

International Education Committee Meeting Minutes, February 10, 2016

Committee Members Present: Alva Butcher, Sarah Comstock, Lisa Ferrari, Carmen Eyssautier, Lea Fortmann, Pepa Lago Grana, Krista Kotsis, John Lear, Allyson Lindsley, Eric Olin (chair), Roy Robinson, Mike Spivey

Chair Olin convened the meeting at 11am. We postponed approving the minutes until the next meeting since some people had not had a chance to look them over.

The main agenda for the meeting was to review study abroad applications for students that did not meet the Puget Sound GPA requirement of 2.5. Roy Robinson uploaded the applications onto Soundnet prior to the meeting for everyone to review.

Updates and Announcements

Robinson discussed the number of study abroad applications for this year and compared them to last year. They received more applications than anticipated (over 250). He explained that if everyone that applied was accepted, he guessed that we would be \$341,000 over budget. But he also believes that a number of students will drop out, or “melt”.

Lisa Ferrari and Roy Robinson met with Martin Jackson to estimate melt – a conservative estimate of 10% would mean they would be over budget by \$20,000 if all others were accepted.

Looking at each semester independently, more students drop in summer and spring than fall. Last year each semester had the following melt rates:

- Summer 11%
- Fall 9.5%
- Spring 13%

If these numbers are applied, international programs would be \$56,000 under budget.

Robinson said he feels that money shouldn't affect approval decisions when reviewing applications and that they will likely come in close to budget given historical melt rates.

The total budget for study abroad is \$3.137 million, including Pac Rim (\$266,000). Last year, they were \$880,000 under budget for study abroad.

Other considerations were that the money in the budget is also used to support faculty led programs. If there are a higher number of study abroad participants, then there could potentially be less money to support new programs and faculty development.

Review of Study Abroad Applicants

The committee then reviewed applications for study abroad for students that had GPAs lower than 2.5.

Other Business

At the next meeting sub-committee will report on their progress.

Robinson also announced dates for informational meetings for faculty interested in starting a faculty led study abroad or exchange program:

- Friday February 19 from 12-1pm in Howarth 201
- Monday February 22, 4-5pm, Howarth 201

Meeting adjourned at 11:55

Respectfully submitted

Lea Fortmann