

Standing Committee Annual Report

Name of Committee or Council:

International Committee

Chair

Dr. Karen D. Sorenson, Professor of French

Meeting Dates in Current Year:

10/06/09; 11/09/09; 2/12/10; 2/25/10

Major Actions or Accomplishments:

The International Standing Committee is charged with reviewing and making recommendations on new study-abroad and exchange program proposals; evaluating and making recommendations on existing programs; serving as a campus voice for state-wide discussions on international policies and programs; and assisting in the development of new strategic goals for the university in regards to international programs.

Due to the large increase in new international programs in AY 2008-2009, including new short-term programs in Russia and Japan, new exchange programs in Austria and Korea, and a resurrected program in Taiwan, there were no new program proposals in the Fall semester of 2009 for the International Committee to review. New programs are being investigated, but none reached the proposal or approval stage during AY 2009-2010. Instead, the International Committee took advantage of the opportunity to implement the new international programs and to focus on strengthening the processes and infrastructure that support and sustain international programs at Austin Peay:

- The Study Abroad Assessments developed in the Spring of 2009 by the International Committee's subcommittee on Assessment and Evaluation were implemented on current SAB programs.
- We sent a committee member to represent APSU at a TnCIS board meeting.
- We reviewed TnCIS program proposals and made recommendations regarding APSU participation in those programs.
- We worked with the interim Coordinator of International Education throughout the Fall semester to support recruitment for existing Study Abroad programs.
- We met to view and discuss the Study Abroad Best practices webinar (Magna Publications, coordinated at APSU by subcommittee chair Tammy Bryant).
- We continued our focus on best practices in international education, using the Forum for Education Abroad's *Standards of Good Practice for Short-Term Study Abroad* (2009) as well as their *Code of Ethics for Education Abroad* (2008).
- We participated in the first mandatory Faculty Orientation for directors of Study Abroad programs (provided by the Office of International Education).
- The Scholarships subcommittee met to review applications and select recipients of study-abroad scholarships.

- While the Faculty, Staff and Student International Research Opportunities Subcommittee (commonly known as the Fulbright subcommittee) was not able to bring a Fulbright scholar to APSU this year as hoped, we were able to bring to campus the first of several Québécois scholars from a variety of disciplines through the generosity of the Québec government.
- We worked to renew APSU's agreement with the Mid-Continent Consortium for International Education, and worked toward the establishment of an exchange agreement with the Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (the host institution for APSU's Study Abroad in Quebec program since 1994). We anticipate that this agreement will be signed by both institutions during the summer of 2010.
- In addition, the International Committee and its Policy and Guidelines subcommittee reviewed (in an advisory capacity) the drafts of new policies initiated by International Education in response to TBR policy 2:08:10:00.

Goals for 2010-2011:

- Host a visiting Fulbright scholar and/or exchange scholars from one or more international partner institutions.
- Strengthen the reporting and review process for Study Abroad and Exchange programs.
- Support the Office of International Education's efforts to bring APSU in line with new TBR policy 2:08:10:00.
- Study and implement best practices to support international students, faculty and US faculty doing research abroad.
- Create new subcommittee to plan programming, including foreign films, events and speakers, in conjunction with the Center for Excellence in the Creative Arts.
- Create a new international grant for faculty scholars. This grant would be linked to creating new courses with significant international content or significantly increasing the international content of an existing course.

Submitted 5/25/10