

Standing Committee Annual Report

Name of Committee or Council:

International Committee

Chairs

Dr. Karen D. Sorenson, Professor of French (Fall 2015); Dr. Daniel P. Shea, Associate Professor of English (Spring 2016)

Meeting Dates in Current Year:

Meetings of full committee: 9/11; 10/23; 11/13; numerous subcommittee meetings and events

Major Actions or Accomplishments:

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

The September meeting of the International Committee reviewed four new Study Abroad program proposals. The proposals were reviewed and discussed by the members of the committee, and the committee's recommendations and comments were forwarded to Dr. Chandler. The committee recommended approving three programs for the upcoming year: "Art & Culture of Italy," "Internationalizing the Classroom: Sweden," and "Nontraditional Pharmacology and History in Antigua." It is worth noting that the programs to Sweden and Antigua were approved with recommendations, which included amendments and corrections to the proposals; site visits; and adjustments in the credit loads. Finally, the committee recommended that a fourth proposal, "Comparative Criminal Justice and Public Administration in Ireland," should be deferred until the following review cycle. Dr. Sorenson forwarded a letter explaining the committee's recommendations along with the individual faculty members' voting rubrics to Dr. Marissa Chandler.

The October and November meetings of the International Committee were devoted to discussing and planning ongoing efforts to inform the campus community of study abroad opportunities; hearing updates on issues pertaining to study abroad and international education from the International Education Office; and discussing the status of study abroad and International Education on campus.

As in previous years, the International Committee also helped plan and to provide active support for various international events and educational opportunities scheduled for 2015-2016. These activities included the "Study Abroad 101" sessions; the Study Abroad Fair; International Night, a Study Abroad Reunion at Homecoming for alumni and current student study abroad participants; and two workshops designed to help study abroad students write effective essays for the study abroad scholarships to which they were applying.

Review of APSU policy 2:018 (Development and Operation of Off-Campus International Educational Programs) began in the Spring semester. Dr. Shea reviewed the policy and submitted a set of recommended revisions and concerns to Dr. Chandler; the two then met with Dr. Crosby to discuss the recommended revisions. With changes to the structure and personnel of the International Committee anticipated, we have, at Dr. Crosby's recommendation, put the revisions to the policies on hold pending the announcement of the new committee's structure and personnel.

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Name of Committee or Council:

International Committee

Chair

Dan Shea, Interim Chair (during K.
Sorenson's leave)

Meeting Dates in Current Year:

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Major Actions or Accomplishments:

The International Committee did not meet during the Spring 2016 semester because the primary job of the International Committee is to review study abroad proposals and these proposals are submitted only in the Fall semesters. We did begin work on the review of study abroad policies, but await specific information from the university and the opportunity to gather input from the permanent chair of the committee before submitting the proposed revisions for the review and approval of the committee. This should be complete in the fall.