

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ADVISORY GROUP MEETING, APRIL 18, 2008

Room 237 Swarts Hall, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford

Attendance: Isabelle Champlin, James Dombroski, Carys Evans-Corrales, Tony Gaskew, Shelley Jack, Bio'Dun Ogundayo.

1. Shelley Jack: Demonstration of a prototype for a website, created by her Freshman Cluster students. She advised, among other things, to keep the screen simple, not cluttered. It should be fun and interactive. The information should be “chunked”. Also, we must have a definite target audience in mind. Will our website be for students, or for this Advisory Group? BioDun Ogundayo also, on the blackboard, drew some ideas: to have sections for “Postcards or Blogs”, another for “Foreign Language”, one for the “International Studies program”, and a link to UCIS on main campus. Isabelle Champlin announced that Kong Ho, who could not be present, has agreed to help design the website.

2. Dean Hardin: Status of a newly proposed “International Studies Fund”

Dean Hardin could not attend, but Isabelle Champlin read a statement from him that a Strategic Initiative has been proposed, and he is making a list of budget considerations that incorporate international studies.

3. Isabelle Champlin: Update and Mission Statement At the last meeting, it was decided that we need to prioritize our set of goals (distributed at the last meeting), and to create a mission statement. Since the last meeting in February, the following tasks have been addressed:

- A Fulbright Committee was created (Champlin, Evans, and Gaskew).
- A Map Committee (Champlin, Gaskew, Maguire, Moritz) submitted a request for a standard wall map for all classrooms.
- A Strategic Initiative was designed by the I.S. director and submitted to Dean Hardin, to provide for more funding for faculty to travel and study abroad.
- A new revised list of Issues / Ideas / Goals has been created, based on the input from the last meeting. For example, we are now called “Advisory Group” instead of “Task Force”, the “Scholars-at-Risk Program” is specifically mentioned, and “film festivals” is added to a list of activities we might sponsor, along with conferences, lectures, and workshops.

It was realized that many of our goals could be accomplished or facilitated by the creation of a website. The website was moved to First Priority. The Mission Statement was deferred.

4. Open Forum: Discussions about study tours, campus activities, etc

Cary Evan-Corrales said she was interested in and researched the Scholars-at Risk Program. She urged us to explore it further. It might cost us very little.

<http://scholarsatrisk.nyu.edu/Beta/> (Champlin: There is also Fulbright Teacher Exchanges <http://www.fulbrightexchanges.org/>)

BioDun Ogundayo was concerned about promoting more foreign language study. He also will research criteria for gauging “global competence”.

Minutes by Isabelle Champlin, chair.