International Education Program Council

1:30pm, October 6, 2010 Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Lawrence McCauley, Holly Didi-Ogren, Elizabeth Mackie, Susanna Monseau, Andrea Salgian, Michael Shenoda, Jon Stauff, Thulsi Wickramasinghe, Simona Wright, Katelyn Crawford

Excused: Kristen Zalan, Julianna Kopakowski, Nicholas Manno

Also attending part of the meeting: Lee Ann Ricardi, Lois Fichner-Rathus, Lynn Tang.

1. The minutes from the September 15 and September 29 meetings were approved with all in favor.
2. Discussion of three faculty-led program proposals.
   1. Sustainability Australia – led by Michael Shenoda. This would be the first course on sustainability offered at TCNJ.

The course would start on campus and continue with 23 days in Australia, with the bulk spent in Sydney and Melbourne. The course will concentrate on the sustainability constraints and efforts in Australia. Students will have the opportunity to visit the institution of the authors of the textbook they will be using. They will have assignments on-site, and a project proposal back home.

The course is cross-listed as IDS and ENG and satisfies the World Views and Ways of Knowing requirement. Students signed up for ENG will have additional requirements.

The proposal includes the possibility of taking the course not for credit, an option that would be used only if the minimum enrollment is not met. This option generated a lot of the discussion among IEPC members, most expressing concerns with a number of issues that this could raise.

The course was approved with all in favor on the condition that the non-credit option is removed.

* 1. Rome of Caesars, Rome of Popes – led by Lee Ann Ricardi and Lois Fichner-Rathus.

Both Lee Ann and Lois have experience leading Maymester abroad programs. In fact, the programs they usually lead will not be offered this year. This will probably ensure enrollment in this class. This proposal also had a not-for-credit option, which the proposers removed before the discussion started.

The course was approved with all in favor.

* 1. Doing business in China – led by Lynn Tang and Qin Shao.

This program is funded by the Department of Education, and scholarships will be available for students. The course has been taught before in the Caribbean, but it is the first time it will be taught in China.

The course will start with 2 weeks on campus offering background on China and its business infrastructure. Two spring courses offer additional background. Students taking at least one of these courses will have priority in receiving scholarships. This idea was very appreciated by members of IEPC.

Students will have the opportunity to meet with Chinese businessmen through the provider’s connections and the Chinese Study Institute. The IEPC encouraged the faculty to have students meet with their personal contacts as well.

The international education provider has not been selected yet, although the Education Abroad Network seems like a good option.

The return was left open if students wanted to explore more of China on their own. Some members of the IEPC expressed concern that the faculty encouragement for individual exploration might lead to misunderstandings about liability.

The course was approved with all in favor, with the provision that a finalized itinerary and emergency contingency plan will be provided by Jon at the November meeting (after the provider has been selected) and students are not encouraged in the syllabus to stay longer than the program, as this is not a class requirement and TCNJ will not be liable for that portion of their stay.

1. Begin the discussion of formalizing the guidelines for faculty-led programs, by going through the official shared governance process for approval.

The members of IEPC will study the current guidelines and will send suggestions for changes to Jon by October 20 (two weeks from today). Jon will bring the suggestions for discussion to our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm.

Next meeting will be held on November 3, at 1:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Salgian