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International Programs minutes 2/9/2012

International Programs Committee

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Minutes of International Programming Committee meeting

Thursday, February 9, 2012

9-10 AM, Imholte 202

Members present:

Tim Soderberg, chair (Science & Math)

Chlene Anderson (Online Learning)

Pilar Eble (International Student Program)

Marynel Ryan Van Zee (Social Science, Faculty Coordinator for Study Abroad)

Jimmy Schriver (Humanities)

Sheng Xiao (Social Science)

Sarah Ashkar (ACE office, Student Study Abroad advisor)

Members not present:

KT Lindeman (Student)

Kristian Nyberg (Student)

Michael Peters (Student)

Cha Vue (Student)

Irene Maloney (advising)

1: Visit from Bart Finzel, VCAA and Dean:

Bart had three items to bring to the committee's attention:

a) Some fees are coming in from International Study Abroad, specifically \$100 for each UMM student who participated in an ISA program (UMM has since ended its contract with ISA). Bart suggests that this money be put towards student study abroad scholarships. The total is expected to be \$2700, but not all of this has arrived yet, so we will need to check the budget before awarding any of the money as scholarships.

b) The Johnson Fund for International Service Learning has been inactive for several years, and a significant amount of money is available for awards. Bart asked the committee to develop a process for awarding scholarships to students participating in service learning projects in developing countries or regions. The fund now totals \$36,000, of which Bart suggests \$18,000 be put back into the principle so that it can begin earning returns, and \$18,000 be kept available for awards totaling approximately \$7,500 per year.

The committee decided to schedule a meeting in the next few weeks and to invite Argie Manolis of the Office of Community Engagement, to attend. The purpose of this meeting will be to brainstorm ideas for the scholarship process, and potentially to form a subcommittee to expand and implement these ideas.

c) Bart asked the Committee to consider combining curriculum development proposal calls from the IPC and the Curriculum Committee so as to avoid multiple announcements, which tend to get confusing. It may also make sense to coordinate deadlines, moving the IPC grant deadlines up to December to coincide with the Curriculum Committee grant deadlines. The Committee was receptive to this idea, and will revisit the issue at the next meeting (see (b) above). It would be important to make an announcement of the December deadlines late in the spring semester so as to allow faculty to have time to work on proposal ideas over the summer.

2: Sub-committee updates:

a) Student SA scholarships (Tim Soderberg): Two awards were given for the Belize spring break trip, but the trip was cancelled due to low enrollment, so we still have at least 12 scholarships to give. The May/Summer round deadline has just passed, and we are meeting on Tuesday Feb 14 to review the 30 applications that were received. We plan to award up to 11 scholarships, with more possible depending on whether there are applications for fall term (deadline April 13) and also on the additional funding described in part 1(a) above.

b) Extra-curricular International Programming (ECIP) grants (Marynel Ryan Van Zee): Five awards have been made:

\$400 to African dance/Salif Keita programming

\$200 to the *Journey to Jamaa* event.

\$400 to the Midwest Philosophy Colloquium (\$1000 requested)

\$148 to Entre Nous for event in Winnipeg (\$296 requested)

\$500 to Stacey Aronsen for Spanish language film series (\$1000 requested)

In the last IPC meeting (Sept 7, 2011), the committee decided to initially target \$3000 to the ECIP grants, and possibly more depending on how much is requested for the Curriculum Development grants. Marynel asked whether the committee was in favor of awarding another \$500 to meet the full request for the Spanish film series. This is a very popular event every year on campus, but unfortunately support from the Spanish government is drying up due to the adverse economic conditions in Europe. In addition, next fall (for which these funds are requested) will mark the 5th year of the event, which will make it easier in the future to find outside sources of support as it will be considered an established event. For these reasons, the committee agreed that there was a compelling case to bring the level of support up to \$1000 in order to ensure that the event goes on next fall as planned.

c) International Curriculum Development grants: The deadline for applications is early March so there is little to report as yet, however it was noted that the 'deadlines for faculty' site on the Dean's web page had the deadline incorrect (Tim Soderberg has since asked Darla Peterson to have this corrected).

3: Update from International Student Program (Pilar Eble):

The STELLER program ran for the second time in the summer of 2011. Feedback was generally positive, and students who participated achieved, on average, GPAs a full grade unit above those who did not.

Plans for next summer involve including an 'International Communication' course for both American and International students, as a way to increase English immersion for the STELLER participants. The course will have an IP designator for American students and a Lang. designator for international students.

The retention rate for last years SUFI students was approximately 80%, similar to the UMM student body overall. The target for new SUFI students next year is 55 students.

Minutes submitted by Tim Soderberg