

**INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 2008**

Room 102 Blaisdell Hall, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford

Attendance: Isabelle Champlin, Carys Evans-Corrales, Kong Ho, Michael Stuckart, Philippe Van Berten. (Regrets from Les Buhite, Dean Harden, BioDun Ogundayo, Rick Nelson.)

1. Kong Ho: Demonstration of the working version of the International Studies website.

Kong volunteered a lot of his time for this project. It can be viewed at
www.upb.pitt.edu/issa/index.html

Kong asked for more pictures of faculty and students abroad. Note that some of the links do not yet have text, and all of the text will eventually be edited and polished. Suggestions for the website are welcome.

2. Carys Evans-Corrales: The Rosetta Stone system of language learning.

Carys gave a demonstration of this (in Turkish). She is already utilizing it in a Spanish 101 course and invited interested people to come see how it works (MWF at noon in Blaisdell). She has a meeting on Thursday, Oct. 9 with the Registrar and Dean to discuss how best to utilize this for language courses for credit.

3. PaCIE Memberships and Need for a Policy. UPB has a group membership of 12 faculty. Few of these faculty ever attend meetings of the Pennsylvania Council for International Education and new faculty who would be interested in joining are denied a seat. It was decided that a formal policy or ruling about membership was not necessary.

4. Trip Leader to Japan. Isabelle Champlin explained that any faculty member interested in leading the two week trip in May to Yokohama College of Commerce should contact Dean Hardin. While she is more than happy to return again, the privilege of doing this should be rotated.

5. Cultural Festival Committees. Lists of the committees and booths from last year were distributed. Anyone interested in helping with the festival should contact Holly Spittler or Isabelle Champlin. The Cultural Festival will be Feb. 21, 2009.

- A. Budget and Donations Committee
- B. Food Committee
- C. International Fashion Show
- D. Entertainment
- E. Set-up and Logistics
- F. Publicity
- G. Decorations
- H. International Booths

6. International Studies Courses. From the EPC minutes of Sept. 11, 2008, “a suggestion was made that there should be formal guidelines for proposing INTS courses—something more formal to show approval of International Studies advisory group, etc. I. Champlin felt the International Studies advisory board could create guidelines.”

The Advisory Group approved the following guideline; “To be designated as an “International Studies” course, it “must have a significant cross-cultural emphasis, or concern global issues or international relations, or be a penetrating analysis of a particular country. INTS courses are expected to be interdisciplinary, and can derive from diverse fields and departments.”

After a lengthy discussion, it was felt that the system now in place was adequate for proposing courses; that is, the courses are first approved at the level of divisions, and then forwarded to EPC. A list of the six International Studies courses, and a list of requirements and electives for the International Studies minor had been distributed for this discussion.

7. Proposed Annual Celebration for UPB on Oct. 2, Gandhi’s Birthday, “An International Day of Non-Violence” This is a new world event, first proposed by the United Nations in 2007. See <http://www.un.org/events/nonviolence/2008/index.shtml> Professors Mukerjee and Gajanan were contacted by Champlin, and have said that they were in favor of it. The Advisory Group approved of this proposal.

8. Open Forum

Carys Evan-Corrales said she was still interested in the Scholars-at Risk Program, and relayed her attempts to discover more about it. See <http://scholarsatrisk.nyu.edu/Beta/> Michael Stuckart suggested that she talk to the Office of International Services people from Oakland who will be here on Friday.

Notes by Isabelle Champlin