

Minutes – IEC 9/8/14

Members Attending: Gareth Barkin, Daniel Sherman, Kena Fox-Dobbs, Quincey Livingston, Alva Butcher, Donn Marshall Lisa Ferrari, Pepa Lago-Grana, Roy Robinson, John Lear, Diane Kelley, Eric Orlin, Peter Wimberger  
Guests: Emelie Peine, Stephanie Noss

Emelie Peine, the IEC Senate liaison, opened the meeting and presided over the election of this year's co-chairs, Gareth Barkin and Alva Butcher.

We decided that meeting times would be Mondays from 2-3 PM in the Misner Room. Meetings for Fall semester will be: **9/22, 10/6, 10/27, 11/10, 11/24, 12/8**. We skip a week because of Fall Break, but meet the following week. Put 'em on your calendar.

Roy started off with a question that needed rapid action.

1) Harry Velez-Quinones and the Spanish department requested to change the location of the summer internship program from Alcalá to the University of Nebrija. It was difficult to recruit enough students for the Alcalá program because it required upper-level Spanish and was focused on students with an interest in Business. The 10 week University of Nebrija program can accommodate different levels of Spanish and offers more internship options including for science (at least biology) students. Kathleen Campbell has reviewed the program and had no concerns. The students would pay the program cost plus a \$500 administrative fee. We discussed questions of who would advise the students and who the site coordinator would be. Harry is the site coordinator and will be there for the first few weeks to get students settled. Internships, presumably, will be supervised at the internship sites. There will be home-stays for students, even for non-speakers. The IEC approved dropping the Alcalá program and adding the University of Nebrija program.

2) Charges: There were no charges suggested by last year's committee. We did not discuss these at the meeting since we didn't have them.

The charges from last year were:

**1. With respect to the issue of sexual violence particularly, determine a process for assessing, as part of the approval processes for Puget Sound study abroad programs:**

**(1) the student support resources and response protocols for student safety;**

**(2) the number of reported instances of sexual violence at the international program;**

**(3) the efficacy of Puget Sound's safety information for students before they study abroad; and**

**(4) the efficacy of Puget Sound reporting and response processes should a sexual violence incident occur.**

**2. Review the current list of study abroad programs and eliminate expensive**

**programs that do not provide something distinctive (e.g., language, discipline, or geography.)**

**3. Once a financial model is resolved for short-term study abroad programs, develop a clear template for proposing, organizing, and leading short-term study abroad programs.**

**4. Work with the Office of Institutional Research to evaluate the questions addressing study abroad that are currently on sophomore and senior surveys, as well as the returning questionnaire for study abroad students.**

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

**6. Study and report on the feasibility and desirability of increasing the number of direct study abroad exchange programs.**

**7. Examine study abroad application documentation for clarity regarding application rules for students placed on probation.**

Barkin suggested two new charges to the committee.

1) He noted that Puget Sound lags way behind our peers in the percentage of international students on campus. Lewis and Clark and Willamette both have about 10% international student enrollment and Whitman is at about 4%. At Puget Sound international students make up 0.5 % of the student body, or 12 students. Barkin noted that international students diversify campus and provide another metric of diversity. The committee approved, asking for a charge to investigate ways to increase the number of international students on campus.

2) Barkin noted that there has been a shocking decrease in the percentage of our students studying abroad. Prior to the changes in the financial aid policy for study abroad, between 40-50% of our students studied abroad and our study abroad participation was similar to our peers. After the financial aid policy was initiated participation declined precipitously. We now have slightly over 30% of our students participating in study abroad. We tout our study abroad program to prospective students, yet, apparently, fewer of our students are availing themselves of the opportunity than before. He proposed a charge, approved by the committee, that the IEC study the declining study abroad participation and propose ways to increase participation again.

**Other Business:** Lear suggested that we, as an institution, would be better served by relying less on outside program providers and developing more of our own programs. He suggested that one way to make our own programs more sustainable would be entering

into partnerships with other NW5C colleges. He proposed that we try to organize a NW5C meeting to bring together interested faculty and administrators to explore this issue.

Roy talked about direct exchange programs (charge 6 from last year) and said that we are looking at an exchange program in Turkey and another in England. In order to generate student interest in these, it's important that we have some departmental buy-in, even ownership, of these programs.

Meeting adjourned at 3:54.

Submitted by Peter Wimberger