

MINUTES of the International Studies Advisory Group meeting,
Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010, at noon in 211 Swarts Hall.

In attendance: Isabelle Champlin, Martie Geiger-Ho, Kong Ho.
Regrets from Gillian Boyce, Carys Evans-Corrales, Lisa Fiorentino, Marietta Frank,
Tony Gaskew, Steve Hardin, Gary Tessmer, Don Ulin,

Items discussed:

*We need to encourage students to study in Japan (at Yokohama College of Commerce) and especially to go to Germany (at Heilbronn). Both these colleges have courses in English.

*There is now an application form for faculty interested in a faculty exchange position for a semester at Yokohama College of Commerce. (Attached : LINK)

*We will have two new visiting professors coming for Spring term, Dr. Fumio Kobayashi from Japan, and a muralist from Bulgaria, who will teach Art 0109: Mural Design. The current plan is to house both of them in the Grey House.

*A new International Studies Topic course for spring is INTS 0205: Retailing in Japan. It will be cross-listed with Marketing 0205.

*Gillian Boyce, who could not attend, emailed an update about ESL courses. She reports: Gary Tessmer (the only accredited ESL person on campus) will teach a Comp 2 ESL course in January and will tutor the ESL students. A Comp 1 ESL will be started the following fall. A strategic plan is being written to start a Writing Center next fall. The Coordinator would be qualified to not only run the center but also be ESL accredited to provide services. Right now the ASC tutors are receiving ESL training from Gary to help the ESL students referred from Comp 1 and Wayne Brinda will have his ELL students involved in providing further support. This should equal about 2-4 hours a week for each student if they wish it or require it.

*Study Abroad Trips

A) The Maya Archaeology Spring Break trip will be March 5-12. Students, faculty, staff, alumnae, family and friends of UPB are welcome. There is a standing student travel award from an alumnus available. And, for this year, an additional travel award from Kong Ho and Martie Geiger-Ho. There is more information about this trip on the Archaeology Minor website

http://www.upb.pitt.edu/rightFeature.aspx?menu_id=26&id=20586

B) The two week trip to Japan will be May 4-19, 2011. Please encouraged interested students to apply for a generous Travel Award. (ATTACHED)

C) Dr. Thomas' European History Club Trip in May will be to Spain this year.
Contact Jessica South

Notes taken by Isabelle Champlin, Director of International Studies