Minutes
Faculty Senate International Programs Committee
Monday, June 6, 3:30, in KFA 140.

Present: Wes Chapin, International Studies Program; Brent Greene, Global Connections; Michael Miller, Dean’s Council Rep.; Pascal Ngoboka, CBE; Charlie Rader, CAS; Don Taylor, CAFES; Marshall Toman, CAS, Chair.
Absent: Margaret Phinney, COEPS.

Convened 3:33 p.m.

Reports
None.

Minutes
Minutes 5/6 (which were attached to the agenda) were approved through email (circulated to members present at the May meeting) as agreed upon so as not to wait for a perhaps slightly reconstituted IP to approve them and get them posted. An additional meeting was not anticipated until September. The chair suggested and found approval for a similar procedure for these the June 6 meeting, minutes as the circumstances are similar.

Old Business
None

New Business
1. A motion to approve of year-end report (which was attached to the agenda) thus far, with this meeting’s results to be added and circulated for approval for subsequent submission to the Senate and archive (Charlie, Pascal) passes unanimously

2. Advising Issues (Running Agenda Item).

Should emeriti and retired education abroad leaders be prohibited/allowed/encouraged to continue to lead education abroad courses? Is a policy statement desirable for this question?

Discussion
An important factor in the decision would be whether an active faculty member is in waiting.

My thought process was as follows. “(1) If I think of myself as a retiring faculty member, I want to be able to do so. (2) I shouldn’t be allowed. For one thing, the experience is intended for faculty to improve their classrooms, and as a retiree, I would not be able to offer such a benefit. (3) I’d have more time and could do an even better job. (4) There is a limited market for such courses, and I should not be allowed to infringe upon junior faculties’ abilities to create viable courses.”

Those people who have been involved have invested a lot. Some programs are very personalized and difficult to replace and are intended to pay off over a long haul. The situations
should be looked at on a case-by-case basis. What if someone is very involved, and no one wants to take it over? We’ve had some education abroads to Vietnam. Now, no one wants to go to Vietnam. And, what happens if lots of leaders retire at the same time?

Often, the personal touch is paramount. Nick Karolides led education abroad courses to Greece over decades successfully. When he retired for that endeavor, he worked to identify and direct faculty to take over the course. After two different iterations, not successful, by two leaders, the course needed to be cancelled.

Most of the recruitment takes place in the classroom. These education abroad courses led by retirees are less likely to be viable therefore.

We tend to think of students as the primary beneficiaries of education abroad, but faculty benefit from education abroad. We want to internationalize our faculty, and that entails sending new faculty abroad and not relying on retirees.

A situation can become messy when an education abroad leader is no longer as responsible to UWRF as is a tenureline faculty.

As a result of discussion, the IP resolved (Don, Charlie) unanimously the following.

The committee recommends the following as a general policy: education abroad leaders should be active tenureline faculty. Junior faculty should be encouraged to develop new education abroad courses or take over existing programs. Retirees should be considered only if their course meets UWRF’s strategic needs, and there is no alternative. June 6.

Ancillary Discussion

Strategic planning is important unless we acknowledge that the education abroads are overwhelmingly personally driven.

We need a strategic plan to help younger faculty.

Should we cover globe or focus on areas?

We need a reward structure that says UWRF values internationalizing efforts.

As a result of discussion, the IP resolved (Charlie, Brent) unanimously the following.

The committee will forward the following specific resolution to the Faculty Welfare Committee, Internationalization is important in UWRF’s strategic plan and should be recognized and encouraged in retention, promotion and salary decisions as is strongly stated in UWS ACIS 7, as an example of the general notion that

Those areas that are important in the UWRF strategic plan should be recognized and encouraged in retention, promotion and salary decisions, and with intention of furthering discussion within the Faculty Welfare Committee on retention, promotion and salary decisions.

Adjourned 4:28 p.m.