Faculty Senate International Programs Committee
October 1, 2009

MEETING MINUTES
3:30-4:30 pm, UC 333 – Apple River Room

Attendees: Rader (Chair), Ward, Tiedemann, Ngoboka, Johnson, Cooper, Nelson, Trechter

Called to order at 3:40 p.m.

1. Welcome and Intros. – Alex Nelson is student member (did travelling classroom), Gaye Ward will be substituting for M. Phinney, who is on sabbatical. Will also have rep from student services, Thomas Pedersen.

2. Minutes. – (Tiedemann and Trechter) moved to consider minutes from last year.
   Unanimous approval of April 16 minutes. For May 8 minutes several typos were noted (April 16 not 10, correction of academic year to 2009/10 and provided “an” update) – unanimous approval with corrections.

3. Chair’s Report. During summer, Chair met with Provost Delgado who had read both the SWOT analysis and the consultants report and found them useful and interesting. Seem serious about taking actions based on these reports in the context of implementing the strategic plan. Chair suggested we consider the tasks included in the strategic plan pertaining, mostly, to goal 3 (expand global literacy and engagement). Re international students, Provost sees need of moving logistical elements (visas, food, housing, etc.) to Student Services. Also raised issue of how do we handle international visiting scholars (housing, furnishings, etc.). Cabinet, in conjunction with faculty senate, is convening a task for on study abroad and disaster management to develop plans for handling emergency situations that might arise during study tours. Rader and Ed Robbins are on the committee and Radar expects recommendations to come through this committee. International education week is coming up Nov 16-20.

4. New Business. – topics for the committee for the year
   a. Suggest we use consensus voting rather than roll call. May speed work of committee rather than roll call
   b. International consultants’ report – Cooper asked what has been done with the report. The committee discussed it generally at May 8th meeting, which lacked a quorum for action. Key results included stronger focus on academic outcomes of tours, improving advising (so that international travel is raised), and suggestion that we find a more academic way to describe the tours so there isn’t a sense that these are vacations. Reorganization of Global Connections, based on suggestions, also an emerging outcome. Cooper suggested that committee formally forward the report to Faculty Senate. The Chair has forwarded it to Faculty Senate Chair Rainville. Tiedemann and Cooper suggest that Committee be proactive in defining what elements of the suggested changes be implemented. Chair requested committee go through reports and identify
things on which the committee should focus. One of the things noted by the Chair is that there seem to be substantial differences in terms of rigor and expectations across study tours.

c. Need to consider strategic plan tasks and see if there are some that are addressed by the consultants’ report.

d. Also need to take up compensation issues for study tour leaders to make them more equivalent to J-Term and Summer compensation. Also need to consider compensation for tour preparation. There are also on-going questions about overhead charges – should it be just FICA or the full overhead charge?

e. Should continue moving forward in developing process for approving travel abroad programs. This should include a set of student learning outcomes and a standard process for approval.

f. ACE Kenya – model a program in Singapore (ACE - (American Center for Education). Some initial conversations with Cooperative College in Nairobi with focus on bus and ag within cooperatives. Idea is to identify courses that both institutions would accept – like an articulation agreement. ACE was creation of collaboration between UWRF and school in Singapore – we provided them with gen ed requirements so they could model classes to meet those learning outcomes and be acceptable as transfer credits. This model might be followed with Kenyan program. Goal is to increase number of international students at UWRF by having them take some basic courses in their home region. Committee said that faculty involvement should be included in these developments.

Respectfully submitted
David Trechter