International Education Committee
21 April 2020

Attending: Gareth Barkin, Mariana Sanchez Castillo, Debbie C Chee, Carmen Eyssautier, Karl Fields, Eowyn Greeno, Sunil Kukreja, Hilary Robbeloth, Roy Robinson, Brett M Rogers, Rokiatou Soumaré, Matt Warning, Sheryl L Zylstra

Meeting called to order: 1:00 pm

Approval of minutes

- Since committee members are not in position to approve previous minutes, committee members will read the minutes posted on the Google Drive, then make any edits and state any objections (opt-out) before the end of Wednesday, April 22.

Announcements

- Debbie offered to share the letter that was sent to students about leaving campus, retrieving their possessions, etc. She also shared that international students who cannot get home due to COVID can stay in summer housing for $350.

- Roy announced that all summer programs have been cancelled, as well the fall portion of PacRim. CIEE has cancelled some programs, e.g., this fall's Ghana program, which 2 students were planning to attend. Some fall programs are considering starting the semester virtually with language courses, then shifting to in-person study later in the fall.

- Matt announced that, despite hearing many expressions of concern about how COVID may affect future attitudes towards study abroad, he was still having the regular number of conversations with students about the Peace Corps Prep program.

- Brett noted that Phi Beta Kappa had received no applications for the Campbell Study Abroad Award.

- There was brief discussion about the new immigration ban and whether it may impact student visas, but it was noted that student visas are different than immigrant visas

- Thanks to the persistence and advocacy of Roy and the IEC staff, UPS has reimbursed students for room and board with respect to study abroad (although not all programs did so).

Approval of Faculty-led study abroad program form:

- Brief comments were offered on the context for the form and its changes

- **MOTION** to approve the new form. The motion passed.

Approval of IEC AY 2019-2020 Final Report

- Brief comments were offered on the context for both the report and some language added to the standing charges

- Gareth reported that the Curriculum Committee (CC) had reached out to IEC, and that he sent them the draft of the new faculty-led study abroad form. Both CC and IEC are looking to create greater efficiency in evaluating courses that have a study abroad component. There was subsequent, robust discussion about the following:
    - Should the IEC deadline for new courses be March 1st or March 15?
    - Should the syllabus be submitted first to CC or IEC? Members raised the following questions and suggestions:
        - What is the most efficient sequence?
        - What are the limits of the IEC's purview? It was observed that the boundaries are a little unclear and that there is overlap between CC and IEC here.
        - Will CC be able to judge adequately a course proposal without prior review from IEC?
        - It was suggested that, if IEC reviews first, then IEC can forward not only recommendations to CC, but also possible insights to aid CC in evaluating the proposal; this may have the additional benefit of creating more dialogue back and forth between CC and IEC
        - It was suggested that there is a distinction between IEC (a) approving a course and (b) approving a course to run in a given year, such that it may be valuable to consider these two aspects of the process separately.
        - It was suggested that IEC first review applications, then forward them to CC for final approval. Arguments were also offered as to why the reverse order might be more effective.
        - There was some concern expressed to have a process that is best for efficiency and workload, especially given that CC manages a particularly heavy workload
        - It was suggested that IEC might think of the approval of courses in a manner comparable to IRB approval, and it was asked whether IRB approval was a prerequisite for other courses that go before CC. It was suggested that IEC look into this.
        - It was suggested that the IRB analogy may not be a productive analogy, since IRB is more comparable to approving a course to run in a given year and not to approving a course to be on the books. Even if CC gives final approval, IEC would still need to approve a course to run in a given year.
        - No final determination was made.

- **MOTION** to approve the final report, pending some minor revisions. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Statement of Appreciation

- Sunil proposed a statement of appreciation for IEC—Roy, Eowyn, and Carmen—for all of their hard work this year. There was much rejoicing.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.
Ultimately submitted by Brett M. Rogers