

GEAC Minutes 2.10.17

Attendees: Stephen Stoyhoff, Robert Fleischman, Robyn Ceurvorst, Mark Constantine, Oscar Gonzalez, Abo-El-Yazeed Habib, Eiji Kawabata, Sarah Schliesmann, Hongxia Yin, Debra Norman, Moses Langley, Vincent Winstead, Steven Losh, Phil Larson, Kaori Seavey, Panhia Lee, and Cheryl Azarbod (notetaker)

GEAC endorsed the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology's interest in completing international articulation agreements with Xian Technological University and Xian Aeronautical University.

GEAC endorsed the completion of a transfer pathway agreement between the University and SEGi University System (Malaysia).

GEAC endorsed renewing the partnership agreement with Nagasaki University (Japan).

Assoc. Provost Fleischman provided the Council details about the proposed partnership agreement between the University and the government of Costa Rica and the University of Costa Rica. This partnership is expected to be a broad-based agreement that presents opportunities for the University to collaborate with the national government and several educational institutions in Costa Rica across a wide range of academic and research initiatives of mutual interest. This will be the first trilateral partnership in which the University collaborates with both a national government and a leading university in a country. MSU Mankato will be one of only three U.S. institutions that has a partnership agreement with the government of Costa Rica.

GEAC endorsed the completion of an agreement between the University and the government of Costa Rica. The proposed agreement will be shared with the Council of Deans.

Winstead provided the Council an update on the Brazil initiative. The ad hoc faculty working group is comprised of Fritz (chair), Contag, Habib and Winstead. The charge of the group was to explore potential partnerships between the University and Brazilian institutions. The Brazil Scientific Mobility Program (BSMP) was a very successful program during its 36-month timeframe. The students were successful and very qualified. Fritz is from Brazil and Contag is currently in Brazil on sabbatical. The group identified four potential universities in the southern part of the country: 1) Federal University of Rio Grande de Sol; 2) Technical University of Parana; 3) Federal University of Santa Catarina; and 4) Federal University of Oro Puerto. Contag will follow up in person. Stoyhoff noted that Brazil is one of 6 strategic countries in the University's international strategic plan.

Stoyhoff reported CIEE awards the University a \$2,000 grant to support faculty participation in its international faculty development seminars. One faculty member applied. GEAC approved allocation of \$2000 in support of the faculty member's participation in a CIEE summer seminar.

Langley (Psychology) proposed an approach to supporting faculty-led summer programs that included dedicating a portion of the tuition revenue from a summer faculty-led course to cover the salary and possibly the leader expenses associated with the course. College deans have the discretion to allocate 73% of the summer tuition revenue to meet college priorities. A robust discussion occurred with respect to Langley's proposal. Stoyhoff agreed to share the proposal with Dean Bevacqua when they next meet. Langley was encouraged to share his proposal with faculty colleagues and Dean Bevacqua.

Stoynoff reviewed the rationale for GEAC's development of guidelines for partnership development. The Council reviewed the Draft of Partnership Guidelines that was distributed prior to the meeting and Council members made several suggestions. Ceurvorst recommended the addition of spaces for signatures on the form. Habib mentioned the importance of including a list of partnerships on the Global Education website and having it designate which partnerships are active and inactive and how many students are exchanged. Gonzalez emphasized the importance of not duplicating partnerships without a good rationale.

GEAC endorsed the draft guidelines and Stoynoff will forward the document to the Council of Deans for consideration.

Losh (Geology/Chemistry) and Larson (Geography) offered suggestions to the Council on how to define a study away course. The faculty and Council members discussed the implications of having study away leaders and student participants register in the StudioAbroad database. The group agreed that it would be useful to meet with the University risk management officer, Chandler Holland, to get Chandler's perspective on liability and risk management issues related to study away courses and to report back to the Council. There appeared to be consensus that study away courses could be defined as those that include "program fees" and involve overnight stays. The faculty and Council members also believed there was benefit to having study away faculty leaders and students register in a centralized database (StudioAbroad).