proposed, discussion ensued. It was noted that the SIT program in Yunnan seems to offer a unique experience while the Shanghai program appears more redundant. Robinson reported that Perry emphasized that the Shanghai and Beijing programs are likely to attract students; the Shanghai program will probably attract students interested in business while the program in Beijing will be more appealing to students interested in culture. The Harbin program has intense Chinese which makes it unique and offers a different location than Beijing or Shanghai. Committee members noted that the SIT program is language intensive, has a research component, and a home stay, and a focus on minority cultures in China, which are all aspects that align with the criteria (still under development) that IEC would like to see in the study abroad programs that we offer. Therefore, committee members wondered why Perry would prefer to keep the CET programs over the SIT program in Yunnan.

All of the programs proposed by Perry offer options throughout the academic year and in the summer. The Shanghai summer program is eight weeks long and offers an internship. It was agreed that our approval of the programs extends to the summer programs.

Because Perry would like to begin recruiting students to these programs soon, it was decided that the committee approves the proposed programs on a temporary basis. However, once the criteria for reviewing and approving study abroad programs are established, it is possible that not all of the proposed programs will be retained.

Because the programs proposed by Perry include summer programs, discussion turned to summer programs in general. A question was asked about the application process for summer programs. Robinson stated that students apply for summer programs in the same way and go through the same application process as for programs during the academic year. There were questions about the impact of the summer programs on the OIP budget. Students don't pay UPS tuition when they attend a summer study abroad program, rather, they pay the program fee to UPS, but this payment goes into the general budget not the OIP budget. UPS pays the summer program provider not the student. It was also noted that students can't use financial aid for study abroad programs. A discussion about appropriate length of

summer programs ensued. Several committee members remember that there is a six week length requirement in place, but if the program is shorter than six weeks, departments can still approve it. It was noted that the six week length is in place because a certain amount of time is needed for immersion and acquiring cultural currency. However, it was also noted, that in the case of shorter but more intensive programs the impact could be just as effective as with a longer, less intensive program – in other words, the length of the program should not be the only criterion used when we evaluate the efficacy of a program. The committee decided to return to the discussion of summer programs at a later date.

Agenda Items:

- 1) Revision of current standing charges in the Bylaws in response to Charge no. 2 from the Faculty Senate:

The current standing charges are as follows:

1. Establish criteria and assessment procedures for international education programs.
2. Review and approve new and existing international education programs and program proposals, including programs led by University faculty.

The committee approved the following revisions to the standing charges in the Bylaws:

1. Maintain an institutionally sustainable number of international education programs that are consistent with, and that promote the goals and objectives of international education at Puget Sound, through the review of new and existing programs.
2. Establish and periodically review criteria and assessment procedures for evaluating international education programs.

It was noted that the SAWG and an IEC subcommittee are engaged in developing criteria to review study abroad programs consistently (the criteria are likely to be developed by the end of the year), and that these criteria will be based on clearly defined goals and learning outcomes. It was also agreed, that rather than "establishing" criteria each year as a standing charge, the role of the IEC is better suited for reviewing the established criteria as needed to make sure it continues to align with the goals and objectives of study abroad at Puget Sound.

The committee revised the second current charge to include language that incorporates the additional job of cutting redundant or underutilized programs by "maintaining a sustainable number" since a recurring charge to the IEC the past couple of years has been to "Continue to review the current list of study abroad programs and eliminate programs that do not provide something distinctive (e.g. language, discipline, or geography) or are expensive." We believe that this should be a standard part of the work of the IEC, so we have revised the standing charges to the committee to reflect this. Finally, the committee decided to reorder the charges.

- 2) Review of summer programs to add to our list of programs (AIT Budapest, Temple Rome, DIS Copenhagen) was postponed to the next meeting on Nov. 17.

Other Items:

- 1) SAWG Report

The two SAWG subcommittees are working on: 1) goals and objectives for study abroad programs; 2) collecting data from peer institutions related to summer abroad funding (considering how exactly other institutions fund study abroad programs and how they charge students). It was agreed that IEC does not

need a formal report from SAWG since three members of the IEC are working on SAWG, so they can keep the committee updated on the developments.

2) Further discussion

The chair reminded subcommittees to continue their work.

It was also noted that if SAWG completes the development of criteria for reviewing study abroad programs by late fall or early winter, then the IEC can begin using these criteria in reviewing and reducing the numbers of existing programs. It was also noted that we could probably use a preliminary list of criteria to begin work on reducing the number of current programs and that OIP could begin eliminating programs that have not been used in the past five years or have had very few participants. It was also noted that PeopleSoft will be useful in providing easily accessible information from 2013 on regarding the study abroad participation numbers.

There was a request to reschedule the Dec. 1 meeting because the Wyatt listening session with the president is scheduled at the same time and three members of the committee wish to participate in that event. It was agreed that we will reschedule the Dec. 1 meeting at our next meeting on Nov. 17.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kriszta Kotsis