Faculty Senate International Programs Committee

November 19, 2009

MEETING MINUTES

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

Called to order at 3:40 p.m.

Attendees:  Rader (Chair), Greene, Johnson, Ngoboka, Pedersen, Trechter, Ward

Missing:  Dennis Cooper, Robyne Tiedeman

Minutes approved by consensus for November 12, 2009.

Chairs Report:  None

New Business:

Chair distributed a draft motion for compensation for study tours – to establish policies and procedures to be implemented by Office of Global Connections.  Discussed whether this should be shared with the Compensation Committee and generally felt that it should be.  Historically, tour leaders have been paid $1,300 per credit.  Now, in some colleges, overloads paid at different rates.  The motion says that tour leaders “may” be compensated up to the maximum paid during J-Term and Summer term.  Motion also calls for 1 credit of compensation for preparation and 1 credit for logistical preparation.  Goal is to make this more attractive and, hence, sustainable, for more faculty involvement in study abroad.  Faculty currently work with Brent to determine the amount students are charged for these opportunities – leaders get the tuition dollars and adjust the “special course fee” to cover the amount they need to cover their costs and salary.  Faculty can get “back pay” in the sense that if a tour doesn’t cover its expenses in one year but does more than that in the next year, leader can capture be paid additional salary.

Amended wording in motion to change “study tours” to “study abroad courses” and the Director of Global Connections title to Director of International Education Programs.”

Suggested that the last line of the motion be dropped and preceding line read, “In addition, faculty may receive up to one credit for course preparation and one credit for coordination of logistics for their study tour subject to the tour generating sufficient revenue to cover these expenses.

Motion, as amended, passed by consensus.
12. Determine broader campus commitment to WIS and structure plans for UWRF’s engagement with the site as appropriate. **Low priority** – suggested this be left to steering committee.

13. Identify new opportunities to maximize use of WIS site. **Low priority** – suggested this be left to steering committee. (group with item 12). Convey to steering committee that Faculty Int Prog Cmte is available to provide feedback to their work.

14. Actively address non-academic “add on” perception in all marketing efforts and communications materials. Seek to proactively send message of inclusion, diversity, and relevance. **High priority** Concern here is to be sure and market these as serious academic program, not a vacation. This is part of program development/approval process (#7). Should perhaps develop checklist of what should be included in promotional material.

15. Seek more information and data on who is NOT going abroad and why. **High Priority** Group with second portion of item 14 (inclusive, diverse, relevant) and item 18. Chair will ask for demographic data on study abroad participants vs overall student body.

16. Generate dedicated scholarship funds both to assist with funding and to show institutional priority. **Low priority for committee but very important to campus**. Committee could send memo to Foundation and Deans to encourage them to create such a scholarship fund. Brent will draft memo indicating our support for such a fund.

17. Improve advising materials for students in early stages of program selection and planning. **Low priority** – suggest that this be sent to advising committee.

18. Add information for diverse students to program information. See item 15.

19. Explore group or club for returned students. Work with career offices for how to incorporate experience. **Moderate priority** – on forming club, could include a re-entry seminar as part of course development process (#7) to ensure there is some post trip reflection. Committee will initiate a conversation with career services about how to use this experience.
20. Address staffing and issue of expertise. **High priority** Directed at Global Connections and may have been specific to the particular time of the consultants’ visit. Could send memo in support of an assessment of Global Connection staffing level and expertise to determine if both are at adequate level.