

ISCAPC Minutes – November 22, 2004

Present: M. Voigt (chair), J. Oakley, M. Theobald, T.J. Cheng, L. Koloski, D. Dessler, G. Ghosh, E. Pratt, and B. Campbell.

The meeting was called to order at 2:07pm. The committee approved the minutes for the meetings of November 15, 2004 and October 25, 2004.

The suspension of the Resident Director for the Montpellier program was the only topic of discussion. The first issue raised concerned ISCAPC's jurisdiction over this matter. It was argued that, according to the committee's by-laws, ISCAPC should be involved in decision-making regarding the Montpellier RD, as such decision-making has the clear potential to affect curricular matters, over which the committee has oversight responsibility. Various arguments for and against this interpretation were offered.

Clarification was sought as to what curricular issues were at stake. In one view, the curricular element concerns the opportunity that juniors and seniors at the College have to study a foreign language abroad. The issue in this case is much broader than that of the fate of the French junior year abroad program alone. In another view, the decision to include an RD with that program is the crucial curricular issue. It was suggested that the Montpellier program might be abandoned if an RD was not approved for the year-long program. The question was raised as to whether the committee should stress to the Dean the possibility of the Montpellier program's collapse.

Discussion then shifted to the Montpellier program itself, with a focus on the responsibilities of the Resident Director. After considerable time, it was decided that this track of the conversation was carrying the committee too far from the central issue at hand.

It was moved that the committee send to the Dean the following statement: "ISCAPC is concerned about the curricular and programmatic impact of the decision to suspend the RD for the year-long Montpellier program and we would urge a full evaluation of the program by the end of the academic year before any final decision regarding the RD's status is made." The motion was debated and then voted upon. It was defeated by a margin of 2 in favor, 6 opposed.

The possibility of a second motion was briefly considered but none was made.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David Dessler