International Studies Council
Minutes, February 10, 2014


1. Minutes of Dec. 2, 2013 will be discussed/approved next meeting.

2. New Members:
   • Jim Hicks—Comp Lit, LLC, Isabel Espinal-Library, and Alberto Lloret—SpanPort, LLC.
   • Steve is still waiting for a response from a graduate student.
   • Jenny Spencer can no longer attend ISC. Her replacement might be Megan Lewis.
   • Need a representative from Graduate School. Steve Forrest will follow up.

3. Faculty Senate workflow of updated website:
   • The entire site is in the process of being converted to Drupal. Documents will be digitized.
   • The ISC and COPE site will be done some time before the Fall 2014 semester. But very soon there will be a new front-end visible to the Council. We will be able to upload minutes, agendas, and other documents. There will also be a web-based workflow for all COPE/ISC business similar to other councils such as GenEd. The IPO website can provide a link to the portal, but in all cases, the process will be at IPO, and then faculty/staff will be directed as appropriate. This was discussed in a COPE meeting last Fall, and Tim Lang is going to invite Bryan Beck from the Faculty Senate office to the COPE meeting next week.
   • Ashley Krause has resigned from the university but will work on a contractual basis for IPO to map out the procedures required for the website engine to generate faculty-led programs.
   • The new front-end could be done before the next meeting—please check it out on the Faculty Senate/ISC site.

4. Risk Management Workshops (Kalpen Trivedi):
   • IPO will be giving workshops on risk management and safety for short term faculty-led programs before the Spring and Summer Break, February 25th and April 14th. Will try to schedule a third.
   • Also if a faculty member cannot make a session, IPO can meet with them individually—but workshops are more productive when faculty share their experiences.
   • Would like to require every faculty member to attend one each year, but after the first session for new faculty members it could be every 3 years.

5. COPE Update (Tim Lang):
   • There were no new exchanges or MOUs.
   • As mentioned earlier, the previous IPO faculty-led program advisor and COPE member, Ashley Krause, has resigned. IPO is searching for a replacement and hopes to have one before the summer.
   • Until there is a replacement, Kalpen Trivedi will manage proposals for new faculty-led programs.
   • There are a few exchanges on the horizon and some renewals that IPO is working on.
   • COPE is looking for members. A number of names were mentioned for possibilities. They do not have to be ISC members.
6. Updates and reflections on ACE Committee progress (Kalpen Trivedi):
   - Jen Donais, Kalpen Trivedi, Elizabeth Mazzocco and Nancy Condon are the ACE members present at this ISC meeting.
   - Co-Chairs Joe Berger & Mzamo Mangaliso and Jack Ahern will be going to Washington, DC with drafts from the subcommittees to talk to ACE, Barbara Hill and meet with the other cohorts.
   - There will be another all-member ACE committee meeting with Co-Chairs Joe, Mzamo and Jack on Feb. 26 and March 26.
   - Jack will be recommending language to be integrated into the JTFO—the strategic plan.
   - What is the ACE charge? What language do we want? Maybe ISC could respond and give the ACE committee language. Drafts should be done before the ACE meeting on Feb. 26.
   - Margaret Allard handed to all members a letter sent to one of the subcommittees and to Jack Ahern about the urgent need for ESL as part of the internationalization process on campus. She says there is an institutional bias against ESL for non-native students. Nancy, who is on the ACE ISS subcommittee, said that they have addressed this as a definite need.

7. IPO Update (Kalpen Trivedi):
   - Jack traveled to India with the Chancellor and Om Parkash visiting Delhi, Bombay, Bangalore and Pune. Several MOUs for research collaborations were signed with top ranking institutions. No exchanges yet—this trip focused on research.
   - They meet with Ved Prakash, the chair of UGC, the sole federal statutory body that accredits and funds all higher education.
   - The 15 undergads that were going to go to India through Prakash’s program have been pushed back from this summer. UMass and UGC are still negotiating the timing—we prefer winter
   - The group also met with international baccalaureate high schools. Our Enrollment Management wants to focus on getting more Indian students.
   - IPO has a number of India roundtables scheduled, chaired by Jack.
   - In April, IPO will host another Fulbright workshop for faculty and scholars.
   - Discussion of MOUs: they do not need to pass through COPE. They are like a paper handshake with no financial commitment or academic credits.
   - Sharon Dormier of the Library wants a MOU between UMass and Hokkaido’s library to address differences of the libraries.

8. Kalpen provided an update on the events leading up to UMass severing ties with Living Routes:
   - This brings up issues with other 3rd party providers. Do we need a policy to review a 3rd party provider when one person is so integral to it and then they leave?
   - The issues with Living Routes were communication and transparency. It is very rare for communication to break down like that.
   - IPO meets regularly with its counterparts, exchanges and 3rd party providers, conducting many site visits.
   - There was a question about why the Provost had not provided an update about this to the Faculty Senate meeting in the New Year in the spirit of transparency and good communication with faculty. Kalpen responded that the concern of everyone involved with the decision was not to publicize the event because of the victim at the center of it all. Any public information has been provided by either Living Routes or the victim, but our working group had wanted to be very sensitive to privacy issues.