

ISCAPC Minutes: February 23, 2006

Meeting called to order at 4:40 P.M.

- The minutes from January 26 were approved without amendment.

I. Changes to IS/IR curriculum

Laurie Koloski presented a set of small changes to the European Studies concentration. This involves adding several courses from classical studies and religious studies, and adding and deleting several language courses. After a brief discussion the recommendations were approved unanimously. They will be sent to the EPC for final approval.

David Feldman presented a set of small changes to the International Relations concentration. These include allowing econ 475 and 476 to replace 375 in the core, deleting courses that are no longer in rotation, and adding several new courses to the electives list. The language implementing the changes will be reworked and the committee will vote on them by e-mail before the changes are submitted to the EPC.

The committee discussed changing the name International Studies to Global Studies or to Global Regional Studies. The name "International Studies" apparently is a source of confusion. The committee decided to ask the CFAC chairs to go through the catalog in order to make a more consistent and formal recommendation to the ISC concerning the name change.

The committee discussed the concentration writing requirement for IR/IS, which currently states that it must be fulfilled in English. A number of options to change the wording of the writing requirement were considered. The committee opted for what it considered the simplest mechanism to change the wording. We agreed to drop the "English only" part of the requirement in order to allow a student to pass the writing requirement by passing the requirement in any of the participating departments. This makes IR/IS policy consistent with university policy. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Reves Scholarship Selection Committee

The Reves Center has asked for faculty participation in selecting recipients of its summer overseas studies program scholarships. Tom Heacox volunteered his assistance, and Laurie Koloski will send an e-mail to CFAC chairs in order to find additional interested faculty members.

III. Dean Strikwerda discusses changes to IR/IS and ISCAPC

The Dean discussed (speculated about) the possible changes to IR/IS and ISCAPC that might flow from the report issued by the committee charged with evaluating the

relationship between IS, IR and the Reves Center. Mitchell Reiss headed this committee. The committee report now rests with the Provost.

The Dean assumes that the report will give serious consideration to moving IR and IS into Arts & Sciences. In one sense this is not a big change since many program decisions already are made within A&S. Yet there is a virtue in having clearer reporting lines between the Dean's office and these academic programs. Official advising would move out of Reves and this may involve some movement of funds from Reves to A&S.

One implication of this shift would be the need for separate program directors for IR and IS. These directors would function like other program directors and have budgets commensurate with their needs.

The role of ISCAPC would evolve as well. It might function as a committee that advises Reves and A&S about study abroad issues and it might be a goal-setting body concerned with curriculum and research.

The general hope around the table was that whatever decisions the provost might make would occur before the selection of the new director of the Reves Center. Dean Strikwerda also suggested that he would prefer our internal search to produce a director who has a multi-year term (not an interim director).

IV. Assessment Documents

The committee postponed discussion of the assessment document to the March meeting.

The committee adjourned at 5:50

Respectfully submitted,

David Feldman