

**FINAL REPORT OF THE
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

2010-11

Michael Johnson and Peter Wimberger (co-chairs)

The members of the committee this year were: Gareth Barkin (fall), Lisa Ferrari (Associate Dean's office - fall), Lisa Griswold (student), Mark Harpring (Associate Dean's office - spring), Diane Kelley, Michael Johnson, Donn Marshall (Associate Dean of Students), Jan Moore (Interim Director, International Programs), Jill Nealey-Moore, Don Share, Tanya Stambuk, Peter Wimberger, Kelly Wyman (student)

Thanks to the Committee members for their hard work.

We were charged by the Senate to do the following this year:

- A. Review and approve new and existing international education programs and program proposals, including programs led by university faculty. Reevaluate programs placed on probation.
- B. Evaluate offerings from a global and disciplinary perspective with an eye to providing coverage in geographic and disciplinary areas that are currently not represented or are underrepresented. Complete the consultations with departments to find out if there are programs that they think we should have, or have additional insights about programs we have that they don't think we should keep.
- C. Assist the Office of International Programs in selecting students for study abroad.
- D. Communicate with Office of Institutional Research to make sure that the Study Abroad Survey is administered to students prior to leaving and again 6 months after they return from study abroad.
- E. Finalize criteria for choosing students in the event that demand exceeds the Study Abroad budget.
- F. Establish a process through which demand relative to budget will be assessed and the criteria applied in a timely manner.
- G. Continue work with faculty to encourage the integration of study abroad experiences into on-campus classes and research symposia, and work with the SLC and Dean of Students to encourage integration of study abroad experiences into co-curricular activities.
- H. Discuss Summer Programs including resources for faculty who are interested in offering Summer study abroad classes and how to better publicize opportunities.

J. Discuss and recommend BTF request for Study Abroad.

Charges

A. Review and approve new and existing international education programs and program proposals, including programs led by university faculty. Reevaluate programs placed on probation.

The committee considered and approved three programs: CIEE Korea. We reinstated IFSA King's College at the request of the Theatre Department and SIT Madagascar after a travel warning was lifted.

The committee discussed the merits of adding both Semester at Sea and Sea Semester to our list of approved programs in response to a query from the Dean's Office. Both programs appear to offer something unique to our current list of programs. The committee will discuss the programs next year.

In addition the application forms for proposing new study abroad programs were revised and posted.

B. Evaluate offerings from a global and disciplinary perspective with an eye to providing coverage in geographic and disciplinary areas that are currently not represented or are underrepresented. Complete the consultations with departments to find out if there are programs that they think we should have, or have additional insights about programs we have that they don't think we should keep.

We completed our survey of departments. Most departments were happy with the selection of offerings. A couple of departments noted that they would like more offerings in the Middle East and Southeast Asia. The committee decided that the best way to add programs that complemented existing programs was to consider new programs proposed by faculty and students. It didn't make sense to the committee to add programs because of a perceived need if there was no guarantee that students would attend the programs.

C. Assist the Office of International Programs in selecting students for study abroad.

We continued this ongoing task.

D. Communicate with Office of Institutional Research to make sure that the Study Abroad Survey is administered to students prior to leaving and again 6 months after they return from study abroad.

Institutional Research sent out the pre-study abroad survey to all summer, fall and full-year 2011 students and the post survey to the fall 2010 students who were on study abroad in Spring 2010. The committee did not review these findings but plans to in the fall.

E. Finalize criteria for choosing students in the event that demand exceeds the Study Abroad budget.

It is the feeling of the IEC that qualified students who want to study abroad should not be prevented from doing so. Students enter UPS with the expectation that if they want to study abroad they will be able to if they meet certain requirements e.g. GPA. However, the recent establishment of a study abroad budget means that we may face the situation where we have more students wanting to study abroad than the budget can handle. If that unfortunate scenario were to arise, the question we face is how best to maximize the numbers of qualified students studying abroad while staying within the budget.

The Committee has considered the following factors in our discussion:

GPA, limiting the number of programs or semesters per student, importance to major, language major, lottery, and class standing. In addition we discussed the possibilities of rolling over budget surpluses in some years to a study abroad contingency fund to minimize the possibility that we will need to implement limits. Some thought that a trial period of 4-5 years with budget rollover would be useful as we learn about the impact of the new financial aid structure. Despite assurances that this can't be done, we feel that the benefits of such an approach would outweigh the budgeting and public relations costs over the long term.

If limits had to be invoked we recommend the following decision process:

- 1) Students going on Puget Sound sponsored programs (e.g. Dijon, Pac Rim, Oaxaca) and students in language immersion program have highest priority.
- 2) Students are limited to a single program (semester or year). Thus, students would not be able to go on two separate semester programs, unless they fit into #1 above or have a convincing academic reason to do so.
- 3) Seniors have highest priority of remaining students.

We also discussed the possibility of a lottery for the remaining students as perhaps the fairest way to allocate the remaining spots.

The questions of how and when these criteria would be implemented need much more thought. Charge F addresses this concern.

F. Establish a process through which demand relative to budget will be assessed and the criteria applied in a timely manner.

The deadline for study abroad applications is February 15th. Some students have already been accepted into their programs at this time. The study abroad budget is not known until the BTF recommendations are made – usually in March which comes after students have applied to programs expecting to be able to attend if they are accepted. The IEC felt like it would be impossible to apply criteria fairly or limit students if they had gone through the process without having been made aware of the possibility they would not be able to go. The changes that are necessary to apply the criteria have to come from Financial Services.

The IEC recommends that the criteria not be applied until a timeline is established that allows the University to project the budget and determine whether the budget will be adequate to fund all the students applying to study abroad. The IEC also recommends that the study abroad demand and budget projections be shared with the committee.

G. Continue work with faculty to encourage the integration of study abroad experiences into on-campus classes and research symposia, and work with the SLC and Dean of Students to encourage integration of study abroad experiences into co-curricular activities.

The IEC worked with the Office of International Programs to develop a Welcome Back Celebration. The event will take place in the Rotunda from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. on September 12. Students participating in study abroad in the Fall 2010, Spring 2011, and Summer 2011 will be invited. The current number of participants is set for 150. The final program will be developed in consultation with the new International Programs Director.

H. Discuss Summer Programs including resources for faculty who are interested in offering Summer study abroad classes and how to better publicize opportunities.

The faculty handbook for developing study abroad and other resources are now posted on the International Programs website.

J. Discuss and recommend BTF request for Study Abroad.

We worked with Alyce DeMarais on the BTF request for Study Abroad.

UNCHARGED WORK

The IEC met with members of Asian Studies to discuss the impacts of the new financial aid policy on next year's trip. Next year has some students under the old policy (students receive all federal, state and institutional financial aid) and some under the new policy (students receive federal, state and institutional aid only to their FAFSA determined need. The University subsequently changed aid for next year's group so that all students would receive all their federal, state and institutional aid. The IEC recommended to the administration that students attending the Pacific Rim program or any future program that is completely a Puget Sound program (courses listed as UPS courses on transcript and faculty paid by UPS) receive their entire aid package. The administration is reluctant to take this step.

All department chairs were sent a list of their majors participating in study abroad programs this past year. The chairs were forwarded their majors' student questionnaires for study abroad programs. Beginning next fall International Programs will routinely send these completed questionnaires to the student's major department for review by the student's faculty advisor.

The IEC would like to understand the impact of the new financial aid policy on student participation in study abroad. We met with Dean Kris Bartanen to discuss the rationale, content and timing of such a survey. The IEC felt that administering such a survey is necessary to understand whether and how the policy has changed study abroad patterns. We recommend next year's committee be charged with the design and administration of this survey.

Proposed Charges for 2011-2012

We propose the following charges to the IEC for 2011 -12:

- A. Review and approve new and existing international education programs and program proposals, including programs led by university faculty. Reevaluate programs placed on probation or coming off travel warnings.
- B. Assist the Office of International Programs in selecting students for study abroad.
- C. Communicate with Office of Institutional Research to make sure that the Study Abroad Survey is administered to students prior to leaving and again 6 months after they return from study abroad. Consider the results from the 2010-11 surveys and decide whether or not the results are useful enough to keep administering the survey.
- D. Continue work with faculty to encourage the integration of study abroad experiences into on-campus classes and research symposia, and work with the SLC and Dean of Students to encourage integration of study abroad experiences into co-curricular activities.
- E. Discuss Summer Programs including resources for faculty who are interested in offering Summer study abroad classes and how to better publicize opportunities.
- F. Discuss and recommend BTF request for study abroad.
- G. Design and administer a survey to students to assess the impact of the new financial aid policy on student participation in study abroad.