The membership of the Advisory Committee on International Study (ACIS) for the 2006-07 academic year consisted of the following individuals:

Paty Rubio, Foreign Languages & Literatures
Deb Hall, Art & Art History (ACIS Chair and CEPP representative)
Mary-Elizabeth O’Brien, Foreign Languages & Literatures and Director of International Affairs
Kate Leavitt, Art & Art History
Rajesh Nagarajan, Chemistry
Leslie Mechem, Classics

The committee met 8 times this year.

NON-APPROVED PROGRAM PETITIONS
The committee approved 21 Petitions for overseas study.

Petitions 2006-2007
Petitions 2007-2008

NSE
ACIS reviewed documents regarding the National Student Exchange and several members of the committee met with representatives from the organization. ACIS and the Office of International Programs brought to CEPP a proposal to implement a three-year pilot program involving domestic exchange. The National Student Exchange program is dedicated to the exchange of students among campuses in this country. ACIS and the Office of International Programs will monitor the NSE program and report back to CEPP regularly.

With the addition of domestic exchange to the OIP portfolio, the scope of what OIP does has changed. ACIS discussed the need for a name change for the Office of International Programs to better demonstrate what that office will be managing moving forward. The committee considered several options. ACIS’s final recommendation was “the Office of Off-Campus Study”.

NSE_CEPP_PilotProposal, May 2007

AFFILIATIONS GUIDELINES
The committee reviewed and updated the Affiliations Guidelines to provide for domestic exchange opportunities. The Guidelines for Adding Programs To Or Removing Programs from Approved Programs Lists was also updated.
Affiliations Guidelines
Guidelines for Adding or Removing Programs

SITE EVALUATIONS
The committee reviewed the Site Evaluations Guidelines, the Site Review Guidelines, and the Site Evaluations-Faculty Selection Guidelines. In the spring, the committee, with OIP, determined the programs that needed review and requested nominations from department chairs. The committee approved 5 visitations for summer 2007 and 2 visitations for fall 2007 and postponed/denied 4 visitations.

Finally, a Site Evaluation Workshop, required of all faculty conducting a site evaluation, was provided in May, 2007.

Site Visit Guidelines

Site Evaluation_Faculty Selection Guidelines
Agenda_Faculty Site Evaluation Workshop
Evaluation
INTEGRATED PROGRAM DESIGN
Members of ACIS fully support the need to increase intercultural and global understanding across the community in order to sensitize students to a complex and diverse world and develop increased appreciation of the value of difference in our community and society. Goal number two of the Strategic Plan states: “We will challenge every Skidmore student to develop the intercultural understanding and global awareness necessary to thrive in the complex and increasingly interconnected world of the 21st Century.”

In the spring, the committee spoke with Thomas D’Agostino, who holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs of Syracuse University and is the Executive Director of the Partnership for Global Education (PGE) and Doug Reilly, who holds a master's degree in International Relations from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University and is the PGE's Assistant Director. Tom D’Agostino and Doug Reilly, as recipients of a Mellon Grant, established the Center for Global Education in 2000. Working with Hobart William Smith and Union College they have created an Integrated Program Design with the intent of framing the study abroad experience with pre-departure and re-entry programming in order to provide a continuous and intentional international experience. OIP and ACIS invited Tom and Doug to Skidmore to conduct a workshop in April on Integrated Program Design with members of our faculty and staff.

After the workshop, members of ACIS met to discuss some of the strategies presented. Recommendations were presented in draft form to CEPP and the administration at CEPP’s May Retreat. ACIS presents the following strategies to increase an international awareness and presence on campus and further engage students in the global community. While some of the recommendations may take place within the coming year the committee realizes that others may require additional time and resources. Clearly, these ideas need more discussion.
In closing many of these recommendations will work toward achieving the following ACIS goal outlined in the Interim Report of 2006:

• recommend a plan to prepare our students for study abroad, and re-integrate them into the Skidmore community and classroom when they return to campus; in the case of the London FYE students, recommend a plan to prepare and support them for study in the UK, and then integrate them into the on-campus community when they come to Skidmore in the spring

ACIS MEMBERSHIP

Finally, ACIS, as a permanent subcommittee of CEPP, recommends that the committee be comprised of three faculty members (preferably from the disciplines that send most students abroad), the Director of OIP and the Senior Program Coordinator in coming years. Ideally, the committee believes it would benefit from additional faculty input, particularly from the sciences and business, but it has been difficult to recruit members and, given the number of committees on campus, a larger committee makes it difficult to schedule realistic meeting times.

The membership next year consists of:

Leslie Mecham, Classics
Erica Bastress-Dukehart, (Chair and CEPP Representative)
Viviana Rangil, Foreign Languages and Literatures

Cori Filson, Director
Marie Alice Arnold, Senior Program Coordinator

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Hall
Chair, ACIS, 2006-07