

**Advisory Committee on International Studies
Meeting notes February 6, 2008**

In attendance: Erica Bastress-Dukehart, Chair, Sylvia Franke, Leslie Mechem, Paty Rubio, Cori Filson, Marie alice Arnold, Christina Breakell

Announcements:

Marie alice Arnold will be leaving the committee. Christina Breakell will be taking her place.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Marie alice will speak with Mary DiSanto-Rose regarding the committee's concerns with the IFSA program at the Laban Institute.
- Cori will speak with departments that currently sponsor non-NSE domestic off-campus study opportunities about the transition of administration of those programs from DOS to OCSE.

1. Regular Business

The committee reviewed one petition for a non-approved program. The petition was denied. The committee felt the student's needs could be met by programs already on the approved programs list. The student's program of choice also does not meet Skidmore's immersion and integration goals for off-campus study.

The Dance department has finalized their approved programs list for Dance Majors. One of their program choices is not yet on the approved programs list. The committee reviewed the materials for the IFSA program at the Laban Institute for inclusion on the approved programs list. The Laban Institute in London, England, is a leading European conservatory in contemporary Dance. The committee felt the credentials of the program were excellent. There were some concerns regarding how a year-long conservatory program fits at a liberal arts institution and how it might affect a student's ability to graduate on time. Marie alice Arnold will discuss these concerns with Mary DiSanto-Rose and report back to the committee.

2. Update on plan to review Approved Programs lists with departments

Cori spoke to Muriel regarding the plan to review approved program lists with departments. Based on data collected to start this process they discovered it was difficult to see where departments are with the lists. Two and one-half years has not produced enough information to see departmental trends. The proposal is to now do a formal review after five years, starting in the fall of 2010. The review will begin with departments that began their list in the fall of 2005 and continue in the order the lists were finalized.

Off-Campus Study & Exchanges (OCSE) will still use the data gathered to start informal conversations with departments about what trends are appearing. This process will start with departments that are most active and those which are least active. OCSE will seek to gather information from departments on their challenges and successes in using the lists. Some questions to be considered: are programs meeting the department's needs; does the faculty want more education on off-campus study; are there any tools OCSE can provide to assist the departments?

OCSE will be developing a procedure for the formal review. The procedure will be finalized by spring 2010 to be ready to implement fall 2010.

3. Domestic off-campus study: non-NSE domestic program and how to coordinate with other departments

OCSE is working on developing bi-lateral exchanges with Howard University and Spelman College. While Howard is a member of NSE, they have very limited ability to take students through the NSE program. Spelman is not a member of NSE.

Cori updated the committee on talks with the Dean of Faculty and the Dean of Studies on the administrative home for current non-NSE domestic exchanges. Currently the Dean of Studies administers the Washington Semester, Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory, and the Dartmouth 3-2 program. This is a hold over from before OCSE (OIP) was established. Administratively OCSE is better prepared to support the departments, programs, and students interested in these programs. Cori and Michael are drafting a memo to departments now. Cori and Michael will then be speaking with the departments about the transition and how OCSE can support these programs given the goals of each department.

4. Update ACIS on investigation of study abroad by NY attorney general
Cori gave a history and update on the New York State Attorney General's inquiry into study abroad practices at colleges and universities. The subject of the inquiries appears to be the financial practices of the institutions in relation to the program providers. Skidmore College, to date, has not been subpoenaed.

February 8, 2008