INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM COUNCIL

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Meeting Minutes ~ APPROVED

**PRESENT:**

Abourahma, Heba

Choi, Seung Hee

Didi-Ogren, Holly

Fay, Kevin

Fienberg, Gary

Mackie, Elizabeth

O’Connor, Susan

Paces, Cynthia

Stauff, Jon

**MINUTES:**

We convened at 1:30PM. The minutes were approved with no changes.

Cynthia Paces approved

Elizabeth Mackie seconded

**DISCUSSION POINTS:**

* Campus Internationalization: Kevin Fay and Jon Stauff reported on their recent trip to Brasil, South America.
  + Their trip was organized in partnership with Education USA and the US Department of Commerce.
  + There is significant TCNJ support for this outreach.
  + “Internationalization Through Partnerships”
* There has been a significant increase over last year in the number of international students attending TCNJ. The International House is receiving approximately 5 applications for every 1 opening [Jon Stauff].
* There is a new billing system being initiated; TCNJ is making the transition from outsourcing the billing of study-abroad students to the assumption of their bills and the integration of study-abroad payments into regular TCNJ billing cycles.
* Development of “TCNJ in …” programs for semester-long study abroad with faculty members teaching in the program and featuring TCNJ credit for the coursework. Faculty-Led Programs Abroad:
  + Cynthia Paces noted that there is a significant challenge in recruiting TCNJ faculty to lead these programs. Jon Stauff replied that there are a variety of options in order to support these recruitment efforts.
  + Jon also mentioned that TCNJ has identified a new peer group; it includes higher institutions such as William & Mary.
    - Our peers have more faculty-led semester programs than we do.
    - We need to “change the way we change.”
  + Gary Fienberg asked about the status of the consortium, e.g. Frankfurt, Germany. Jon said that they are resistant to students who do not speak German which is affecting the number of students and types of programs that utilize this consortium relationship.
  + Jon also mentioned that we have added a number of English-speaking destinations.
  + As always, solid curricular integration is critical.
* TCNJ now has an English Language Institute:
  + Support faculty learning how to teach young international students;
  + Housing issues;
  + International student recruitment.
* Sub-committees for the upcoming year:
  + International Students
    - Seung Hee will see if she can get access to the survey that was done last year in order to summarize its results.
    - Holly will see if she can help Seung Hee get access.
  + Student Petitions
    - Members: Holly Didi-Ogren / Heba Abourahma
    - This sub-committee is responsible for compiling a list of approved programs.
    - It will meet once a semester.
    - September 25, 2012 is the petition deadline.
  + Faculty-Led Programs
    - Members: Cynthia Paces / Elizabeth Mackie / Jon Stauff [ex-officio]
    - Currently, these programs are originating from certain majors/minors as well as from certain cross purposes.
  + Strategic Planning [Mission]
    - Members: Gary Fienberg / Heba Abourahma
    - This sub-committee is responsible for articulating a more specific, more targeted mission statement for IEPC.
* Council Role: We discussed this in more depth. We obviously play a part in reviewing the logistics of the various programs. On the other hand, there is a true lack of clarity regarding our role in reviewing and making recommendations about the curricular component.
  + This is not necessarily pertinent to those courses that have been approved through the regular College process. However, it is very relevant to “topics” course numbers and “independent study” course numbers that are not required to be submitted to the same College review and approval process.
  + Cynthia discussed the dynamic elements of how a course is taught in one place as opposed to another, e.g. the Holocaust course as taught in New Jersey versus in Israel.
  + In a similar vein, Liz Mackie asked whether or not we have a role in overseeing the multiplicity of programs and creating a balance of areas/topics/skills offered.
  + Jon mentioned that the School of Education needs a way to offer their students short-term programs.
  + Holly raised the concern over the course timing, e.g. does a short-term summer course abroad offer sufficient time to teach/integrate the same material as the course when it is taught on a full-semester basis.
  + There is a real concern over the policies/procedures/guidelines in respect to submission deadlines and proposal guidelines regarding our right to establish such policies/procedures/guidelines.
    - In this regard, we also discussed issues that affect the integrity of our study-abroad programs.
    - Cynthia raised the broader public import and political implication of courses taught abroad.
    - Jon mentioned that it is time to see if we can get our 2010 policy proposal re short-term, faculty-led programming out of Governance.
* Goals:
  + To obtain clarity from CAP regarding our charge:
    - We should propose a more definitive charge;
    - Cynthia thought that we might interpret the current charge to develop a more specific mission statement.
    - Gary suggested that we look at the charge/mission statements implemented by our peers.
  + To establish certain standards for exchange programs and “TCNJ in …” programs.
  + To develop a larger list of approved programs.
* The tension that exists over the creation of alternate streams of revenue and how that negatively impacts international programs was mentioned.
  + Liz noted the need to articulate the long-term goals of the established exchange relationships.
  + Liz also noted that faculty who go abroad are the ones who foster and support students going abroad.

**NEXT MEETING:**

* Wednesday, October 3, 2012 @ 1:30PM – 2:50PM. Location: SSB 232