SENATE COMMITTEE ON GLOBAL PROGRAMS

Minutes for Meeting #1, September 9th, 2014

Members Present: Michael Adewumi, Andrew Ahr, Paul Barsom, Colleen Connolly-Ahern, Gregory Crawford, Juan Fernandez-Jimenez, Andrew Freiberg, Ian Gilchrist, Richard Harnish, Valerie Ann Lynn, Lisa Mangel, Nicole Webster

Members Absent: M. Amanul Haque, John Nousek, Nicole Roberts, Wareesha Tariq

Guests:
Sylvester Osagie

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Minutes of April 29, 2014 Approved

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Colleen Connolly-Ahern summarized information from the September 8, 2014 6:30 PM Officer and Chairs meeting in 102 Kern. The summary specifically focused on the fact that internationalization is a large University issue. Thus there will be liaison opportunities this year with other committees.

Examples given for liaison opportunities:
  o Internationalization Report by the Educational Equity and Campus Environment Committee.
  o Curricular Affairs Committee report on embedded programs after the start of the semester.
  o Undergraduate Education Committee report addressing internationalization.
  o Update on diversity by the Student Life Committee.

OLD BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS
1. Courses with a Travel Component interviews (2013-2014)
Colleen stated that there are 91 pages of data from interviews concerning Courses with a Travel Component (2013-2014). So far there seem to be very nice quotes to place in the report for Senate. This information still needs analysis; however, similar issues seem to be the following:
  o Big issue is money – staff and money from student perspectives.
  o Concerns about risk at the administrative level.
  o Problem in not being able to place the embedded programs on bursars account.

It was decided that the committee should bring in someone from Risk Management to discuss issues involved in international travel. The committee also would like to see if globalization issues should be a LionPATH priority.
2. Update on Global Programs from Vice Provost Adewumi
   Thank you
   - Thank you to returning members and Greg Crawford on his committee leadership (2013-2014)
   - Thank you to Colleen Connolly-Ahern and Lisa Mangel for their leadership (2014-2015)

Globalization
- Vice Provost Adewumi stated that globalization is one of the highest priorities for the University. Excellence is the first priority and student engagement is second with study abroad as one avenue of student engagement. In a recent meeting President Barron stated that the Pennsylvania State University is an expensive and worthwhile University. Thus students should take advantage its opportunities, especially study abroad. However, one of the greatest constraints is money. PSU is currently ranked 19th in the country on universities sending students abroad (approximately 3000 students/year). There is a priority in terms of fundraising as well as supplemental scholarships.

Corporate Ready
- International travel transform lives but the question is if students are corporate-ready. This will be a focus in the upcoming years.

International Students
- International student numbers have been increasing. Five years ago the numbers were in the three thousands, last year 7,300; this year registration is expected to end with over 8,000 international students. The ratios of undergraduate to graduate students are also changing. In 2010 the ratio was approximately one. Now, there are approximately 5,100 undergraduate international students and 2,600 graduate international students. With the increasing numbers of undergraduate students there needs to be a little more care for these students. There is a proposal to create a student engagement program throughout their four years.
  - Year 1 – integration to PSU/US culture
  - Year 2 – integration to the community at large
  - Year 3 – leadership opportunities
  - Year 4 – embed the culture of giving (philanthropy)
To make sure engagement tries to bring international students to interact with domestic students, there will be chances to mingle with domestic students and domestic opportunities for interaction (service learning opportunities).
There also needs to be discussion of the academic resources needed to help international students succeed. Some campuses do not have infrastructure for international students (educational equity).

Education Abroad and Embedded Courses
- Education abroad has increased 9% over the last year. The trend in the country is steady or declining in this area. Currently we have one 1,498 students studying abroad. There are also 1,100 faculty leading programs, which are just as important. Faculty members need to be encouraged to participate (faculty are the key) and most are onboard. For example, the Dean of Engineering has listed one of his top priorities as getting his students to go abroad. He is trying to provide funding for faculty proposals and Vice Provost Adewumi is trying to find matching funds.

Global Engagement Network (GEN)
- Global Engagement Network (GEN) is a network of strategic partnerships with peer institutions around the world that share Penn State's commitment to solving the world's most pressing challenges through a multi-layered engagement of research, faculty, and student collaboration. The strategic partners in GEN will be exploring diversity and thematic approaches in their partnerships. During a three day long meeting beginning May 11, 2014 a theme of global health was discussed. A look at communicable diseases and non-communicable diseases through research and set policies, which seems to be a critical link between global health and organization, was explored. The thought is to try to create a global health network. There will be another meeting in October. Another theme discussed was shale gas drilling and production.

Student Recruitment
- Pennsylvania State University is trying to create joint ventures and co-directors. An example of this would be our relationship with the University of Technology in China. New relationships will focus on multi-focus joint centers. These centers will allow recruitment of students from diverse areas of the world. Currently China represents 40% of our international students. A first center of consideration would be in India, another in West Africa, and a third in Germany (University of Freiburg). There is interest in increasing numbers of European students.

Campus engagement
- A top priority is to try to engage all PSU campuses in promoting faculty led embedded programs and supplemental scholarships (David Christiansen is organizing workshops for Commonwealth Campuses). Promotion of University-wide standards for study abroad programs would be beneficial.
Worldwide Universities Network (WUN)

- Pennsylvania State University has been a member of the Worldwide Universities Network since 2000. An investment analysis was conducted and the conclusion was that the total investment does not justify continuing to be a member. It is thought that the focus of WUN is too much on research and PSU wants to focus on student engagement. On July 21, 2015 we will terminate our agreement.

Questions/Concerns/Ideas

- Greg Crawford – Do we have a breakdown of international students at UP vs. Commonwealth Campuses?
- Answer – We don’t have the exact numbers yet.
- Colleen – There is a travel registry issue. The University needs to know what student is where in case we have to get any student out of danger. HTH insurance is approximately $1/day but we need to know where the students are in order to cover those students with insurance; thus, the need for a student registry and a faculty registry for everyone that travels abroad.
- Michael – Faculty to register themselves. The faculty will not have to pay for this insurance if they are traveling for PSU business because there is a blanket coverage for every member of the community.
- Andrew Freiberg – Need to get the word out.
- Colleen – This should be an informational report to the Senate with a link on the Global Programs website.
- Ian – Countries that send people here seem to either have government funding or have individuals of elite status. Some of the countries where we want to recruit do not have the social status to invest (fewer resources). We might need to be more active because it is not nearly as easy to get students from those countries.
- Michael – Yes, this is one of the challenges we will face. There are proposals for scholarships for international students.
- Greg – Does Global Programs have a Development Office?
- Michael – We did but not now. He is looking into hiring. We have not tracked international students (alumni) but we need to start to do that. This is going to be a priority for potential funding.
- Colleen – Is there anything being done about accepting the three-year European degrees – PSU will not accept these, so a graduate degree from PSU is not possible.
- Michael - We are going to look at this on a case-by-case basis and make some exceptions

Alumni Association

- We would like to bring in a member of the Alumni Association for a discussion/answer session concerning a structure for international students. Many international students fall off the radar because they are not members of the Alumni Association and for a number of reasons they probably will not become
members of the Alumni Association. However, these alumni can be a great resource to the University in recruiting international students, funding of international students, etc. It was mentioned that many ivy league counterparts do a much better job at reaching out to former students, whether they are in an alumni association or not. Currently PSU tends to think of itself as a local university and not an international university. The committee may want consider a benchmarking study on this issue (Purdue, Michigan State, etc.)

Course Designations

- *99 (international travel) does not allow for half credits. Thus there is a move toward *97 (special topics). We need a course designation that works best for full and partial credits. *99 would be the best alternative for the students since the transcript will show the international travel. *99 would also be better for the students since it would make it easier for them to search for courses during registration that would have an international travel component.

3. Adjournment of Global Programs Committee

- Bill Kelly announced a big forensic session on literacy in the 21st century (how do we develop world literacy). He is looking for collaboration. The Outreach Committee and the Undergraduate Committee will be part of this. Is anyone interested in working on this as well?

- Do we want to work on this as a whole committee or break into subcommittees? Consensus was to stay as a whole because we are not a very big group but if anyone wants to take the lead on a particular subject please let us know.

- We will be in touch asking about liaison committee work. Please let us know if you have preferences.

The meeting was adjourned - 10:37 a.m.

Submitted by Lisa Mangel, Vice Chair