

**The College of William and Mary
International Studies Advisory Committee
Final Report for 2013-14 Academic Year**

Membership:

- **Faculty:** Paula Pickering (Chair), Tuska Benes, Chuck Bailey, Carla Buck, Tim Costello, Rob Leventhal, Lena Prokhorova, Sibel Zandi-Sayek, Chitrlekha Zutshi
- **Ex-officio:** John Griffin (Dean of Undergraduate Studies), Sylvia Mitterndorfer (Reves Center), Lisa Grimes (Charles Center)
- **Student member:** Isra (Max) Nikoolkan

Main actions:

Fall: (4 full committee meetings; additional SASC meetings)

- Worked with John Charles on new study-abroad program in kinesiology and public health in Antigua. (A site visit was conducted in July 2013)
- The ISAC's Study Abroad Subcommittee (SASC) discussed the program reviews done over summer 2013 of the following programs: Barbados, Beijing, Cambridge, and Prague.
- Engaged in Curriculum review process on proposed COLL 300. ISAC member John Oakley served on the COLL 300 working group and two ISAC members presented proposed amendments to COLL 300 language.
- Provided feedback on proposals for 3 Reves NTEs through ISAC chair's participation in IAC.
- Began review of W&M global programs and of countries where W&M student demand is high as part of ISAC's effort to think strategically about desired locations, subjects, and forms of W&M global programs. Goals include expanding the appeal and feasibility of study abroad programs to students in the natural sciences, whose course requirements make it difficult to study abroad, and to students who require financial support in order to engage in W&M study abroad programs. ISAC expressed hope for improvement in the security situation in the Middle East so that W&M students had more feasible opportunities to study in the region. ISAC also expressed strong interest in W&M providing possibilities for housing at W&M for exchange scholars, who play an important role in internationalizing W&M's curriculum.
- Discussed taking a systematic approach to risk management, including instituting a pre-requisite of taking appropriate precautions for students receiving Charles Center or other A&S funding to conduct research abroad. Discussed the need for risk management to protect the safety of faculty-undergraduate student initiatives abroad without discouraging such innovative internationalization initiatives.
- Developing a process for granting credit for languages not taught at W&M.

Spring: (2 full committee meetings, additional SASC meetings)

- Carla Buck from ISAC volunteered serve on the summer/fall 2014 COLL 300 working group.
- SASC began work with Chris Ball on a proposed program in Adelaide, the first W&M based undergraduate program in Australia and one of the few that would appeal to psychology

majors. A site visit was authorized by ISAC and is planned for summer 2014 in preparation for an initial program launch in summer 2015.

- SASC planned the summer program reviews for Cape Town, Rome/Pompeii, Santiago de Compostela, and Potsdam programs.
- SASC discussed some of the key goals of study abroad and ways of assessing those goals. This is a conversation we hope to continue next year as we talk more about COLL 300.
- Discussed suggestions for Reves' upcoming fundraising efforts, including for raising a fund to support high impact international educational initiatives, particularly faculty-student international research and community engagement initiatives.
- SASC selected program directors for 2014-2015 W&M study abroad programs for Athens, Cambridge, Prague, Galway, Florence, Cape Town, Cadiz, Montpellier, Potsdam, Santiago de Compostela, and Antigua. The selection process for program directors for the 2014-2015 programs in Beijing, Goa, and St. Petersburg is still ongoing. Systemic criteria include the quality and the site-specificity of the proposed courses, as well as the qualifications of the faculty.
- ISAC chair served on the provost's advisory committee for Vice Provost Hanson's 3rd year review and ISAC committee members provided feedback.
- In order to accommodate study in countries with different academic calendars than W&M's, ISAC approved extending the maximum number of credits earned through a W&M sponsored and exchange programs abroad to 21.
- Due to large membership turnover, ISAC was not able to elect a new chair. John Griffin will call a meeting of the committee in August 2014 in order to elect a new chair.