

International Education Committee

10 March 2020

Attending: Gareth Barkin, Debbie Chee, Karl Fields, Eowyn Greeno, Sunil Kukreja, Sara Protasi, Roy Robinson, Brett M Rogers, Rokiatou Soumare, Matt Warning, Sheryl Zylstra

The Committee Co-chairs convened the virtual meeting at 1:06pm (not for lack of trying to start at 1pm: committee members had to collectively figure out how to use Google Meet, and did so with relative aplomb)

1) **Minutes**

Due to the sudden shift of campus operations from in-person to remote operations, the committee agreed to defer approval of the minutes for the 25 February 2020 meeting until the next meeting.

2) **Announcements**

The Office of International Programs (OIP) noted that there's this coronavirus thing going on. OIP provided the following updates:

a) 4 UPS students have been recalled from Italy; 1 UPS student filed a special waiver to stay in Milan, but ended up returning to the U.S.

b) Holly Roberts' trip to Guatemala was cancelled the previous weekend. Guatemala is not allowing in people from infected places (i.e., the U.S.).

c) The Indonesia program is still on. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is only banning travel to places that are rated Level 3. Students and faculty cannot travel to Indonesia through the airport in South Korea airport. Both the programs in Indonesia and Greece are the only two end-of-spring programs, and both are still going.

d) There have been no official thoughts yet as to whether PacRim will take place in fall 2021

3) **Discussion of Petition by Max Huggins**

The committee received and reviewed the letter of clarification from Huggins as part of a petition to study abroad in the fall of sophomore year. The discussion included the following points:

— One committee member wondered whether there is in actuality an Education Minor requirement that must be completed junior year? Committee members were not sure that was accurate, and expressed need to confirm this detail.

- Concerns were expressed about whether a student studying in fall of sophomore year would feel sufficient connection to campus and have developed sufficient independence such that an early study abroad experience would be developmentally appropriate
- Several committee members noted that the argument in the statement of clarification was vague, self-contradictory, and not particularly compelling
- It was noted that the original petition stemmed from Huggins' desire not to miss out on spring programming in the Music Program
- OIP noted that the past two petitions of a similar kind have been approved
- OIP also noted that Huggins did not do an advising appointment or, at least, there are no notes of any meeting in OIP
- One committee member noted that Huggins is a mature person and good community member
- It was noted that, should IEC deny the petition, the committee is not denying Huggins the opportunity to study abroad, only the opportunity to do so twice
- **MOTION** to reject Huggins' petition was made and seconded
 - In the subsequent discussion, several committee members expressed discomfort with voting at this stage
 - **Motion was rescinded**
- **MOTION** to approve Huggins' petition pending (1) Huggins' meets with OIP and (2) OIP determines that it is appropriate to approve the petition. (In other words, IEC defers the final decision to OIP.)
 - **Motion passed unanimously**

4) Discussion of Proposal by Eric Orlin

The committee reviewed Orlin's proposal to create a short-term (two-week) faculty-led study abroad program in Rome.

- Committee members asked questions about the basic context for the proposal and the unit count (.25 units). Committee member Rogers, who is in the same department as Orlin and has prior knowledge of the proposal, provided context.

- It was suggested that, given the time, it might be best to defer this proposal to the next meeting.
- One committee member wondered which parts of these proposals were really within the purview of the faculty, such that IEC might only review the relevant parts.
- It was noted that Orlin plans to follow up with Sandra Braedt
- **ACTION:** Both the proposals of Eric Orlin and Andrew Gardner (also on the agenda) were tabled until the next meeting (24 March 2020)

It was moved, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting at 1:50pm.

Minutes recorded virtually and submitted pandemically by Brett M Rogers

Minutes approved 24 March 2020