

Student Life Committee Minutes
March 13, 2008

Attending: Nick Kontogeorgopoulos, Mike Segawa, Jack Royce, Jan Leuchtenberger, Mita Mahato, Emma Green, Glynnis Kirchmeier, Randy Nelson

The Chair opened the meeting at 9 a.m. by welcoming Randy Nelson and thanking him for coming. He then proceeded to update Randy on the Committee's most recent discussions on returning study-abroad students and the projects it is working on, such as the pre-departure and post-return surveys as well as a website listing the names, majors, programs, countries visited, etc., of returning students to serve as a resource for those considering going.

The Chair asked Randy the following questions:

1. Is it possible to set up the website described above with a "search by" function that would allow students to look up the countries, programs, students' names, or majors, depending on what they were looking for?

Randy said it is possible but would need to go through OIS and get in line behind other projects. Because it would only take a few days, it is possible it could get bumped ahead, but no guarantees.

If the priority is to get it up and ready by Fall of 2008 (as the Chair indicated), it would be easier to start out with just a downloadable Excel file that could be accessed until the website is set up.

Committee members pointed out that the ultimate goal is to have the information on a secure site linked to International Programs so that access to it would require a UPS username and password.

The Chair said that the first step in getting the Excel file set up is for Mike's office to get the list of returned students from Jannie and contact them by email to explain the purpose of the list and ask their permission to be placed on it.

2. Could Jannie's current survey of returning students be put online?

Yes, but it would also need to go through OIS and get in line behind other projects.

3. Is there a way to link pre-departure surveys to post-return surveys without asking for names?

This can be done if the students are in Cascade when they do the surveys – it would automatically attach quite a bit of information that there would then be no need to ask, thereby shortening the survey.

Committee members discussed how to make this survey a requirement for pre-departure and returning students. The original idea was to link it to registration, but because students are given specific times to register, it would slow them down and run the risk of preventing them from getting into a class they want. Also, since seniors don't register, it would end up not being a requirement for them. A suggestion was made to offer an incentive to do it – for example, students who complete the surveys would be entered into a raffle for a nice prize.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan C. Leuchtenberger

The next meeting of the Student Life Committee will take place on Thursday, March 27.