

International Studies Advisory Group Meeting of Feb. 27, 2008

Attendance: Les Buhite, Isabelle Champlin, Julie Dykstra, Steve Hardin, Carys Evans-Corrales, Rick Nelson, Holly Spittler.

Notes by Isabelle Champlin:

1. Isabelle Champlin distributed, for discussion purposes, a proposed composition and mission for the International Studies task force, explaining that many items were taken from other universities' websites. This document is attached.
2. The group decided we liked the name "advisory group" better than "task force".
3. We need a mission statement, a set of goals, to help internationalize our campus and our curricula. The International Studies Minor could be promoted more.
4. We could promote our own Study Abroad trips. Our faculty could take students abroad, if we could budget more money for this effort. Or have foreign students come here. Rick Nelson mentioned collaborating with business programs, such as in Shanghai, with small study tours.
5. We should look at the Scholars-at-Risk Program, as a way to bring foreign faculty to teach here.
6. We should advertise our Fulbright opportunities more.
7. Our website should be used much more, for recruitment as well as for advertising what is available. (A work-study student attached to the Dean's Office for Study Abroad was to do this task.)
8. Campus activities to promote study abroad already include: having the director of International Studies, and Dean Evans, speak at Freshman Seminar programs, having students who have studied abroad speak at Opportunities Day and other events, having the Study Abroad work-student regularly host an informational booth in the Commons.
9. It was suggested that "International Studies" be put on the Annual Giving Card as a target for donations.
10. It was suggested that "Be a clearing house for new information about Study Abroad opportunities" be added to the original list of Issues/Ideas.
11. It was suggested that Shelley Jack be asked how best to do an International Studies website, since her Freshmen Seminar group is working on this project.

An INTERNATIONAL STUDIES TASK FORCE or DISCUSSION GROUP is being proposed, chaired by the Director of International Studies.

Possible COMPOSITION of the Task Force/Discussion Group:
Director of International Studies
Foreign language teachers
Faculty who regularly take students abroad or who regularly incorporate international and multicultural perspectives
Students (presidents of Chispa, etc. clubs)
Staff (those who interact with foreign students/faculty at UPB)

ISSUES / IDEAS might be

- Coordinate multicultural experiences for the campus, such as the Cultural Festival in March.
- Help develop projects (research, curricular and extracurricular) that will enrich already established “international curricula”
- Advise about purchasing and utilizing equipment such as hand-held translators, for Japanese, Arabic, Chinese, or many other languages.
- Create a standing Fulbright Selection Committee, to interview and assist faculty and students seeking Fulbrights, and coordinating Fulbright Faculty Workshops on campus.
- Sponsor conferences, lectures and workshops on international studies, or on imminent global issues and international trends.
- Consider and hopefully annually select and sponsor a residential Visiting International Fellows program.
- Promote foreign language learning.
- Acquire feedback and facilitate cooperation between faculty, about Study Abroad / International Experiences.
- Establish criteria for gauging "global competence" among our students.
- Develop ways to enhance the continued internationalization of our curriculum, including sending UPB students to study abroad at YCC.
- Liaison with Alumnae Office about foreign-placed alumnae, alumnae tours.
- Be an advisory source for Council and other entities about study abroad (for both faculty and students).
- Prepare a budget for the Planning and Budget Committee, to enable these many projects.
- Request and manage a Foreign Travel Fund, to enable faculty to take students abroad for academic courses/experiences.

Champlin, Nov. 12, 2007, Revised Feb. 15, 2008