

International Education Committee Minutes
September 21, 2011 9 a.m.

Committee members present: Jan Leuchtenberger, Rachel DeMotts, Matt Ingalls, Michael Johnson, Roy Robinson, Stephanie Noss, Bob Boyles, Sally Sprenger, John McCuistion, Mark Harpring,

1. The minutes from the September 9 meeting were approved
2. Meeting Notes: The International Programs Office (IPO) staff volunteered to take notes at the IEC meetings
3. Two issues brought up the IPO – Cairo Programs and Petitioning to Add Programs
 1. Cairo Programs – Currently on our website we list our program in Cairo, Egypt at the American University of Cairo as suspended. Apparently the program was suspended due to a US State Department Travel Warning for Egypt issued in the spring 2011. The Travel Warning has been downgraded to a Travel Alert. We have a student interested in attending the program in the Spring 2012. After discussion it was determined that since there is not a travel warning for Egypt the student can participate in the program in the Spring2012, but the student should also know that if a travel warning is issued again for Egypt the program will be suspended and she would no longer be allowed to participate in the program. It's important that she understand this before going to Egypt. Additionally, final approvals should be discussed and approved by Lisa Ferrari
 2. Petitioning to Add Programs to our Approved List of Programs – a number of students have asked the IPO about petitioning to add programs to the approved list. The IPO is looking for guidance from the IEC about what to tell students about the petition process. The IEC stated that programs are reviewed on an ongoing basis; they can be turned in before October 15. The committee is looking for Geographic and Academic Coverage for programs and students should work with faculty members on these petitions and make strong academic arguments. The programs could be approved on a probationary basis for a few years and then re-evaluated. Students should also have a backup plan in case the petition is denied.

Another clarification was discussed: If as student wants to participate in a program that is in the same location and through one of our current program providers, can the IPO approve this without going to the IEC. (i.e. – We currently have an approved study abroad program in Costa Rica in Monteverde through CIEE. CIEE offers 2 different programs in Monteverde, but we have only approved 1 of the programs). It was determined the IPO can approve this as long as the student's Major Department and the Registrar's Office (Kathleen

Campbell) approve the academics on the program. However, if the program is through the same provider, but in another location in the country then the IEC would like to review the program for approval.

3. Semester at Sea and Sea Semester

1. Semester at Sea – This is a program in which hundreds of students are on a cruise ship and take courses on the ship and do site visits at numerous ports of call throughout the semester. The opinion of the IEC is that although this program offers many brief and diverse cultural experiences through the many ports of call, it would prefer to see students have a more in depth cultural experience instead of so many different small exposures and therefore does not support approving Semester at Sea.

2. Sea Semester – This program appears to be academically rigorous and focused. The issue is not the academic nature of the program, but rather the fact that it is mainly a domestic program and therefore where this type of program should be housed at Puget Sound. The next step will be to run this program by Kathleen Campbell in the Registrar's Office and then the Curriculum Committee

4. Jan brought up two issues from last year – Charge G – (designing and administering a survey to students to assess the impact of the new financial aid policy on student participation in study abroad) – this is a large issue and we didn't have enough time to tackle it in this meeting so Michael Johnson proposed creating a sub-group to discuss this issue and report back to the committee. The 2nd issue was Charge E – (identifying resources available for faculty who are interested in offering Summer study abroad classes and how to better publicize these opportunities) – The IPO is unsure how to move forward with these programs, but is interested in supporting faculty who would like to create these opportunities. IPO will speak with Alyce DeMarais and Lisa Ferrari to learn how best to proceed with creating new study abroad programs during the summer.