

IEC Meeting minutes

April 8, 2015, convened 11:03 AM

Attending: Mike Burley (student), Alva Butcher (chair), Lisa Ferrari, Diane Kelley, John Lear, Allyson Lindsley (guest), Eric Orlin, Dan Sherman, Peter Wimberger

Discussed revisions to minutes, particularly section about the study abroad surveys. Decided to do revisions to minutes over email to save time.

Orlin announced that Fred Hamel will become new NCAA student athlete coordinator. He suggested that someone from OIP go to the annual meeting of athletes and a coaches meeting to let them know about study abroad opportunities and to urge coaches to be flexible about study abroad. A number of people noted that many coaches are very supportive of athletes studying abroad.

Study Abroad Decision Survey

Ferrari provided a revised version of the earlier draft with all suggested changes incorporated. Wimberger suggested that the survey go to advisors to catch students who never go to OIP but make an early decision to not study abroad. It was suggested that OIP contact Landon Wade about best way to get the survey to students and advisors. Advisors could be asked to give it to students who have actively expressed a decision during advising meetings. We discussed whether to require all questions. The consensus was that it's short so requiring all questions would not be a hardship and avoid missing data. Then we discussed whether to provide a hard copy or make it available on the web? Orlin suggested both - hard copy would probably increase the response rate by making it more likely that advisors would give it to students as they expressed their decision. We decided to provide both hard and online copies.

UK programs

We revisited the question of whether to retain the Oxford program. Robinson acknowledged that Oxford is a great place to go for a tutorial. The reason that the subcommittee included Oxford in the programs to be cut were that the tuition is extremely high, especially in the spring (\$37,000), because it encompasses two terms, we have only had a single student attend in the past 5 years and there has been no recent interest expressed. Robinson touted the savings of direct enroll programs and used the example of Melbourne, where the direct enroll option is \$9000 less than the IFSA for virtually the same services.

Short Term Study Abroad Applications

Butcher reported on her meeting with Associate Dean Kukreja who supported making the documents available on the web. Kukreja suggested including reporting requirements and removing the total amount available because it changes annually. The committee approved those changes. Faculty will apply to the OIP. The IEC will evaluate the applications and then the Associate Deans office and Finance will administer the grants.

Meeting with Dean Bartanen

We concluded by generating a set of questions for our meeting with Dean Bartanen. The questions and information we sent to Kris were:

Questions

1. What would be a reasonable goal for the percentage of students studying abroad? What would be a level that would be considered too low?
2. Given that the current policy on the use of financial aid to study abroad was generated in a time of financial strain, is it appropriate to reconsider how study abroad is funded on our campus?
3. Could some of the remaining funds from the study abroad instructional budget be used to provide scholarships for students who wish to study abroad?
4. If there are to be limitations on financial resources available to students, in what other ways can the IEC be useful in encouraging more Puget Sound students to study abroad? Some examples of actions that the IEC has taken in recent years include:
 - Reduced the number of study abroad programs in the UK from 18 to 4.
 - Approved the move to direct enrollment at Queen Mary College in London.
 - Implemented direct enrollment at the University of Melbourne, Australia. This resulted in savings of \$9,000 per student per semester.
 - Developed guidelines for faculty to propose a faculty-led study abroad program.
 - Developed instructions for faculty to apply for a Study Abroad Initiatives Development Grant.

Meeting adjourned at 11:51 AM

Respectfully submitted

Peter Wimberger

Study Abroad Decision Survey [DRAFT]

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your answers are anonymous, and will help us better understand why students choose not to study abroad.

1. What is your primary major? [PULL-DOWN]
2. If you have a second major, what is it? [PULL-DOWN]
3. In your own words, please tell us why you opted not to study abroad. [OPEN-ENDED]
4. Do you plan to pursue study abroad in the future? [Y/N/DK, OPEN-ENDED COMMENT]
5. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements about why you chose not to study abroad. [SA/A/N/D/SD/(N/A)]
 - a. I did not feel ready to study abroad.
 - b. I had personal (e.g., family, friends, health) reasons for not going.
 - c. I will fall behind in my Puget Sound degree if I study abroad.
 - d. Course credit will not transfer to Puget Sound as I expected.
 - e. My financial situation changed.
 - f. I was not able to apply enough of my financial aid to study abroad.
 - g. I became dissatisfied with the program I'd chosen.
 - h. I was not accepted by the program to which I applied.
 - i. I missed the application deadline.
 - j. I had difficulty with the visa process.
 - k. Other, please specify:
6. Of the reasons in Question 5, which were most significant to your decision? (Rank up to three)
 - a. [PULL-DOWN LIST OF ITEMS FROM Q5]
 - b. [PULL-DOWN LIST OF ITEMS FROM Q5]
 - c. [PULL-DOWN LIST OF ITEMS FROM Q5]
7. Which of the following steps toward applying did you take?
 - a. Attended a study abroad information session
 - b. Met with someone in the Office of International Programs
 - c. Met with someone in Student Financial Services
 - d. Requested information from the Office of the Registrar about transfer credit.
 - e. Filled out an application
 - f. Attended a pre-departure session
8. We welcome additional comments about your study abroad decision. [OPEN-ENDED]