Faculty Senate International Programs Committee

December 3, 2009

MEETING MINUTES - Approved

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

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

Missing: Cooper, Johnson, Nelson

Guests: Provost Delgado

Called to order at 3:30 p.m.

Minute for November 19 meeting approved, by consensus

Chairs Report:

The Chair reported that he and Brent Green had gone through the Faculty Study Abroad Handbook concerning risk management approval and procedures for emergencies. The Study Abroad Risk management Committee has been discussing these this semester. The results will be announced next semester.

New Business:

The chair then introduced Provost Delgado, who made a presentation about current and future policies and procedures concerning foreign study programs and agreements with foreign institutions. Provost Delgado discussed both the External and Internal Reports concerning International programs here at UWRF. He discussed both the strengths and weaknesses which were pointed out in the reports. He pointed out that there is a growing culture to improve our international programs and to bring more international students here, though there are some frustrations as well.
However, it seems that we may have overreached our resources and need to research and implement more best practices and that we also need to strengthen our policies, procedures, and also our infrastructure. Regarding these issues, Provost Delgado stressed that he wanted the faculty and the International Programs Committee to have a strong voice and to be deeply involved in all changes that will take place. For example, study abroad programs will no longer be called “Study tours.” Instead, the committee will come up with new names for these programs. We also need to be sure that we have adequate resources to conduct and implement all such programs at a very high level of quality. We should do fewer projects and then do these as well as we can. We also need to consider which foreign and/or institutions which we should partner with. We should only partner with high quality institutions which with help us to enhance our programs here and be an asset to our School as a whole. Finally, in the future there will be a uniform procedure for signing MOUs and MOAs with international institutions, according to which these documents must be signed by either the Provost or the Chancellor. The discuss which took place during the Provost’s presentation was very informative and also very productive.

Finally, by consensus, the meeting was called to a close until next semester.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robyne Tiedeman