

International Education Committee
09 October 2019

Attending: Gareth Barkin, Rokiatou Soumare, Karl Fields, Brett M Rogers, Matt Warning, Sheryl L Zylstra, Debbie C Chee, Roy Robinson, Hilary Robbeloth, Carmen Eyssautier, Sunil Kukreja

Announcements

- Social Change in Central America: Peace, Justice, and Community Engagement (through Augsburg). Visit on October 24.
- Karsten Fitz (Amer. Studies) coming from Passau. Including lecture, November 3-6.

Approval of minutes

- **ACTION:** Minutes of 2019-09-25 approved
- Discussion of process for keeping minutes via Google and approval of the minutes.
 - Once approved, minutes then need to be saved as PDF and sent to Jimmy McMichael (in Dean's office).

Discussion of petition to include History and Philosophy of Science Program at University College of London

- Committee discussed the process for evaluating petitions; there was clarification that this UCL program is **not** a faculty-led program
- There was discussion about whether this program could be done through providers, so that students do not need to find their own housing in London, etc.; this is not mentioned in petition.
- Discussion about *why* STS had selected the UCL program. Reasons include:
 - UCL has at least one faculty who works in STS and has connections with Puget Sound faculty.
 - A UPS student expressed interest in this particular program
 - UCL fits with our STS program in ways that other programs do not.
- Concern was expressed that the standard is usually higher for making such a selection
- SA office noted that students go to London typically if they can't articulate what they want to do, but SA office has sought to curtail that. There is a desire to avoid sending students to an expensive program without a clear focus or goal.
- Several questions arose, including:
 - Alternatives: Are there good programs in other countries? Why is UK so important?
 - UCL is best option because of STS faculty present and history of science and philosophy of science course offerings
 - Is this the best program in UK? Or anywhere?
 - This program is better in the longer run since it has STS program's endorsement
 - Cost: Do we want to add an expensive program?

- SA office noted that UCL (via IES) costs \$20,900, which is cheaper than attending (e.g.,) Trinity College = \$23,270. The difference is not much, but still something. SA office noted that if students go directly to a program instead of through the school, students save money, but there is notably more work for UPS SA office, especially if something goes wrong. And generally we never want students to look for own housing. (For example, UCL can't guarantee housing unless students go for a full year, hence the need for providers like IES.)
 - Adding Programs: Can we approve this program just for STS?
 - Possibly, but there is pressure to reduce the total number of programs offered by the University.
 - Concern was expressed that approving program just for STS would not yield any benefit since the program would be approved and oddly restricted to one major. There is no precedent for approving a study abroad program for only major / program.
 - Can this be approved once but not as ongoing?
 - Concern was expressed about setting precedent for similar one-time approvals.
 - Does STS have a record of sending STS students abroad?
 - Not for specifically STS study, although 8 STS students have gone abroad since 2016-17. Students studied in PacRim, Madrid, DIS, Australia, Traveling IHP program, Amsterdam. There is not one consistent theme.
 - Student Experience on-site: What relationship would UCL colleague have w students? Do students undertake 'immersive' experiences themselves or will experiences be guided?
 - Timeline: students want to apply in January for 2020-21
- Several committee members expressed a desire to get more information from STS in a revised application, stressing that IEC wants to work with STS to figure how best to move forward and in future comparable scenarios. IEC will ask STS to also include in the application third-party provider information.
- **SUGGESTED ACTION**: ask for revise and resubmit

Revisions to Questionnaire, Protocol for Proposals

- Discussion of UCL program also led to suggested revisions for the questionnaire, including:
 - Could the questionnaire include space for basic (historical, contextual) information about newer disciplines?
 - Could Question 1 include a question about programs that have also been considered (but not selected)?
 - Could the petition questions be better aligned with the new evaluation grid?
- The evaluation grid is available to committee members in the shared drive.

- New Procedure: Program proposals should be initially placed in the PROGRAM PROPOSALS folder on the Google Drive; once reviewed, proposals should be placed in an ARCHIVE folder on Google Drive and in the Program Evaluation Folder

Charges & Sub-Committee Assignments:

- **Charge 1B & 6. Workshop:** Roy (chair), Gareth and Brett
- **Charge 2. Evaluation criteria for reviewing sexual assault response:** Debbie (chair) Sara and Carmen
- **Charge 3: Develop resources to support retention of international students.** Committee: Karl (chair), Eowyn, Rokiatou, and Debbie
- **Charge 4. Waiting on curriculum and staff turnover in Admissions to settle down.** Gareth nevertheless happy to be on 4.
- **Charge 5: Retention of international students: Roy, Eowyn**

Discussion of Charge 5:

- What's the history? We have had international students leave. How can we be better prepared to meet their needs?
- There has been prior intent to talk to Admissions about new Welcome Center and have some signaling of international openness; needs to happen.

Other committee business:

- There was a reminder that, in accordance with by-laws, formal members of the committee should be chairs of sub-committees.
- What should IEC do about current lack of student representative? No solution has emerged so far.
 - It was suggested that IEC ask ASUPS for another student rep whose schedule is compatible with IEC since original rep was only appointed *after* committee had first meeting and chosen meeting time.
 - It was suggested that perhaps the original student appointee could be brought back to the committee during Spring 2020.
- Graduate study abroad opportunities: How might we discover ways for graduate students to study abroad, esp given time constraints in program?

Scandalously submitted by Brett Rogers

Minutes approved 23 October 2019