

International Education Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 14, 2015

Attending: Gareth Barkin, Alva Butcher (chair), Sarah Comstock, Lisa Ferrari, Lea Fortmann, Ian Craighead, Kriszta Kotsis, John Lear, Mike Spivey, Roy Robinson

The IEC was convened soon after 11 by senate liaison Emelie Peine who led us through the selection of a chair and updated herself and us on our pending charges. With no volunteers, Alva Butcher agreed to be chair for the fall semester and John Lear proposed that he, Eric Orlin or both would chair in the spring. All voted in favor.

The meeting officially began around 11:20 and the main business was consideration of a proposal presented by Roy Robinson to expand our summer internship program with Universidad Nebrija in Madrid, Spain to a formal semester exchange program. This program is sponsored by Hispanic Studies professor Harry Vélez-Quiñones. Roy reminded us that having a faculty sponsor is important to the ongoing success of such exchanges, and mentioned the advantages of exchange programs over other third party programs in terms of budget and experiences. This exchange would only involve tuition. It promises a variety of opportunities for our students in its Hispanic Culture program, in classes with Spanish students in other programs, and the possibility of internships, including those of our current summer program. After some discussion, we recommended that any such exchange require our students to have homestays rather than the other housing options. Lisa Ferrari clarified that at this stage, we were simply endorsing future negotiations to set up an exchange that will ultimately depend on administrative considerations and approval. A motion was made, seconded and approved to academically endorse the exchange with a preference for homestays as it moves towards a Memorandum of Understanding.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.

Respectfully submitted,

John Lear