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International Programs minutes 01/26/2015

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International Programs Committee [approved February 23, 2015]

January 26, 2015, 2:00pm, Prairie Lounge

In attendance: Sarah Ashkar, Tinu Bello, Viktor Berberi, Ed Brands, Sheri Breen, Pilar Eble, Stephanie Ferrian, Leslie Gubash-Lindberg, Yuka Nagasaki, Marynel Ryan Van Zee (chair), Amber Whittemore, Allison Wolf

The meeting was called to order at 2:15pm.

1. Welcome/Introductions

Allison Wolf informed the committee that a new student member has been chosen and will be in attendance at our second meeting of the semester.

2. Approval of November minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously and will be posted to the Digital Well.

3. Update on study abroad course proposals

The study abroad course proposals for 2016 are still under review; the committee reviewing them (which includes some members of the IPC) expects to make decisions by the end of the week.

4. Next meeting time

The next meeting of the IPC will take place on Monday, February 23, from 2:15-3:13pm. The chair will send out an invitation.

5. Budget update

We discussed the updated budget information. We should currently have ca. \$2388.00 (in addition to the 'cushion' encouraged by Adele Lawler) left for FY 15. The chair will check with Adele Lawler to confirm budget amounts, including the 'cushion.' We will retain the \$388 for remaining ECIP proposals and (see below) and hope to allocate at least \$2000 for our potential collaboration with the Sustainability Leaders of the Future grant.

6. Discussion of potential international sustainability curriculum development grant(s)

The committee held a follow-up discussion on the ideas floated at the November meeting about creating a joint-sponsored grant opportunity in curricular development with the Sustainability Leaders of the Future (SLF) grant. It was decided that we would pursue the same strategy that the Curriculum Committee had followed, modeling a sustainability-oriented international curriculum development (ICD) grant opportunity on our existing curricular development efforts as Curriculum Committee did with the EDP program this year. Given that this round of SLF grant money will not be available beyond 2016, and we would like to take advantage of Clement Loo's offer as soon as possible, it makes sense not to re-invent the wheel.

A subcommittee of Sarah Ashkar, Ed Brands, Marynel Ryan Van Zee, and Amber Whittemore will work to create an application and guidelines (with input from Clement Loo, as appropriate) and aim for

making them available by mid-February with a due date falling after Spring Break, in mid-March. We will solicit both on-campus and off-campus ICD (+sustainability) proposals. We will indicate in the application materials that we expect to award at least one grant in each category, but that the committee reserves the right to allocate funds to proposals of either category.

This plan is contingent on a discussion with Clement Loo to address the following questions:

How much money will SLF be able to contribute? \$4000 was suggested.

Is a long deadline date for use of funds (end of FY16, 6/30/16) acceptable for his grant/reporting purposes?

Would SLF fellows be eligible to apply for one of the grants?

What role would Clement like to have in the application creation and review process?

The IPC chair will schedule a meeting with Clement Loo as soon as possible and keep the IPC as a whole and the volunteers for the subcommittee informed.

7. New Business/Goals for this semester.

The 'new policy' subcommittee convened earlier this academic year to discuss 'approved' study abroad program providers/programs will present the drafted policy at the next IPC meeting.

Pilar Eble will report back next time on the outcome of a conversation she plans to have with Dean Finzel about the disposition of an increased fee levied on international students at UMM. We discussed, briefly, the possibility of suggesting that some of the funds received should be funneled through IPC if IPC can identify a specific service or form of support that it could provide to international students. The concern is that the connection between the fee and support services for international students is not especially clear.

It was also suggested that we create a uniform procedure for the creation of exchange programs. We will discuss this further at an upcoming meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.

Minutes submitted by Marynel Ryan Van Zee