**TO:** Steering Committee

**FROM:** Steering Committee

**RE:** Final Recommendation on the Role of the IEPC

**DATE:** June 20, 2013

**Background:**

According to the governance document, the IEPC is charged as follows: “The IEPC makes recommendations to the Committee on Academic Programs (CAP) concerning standards and practices for foreign study.” The phrase “standards and practices” is vague and has led to conflicting interpretations of the committee’s charge. There has also been confusion as to the scope of the programs that the IEPC oversees. The committee’s charge clearly states foreign study is within the committee’s purview. Yet, the committee is often asked to render judgment on domestic off-campus programs.

As a result of these ambiguities and conflicting interpretations of the IEPC’s charge, the Interim Provost submitted a memo to the Steering Committee in December 2012 with a request that the charge of the IEPC be clarified.

The Steering Committee circulated a preliminary recommendation in line with the Interim Provost’s memo, but testimony against the changes to the IEPC’s role proposed by the Interim Provost was widespread and persuasive. The IEPC, according to the testimony that Steering received, fulfills a vital role in the development and review of faculty-led study-abroad courses, as well as in the internationalization of campus.

**Charge:**

Using the Interim Provost’s memo of December 2012 as a starting point, the Steering Committee is charged with clarifying the nature and role of the IEPC within governance.

**Final Recommendation:**

The Steering Committee recommends that, in order better to fulfill its role, the IEPC be renamed the Global Engagement Program Council and that the IEPC’s description in the Governance Document (“Governance Structure and Processes, 2011”) be amended as follows:

**Global Engagement Program Council (GEPC):** The GEPC makes recommendations to the Committee on Academic Programs (CAP) concerning standards and practices for undergraduate foreign study and domestic study-away programs and fosters the internationalization of campus.

(GEPC: 15 members) Program Director (TCNJ Center for Global Engagement), 8 faculty, 2 staff, 4 students. All members of the GEPC should have experience or expertise in study abroad, planning of international events on campus, and/or domestic study-away programs.