

International Education Committee
23 October 2019

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

Announcements

- A member shared that the Puget Sound advertisement brochure for high schoolers doesn't include any information about our international programs. Another member remarked that IEC might be able to provide some attractive photographic material and narratives that could be of interest to Admission. This is particularly important given that the number one reason students come to Puget Sound is our study abroad programs.

Approval of minutes

- **ACTION:** Minutes of 2019-10-09 approved

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

- New information on the UCL program was provided: this would be the most closely connected program to STS, and it also has a greater variety of course offerings than others (better than, for instance, another program in the Netherlands). This would be high on the list of programs to which STS sends their students.
- Suggestion that this addition could create a strong mutually-supportive relationship with UCL. Potentially this could be a model for future winnowing down and selection of programs that are endorsed or preferred by academic departments (perhaps in the form of a "top five programs").
- A member suggested that having too many choices might actually be overwhelming to students, and counterproductive.
- A member asked about quality control mechanisms with regard to the UCL program, given that there is no guarantee that the students will work with known faculty; the answer was that courses at UCL will complement their department's curriculum and include several that would count as STS electives, even if students don't get to work with faculty known to Puget Sound faculty.
- It was observed that philosophy students would be interested in going to this program as well.
- A faculty member remarked that, in their department, the program their majors most commonly attend is complementary to their department's academic offerings (i.e. it offers courses that productively supplement their department's curriculum).
- It was suggested that faculty in the committee talk to their colleagues about the kind of programs that as departments they can encourage their students to go.
- **ACTION: the proposal is moved to a vote, and approved.**

Discussion of when to review programs on the approved list:

- It was agreed that the committee take on this task in the Spring.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Sheryl and Hilary need to be assigned to subcommittees. They will email the chairs of their preferred subcommittees.

- **Charge 2. Evaluation criteria for reviewing sexual assault response:** Chair (Debbie) informed that the subcommittee is meeting soon.
- **Workshop.** Discussion of potential workshop ideas: one possibility is to have half of the workshop lead by IEC members who explain how to best apply for their program, while in the other half other faculty who have applied in the past can talk about their experience and share the benefits of the programs for their students.

Discussion of the Major Advising Plans (MAPS)

- There is a whole range of ideas about how studies abroad work, and professors are not always up to speed with how the program functions, and this causes some difficulties (for instance, if a student is interested in attending a non-approved program).
- Three possible solutions were considered:
 - Presentation at a faculty meeting, so that the information reaches more faculty (as opposed to an emailed statement).
 - Meeting with department chairs.
 - Both give a brief reminder at a faculty meeting, so that it goes in the minutes, and have a meeting with dept. chairs.
- The choice depends a bit on how many things need to be communicated to the faculty.
- Important issue: a program needs to be approved before it can be suggested to students, since financial aid is provided only to those programs and that those programs will not give Puget Sound credit.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.

Cluelessly submitted by Sara Protasi