

MINUTES: November 10, 2005
International Studies Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee
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Present: Faculty: Blouet, Cheng, Eisele, Feldman, Heacox, Koloski; Student: Kuhagen;
Ex Officio: Peterson, Abegaz, Ghosh
Johannsen, McEachron

The meeting began at 4:30 with Laurie Koloski, chair, providing the agenda. Major items for the meeting were as follows:

1. Carla Buck, Modern Languages, presented material on the proposed Spring Semester Program in Seville, Spain. Some main points:
 - Students may qualify for the program after taking Spanish 202
 - Good Spanish is particularly necessary for students seeking internships of which there will initially be 8-10 sponsored by such organizations as the International Red Cross and Amnesty International
 - Students will take 3-4 courses (12 credits) some in English, some in Spanish taught by University of Seville faculty with some courses including UoS students as well.

The ISC committee agreed to discuss the issues of the program and will report back to Carla Buck.

2. Victoria Foster and Rick McAdams, School of Education, provided information about a proposed Summer program in St. Andrews, Scotland. Some main points:
 - The program is designed for entering Freshmen the summer before they come to W&M.
 - It will last 4 weeks and consist of two 3-credit elective courses, which will not count as Freshmen Seminars
 - One course will be a social approach to Scottish art history taught by a faculty member from St. Andrews
 - The other course will be taught by Victoria Foster
 - The program will recruit about 30 incoming freshmen (including some early admission students).
 - Financial aid will be available for students in the program.
 - St. Andrews was chosen as the site because it is small, safe, historical and attracts international students. There is also a long-standing relationship between W&M and St. Andrews. The program would include excursions to major cities, art museums, historical sites, and such throughout Scotland.
 - Efforts will be made to make the students' own experiences provide topics for discussion and writing and to integrate the program with students' overall experience at W&M.

3. Committee discussion of the proposed Seville program emphasized that Spanish studies has "led the way" in developing good summer programs, specifically the one in

Cadiz, that Seville was a proper place for such a program, and that this program seemed “well worth trying.”

By vote, the program was unanimously approved.

4. Committee discussion of the proposed St. Andrews program included the following issues: whether freshman seminars can be taught overseas, whether St. Andrews is an appropriate site for a freshman-focused program, whether the art history course is an appropriate accompaniment to the course proposed by Professors Foster and McAdams, and how to ensure as “democratic” a selection as possible among student applicants. Reves representatives confirmed that the appropriate preliminary “site inspection” had been done. The essentially experimental nature of the program was emphasized. The committee also discussed the issue of “site specificity” for each of the courses offered, with some committee members expressing concern that the Foster/McAdams course was not site specific.

The committee voted unanimously to approve the St. Andrews summer program. Because of concerns about site specificity, however, the committee decided not to approve Professors Foster and McAdams as program directors or the course they’ve proposed until a revised and site-specific version of the course is presented to the committee.

5. Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

6. A draft report from the sub-committee on summer program evaluation (Heacox, Peterson, Ghosh, Biggs, Kuhagen) was distributed with a request for response from the overall committee. The report will be discussed at a later meeting.

7. The committee returned to its earlier discussion of next summer’s program in Florence. It was felt that more information was needed about Professor DiPaola’s proposed course; nevertheless the committee voted unanimously to approve DiPaola as on-site director and await more information before approving the course itself.

8. The committee discussed further Professor Fred Smith’s proposal for the “field study” program in Barbados. More information has been provided by Smith concerning details of the program and reasons for its affiliations with the Reves Center. The committee voted unanimously to approve the program as a “field school.”

9. The committee theorized on questions pertaining to its own functions and responsibilities: Is any course taught abroad the proper domain of this committee? Do we need to further clarify our relation to the EPC?

10. Suggestions were sought from the committee for additional faculty to teach in next summer’s Cambridge program. Those suggested included: Professors Morse, Ward, Wesp, Haulman, Bluet, Clemens, Holmes, and Pelco. These people will be contacted to inquire of their interest.

The next meeting will be on Dec.8; location TBA. Committee adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Tom Heacox