

**Meeting of the International Education Committee
January 24, 2011
Wyatt 226**

Committee members present: Gareth Barkin, Mark Harpring, Diane Kelley, Michael Johnson, Jill Nealey-Moore, Jan Moore, Don Share, Peter Wimberger

Michael called the meeting to order at 2:05.

Minutes from December 3, 2011 M/S/P

After reviewing schedules, a meeting time for the IEC this semester was set for every other Friday from 9-9:50. Meetings will occur on the following dates: 2/4, 2/18, 3/4, 3/25, 4/8, 4/22

Michael began our discussion of agenda items for this semester, working from the following list that he had distributed:

- 1. Create a strategy/framework for departments to develop a list of endorsed/recommended programs they feel are most supportive of their curriculum.**
- 2. Returning student response forms: Should they be sent to each student's academic advisor? Would this help them formulate the list of endorsed/recommended programs?**
- 3. Should we cap the number of approved study abroad students?**
 - If so, how is this determined?
 - What is the advantage/disadvantage for doing this?
- 4. What should be the IEC's role in helping faculty develop short-tem programs?**
- 5. What should/could be done to help students re-acclimate to campus life after returning from study abroad?**
 - Develop a returning student event to include student presentation and social opportunities for returning and perspective students. This could happen in the fall to help perspective students gain addition, personal accounts of particular programs of interests.
 - Form a sub-committee of students to work with Jan on developing the above program.

Regarding item #1: Department list of recommended abroad programs.

Jan reported that there are inaccuracies between what is on department websites and what programs are actually offered. Michael suggested having a list available that would address which abroad programs give credit for majors/minors. Peter suggested this could be housed on department websites and that maybe the IEC's responsibility should only be to facilitate this, not to do it ourselves. Gareth pointed out that departments, not us, would know what counted so we would have to go to them anyway. Discussion ensued. Don suggested that the list be housed on OIP website, and referred to by departments. Diane pointed out that it needs to be made clear that the credit transfer information is not a guarantee; what would be posted would be what

students have gotten credit for in the past, but that doesn't mean it will transfer the same way for future programs. Jan said that she can do a sort by major and program, but Kathleen Campbell knows about what kinds of credits transfer.

Regarding item #2: Returning student response forms.

Jan suggested that the IEC find out from departments if they want their student questionnaires and reviews of study abroad programs. She suggests that these required student reviews be automatically sent to Academic advisors.

Don suggested getting a list of majors currently studying abroad to each department, indicating where they are currently studying, not only a list of who comes back. Jan said she can send such a list to department chairs.

Jan brought up a dilemma regarding the preapproval process for study abroad. SIT doesn't accept any applications until April 15. But we have a deadline of February 15. The committee confirmed that we will continue the method of having a subcommittee look at all recommendations that are questionable. The faculty members of this subcommittee as chosen last semester are Don Share, Tanya Stambuk, Gareth Barkin and Mei Rose. Donn Marshall and Jan Moore will also sit on the subcommittee.

Regarding item #3: How to choose students for study abroad if are over budget?

Peter reminded us that the budget is not known until after students are accepted by study abroad programs. Maggie let us know last year that there is some "cush." We can't make any approach standard until a disaster strikes. Jan added that the BTF added \$70K to the Study abroad budget, so we are on the radar.

Regarding item #4: Development of short term study abroad programs. It was agreed that we should have a template to follow for faculty interested in running a short term abroad program - how to proceed, a flow chart, who to talk to about what etc. Don also suggested asking for some startup budget money from the administration and including in this appeal the idea that short term and summer programs are a way out of our financial problems. Should we address trying to have financial aid carry over to summer abroad programs? Another question would be financial compensation to faculty running these programs, which are very time consuming.

Regarding item #5: What about the incorporation of study abroad to classes and presentations etc when students return from abroad? Doing this in the fall is great PR, but should we make it more substantial? This item will stay on the agenda. Peter talked about a study abroad research presentation possibility - ie like the humanities or science presentations, but only for study abroad. He pointed out that we'd need money for poster printing - about \$20/poster. SIT students have to get their research projects approved by their departments when they come back. Michael suggested it could be competitive - or an award? Money? Discussion ensued. It was agreed that students would need to know about this before they left and that making it competitive might result in wheedling down the actual presentation to 6 or 12 students.

Two other items were suggested for the semester's agenda:

1. Diane and Mark will work on study abroad new program proposal forms.
2. Peter suggested the possibility of assessing the effect of the new financial structure for study abroad on students. We can get data about those going abroad, but how can we gather information from those who chose not to go?

Meeting ended at 3:02

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Kelley