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International Programs minutes 03/31/2016

International Programs Committee

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IPC minutes March 31st, 2016
Prairie Lounge

Present at 8:10 am: Viktor Berberi, Joe Alia, Ray Lagasse, Sarah Buchanan, Sarah Ashkar, Stephanie Ferrian, and Leslie Gubash-Lindberg

Absent: Shingo Yamane and Titan Yu (Chendi)

House-keeping items

- I. Ex-Officio- voting/non-voting
Viktor: In IPC our Ex-Officio is non-voting, various committees are different on this issue. Do we want to ask for a change for the Ex-Officio to be a voting position? All agree for the proposed change to the membership committee.
- II. Title updates on IPC:
Sarah Ashkar: Requests to have her title updated on IPC records
- III. Student representation
All in agreement that there should be one international student and one American student represented in IPC

IPC Agenda

- I. **Creation of additional non-curricular funding category**
Everyone is in support of Sarah Ashkar's professional conference funding. Viktor sought out approval from Bart that IPC creates a non-curricular funding category. Bart communicated that adding this category of funding was outside of the mission of IPC.
Viktor thinks we would have to consider revising our mission in IPC to include this extra funding category.
Sarah Buchanan states supporting Sarah Ashkar to go to a professional conference to increase her knowledge in study abroad is not in conflict with our current mission, Stephanie Ferrian agrees.
Sarah Buchanan, in addition, says faculty can apply for travel funds from many different sources, and staff should have the same opportunities, it is very important that Sarah Ashkar gets opportunities for these professional development opportunities.
Sarah Ashkar, says she has also applied for funds from Commission on Women, however there was no direct relation to the conference and to the mission on Commission on Women, whereas her conferences are in direct support of the mission of IPC.
Ray Lagasse agrees it is necessary to create this non-curricular funding.
Stephanie Ferrian proposes we tie this funding into our current funding for site visits. Sarah Ashkar proposes to broaden the language so it could apply to site visits, and professional conferences related to study abroad/exchanges.

Viktor Berberi agrees that there needs for funding to support internationalization, but is not sure it should come out of IPC. We need to revisit a position in International Programs that would support these initiatives.

Sarah Buchanan agrees with Viktor, but in the interim, as we submit the proposal for this new position in International Programs, we need to have a plan to fund internationalization efforts.

Sarah Ashkar maintains her role is related to internationalizing the curriculum, because she works to support study abroad with faculty.

Viktor Berberi & Sarah Buchanan propose a written proposal to *vote* on establishing a category to allow faculty or staff to apply for funding for internationalizing the curriculum through professional conferences, site visits etc. Joe Alia volunteered to draft a proposal.

For now we are tabling the issue, and IPC members for the time being unanimously abstain from voting on this issue.

Stephanie Ferrian proposes to start a google doc that IPC members all have access to in order to work out the language for this written proposal to vote on establishing a non-curricular funding category.

II. Position in International Programs:

Committee: Sarah Buchanan (chair), Stephanie Ferrian, Viktor Berberi, Sarah Ashkar and Ray Lagasse.

III. Bridge Loan Process:

Sarah Buchanan proposes to use our contingency fund (\$36,000, currently in fund) for this purpose. This would mean borrowing the money. We should get this in place for next year.

Sarah Ashkar says only students using financial aid can use this program, not all students using financial aid will use this program. Cost of applying is \$25.

Viktor Berberi and Sarah Ashkar: Students who would not qualify are graduating seniors and transfer out students.

Sarah Buchanan proposes Viktor to talk to Bart Finzel before talking to LAC about using the contingency fund towards the bridge loan.

Stephanie Ferrian and Sarah Buchanan both join in saying once we get approval from Bart, we need to have a date where we would move on these changes and reach out to LAC.

Viktor Berberi asked what happens when students apply for this loan but the program itself is cancelled, what would be the process in that situation?

Sarah Ashkar responds, I do not foresee this happening unless in the case of emergency and safety concerns with travel, in which case the program provider or the insurance agency would reimburse the costs associated with this program including flights.

IV. Budget for Extracurricular International Programming:

Viktor Berberi: We have a proposal for next year. Do we fund it now or next year and carry forward our remaining funds for this grant. The sub-committee will review

proposal and decide how to handle this. We have \$2000 left in this fund, we have spent \$500.

Leslie says she will send out reminders that students, faculty and staff can apply for these funds.

Meeting adjourned: All in favor