Minutes from the Council on International Education

2:00 PM, Friday, September 11, 2015

Horrabin Hall 60 and the Quad Cities Codec Room

In attendance: Gary Schmidt (chair), Pedro Bidegaray (ex officio), Douglas Huff, George Gunzenhauser (at QC campus), Rafael Obregon, Sean Cordes, and Michael Murray.

I. Welcome & Introductions of CIE members

II. Brief presentation by Dr. Pedro Bidegaray:

Dr. Bidegaray asked for support from the CIE to promote comprehensive internationalization of the campus and emphasized that study abroad is just one component of this. He would like to extend the benefits of international education across the university and solicited feedback from the committee regarding the composition of a new "steering committee" for international education that he is forming. He also expressed the desire to create a summer institute to provide training on how to combine academic and experiential learning.

III. Discussion of proposed change to FL/GI Requirements (in re.: report of ad hoc committee):

Dr. Schmidt reviewed history of the proposed changes to the FL/GI requirement, and concluded by saying CAGAS had asked the CIE to look at the proposed changes again. There was some difficulty with the wording of the FL/GI requirement, especially with what “proficiency” was presumed to mean in terms of the foreign language requirement, and with what “experience” should mean in terms of the global issue course requirement.

After discussion, motion was made & seconded to change the wording of the FL/GI requirement from its current wording to the following (changes to be made are shown ~~as crossed out~~):

1. Successfully complete one of the following: **~~options~~**~~:~~

* Complete three years of high school language study in a single language with an average grade of C or better.
* ~~For students whose native language is English, pass an appropriate test offered by the WIU Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures.~~
* Complete, with **a** grade of C or better, **one semester** of **a** University-level **course which meets the goals and objectives of the foreign language requirement.**
* For international students whose native language is not English and who have been admitted to WIU, satisfy WIU’s admission requirements for English language proficiency.

1. Earn credit for a General Education course that is designated as “Global Issues.”
2. Earn credit for a 300-level or higher course in the major, or in another department, that is designated as “Global Issues.”
3. Successfully complete a WIU Study Abroad program of sufficient length and breadth.

Discussion followed with the Council agreeing that any one course by itself was not enough to instill cultural awareness in students, but that it was at least a beginning towards achievement of this goal.

Motion made to vote for the revised FL/GI wording as shown above, and seconded. Vote was unanimous as made by voting members present.

IV. Discussion of GI Course Review Process:

Dr. Schmidt explained that the CIE does the initial course review for Global Issues courses, as well as for short term Study Abroad programs. The question was raised as to how courses are reevaluated, and whether CIE approval is intended to last forever.

Discussion brought to light the lack of criteria to decide whether a course should remain approved, and the Council agreed that the review should occur at the department level. Dr. Gunzenhauser mentioned that many departments are reaccredited at specific intervals, and their Global Issues courses should be included in this process as well. Dr. Schmidt said he would send everyone on the Council the Global Issues course criteria for review.

V. New business – none

VI. Motion to adjourn & seconded.

Next meeting will be Friday, Sept. 25th, 2015 at 2:00 PM

Minutes submitted by Michael Murray