**SENATE AGENDA ITEM III.G.1.**

**30 August 2011**

**Council for International Education Annual Report, 2010-2011**

This is the third year that CIE dealt with the procedures for implementing the Foreign Language/Global Issues requirement. Overseeing FL/GI was a responsibility that was given to CIE during the 2007-2008 academic year. During the 2008-2009 academic year CIE focused on understanding and clarifying its charge regarding the approval of Global Issues courses. Much of the focus centered on how many of the objectives a proposed course needed to meet and whether or not CIE could specify that a course must meet specific objectives. While this was a necessary growth step for CIE, it limited progress on approving courses during that academic year.

**Focus of the 2010-2011 Academic Year**

During the past academic year, CIE recommended (and Senate has approved) 10 additional Discipline Specific Global Issues Courses (bringing the total to 44) and 10 General Education Global Issues Courses (bringing the total to 22). While the majority of departments have submitted their plans for meeting the FLGI requirement, there are still 24 departments/programs that have not. As per current policy, by default a department that does not have a plan in place for meeting this requirement will allow a student to meet the requirement in any of the four options (intermediate proficiency of a foreign language, an approved general education global issues course, approved 300 level or above discipline specific global issues course, or a short-term study abroad course). For a full list of approved courses and departmental plans please see:

<http://www.wiu.edu/faculty_senate/committees/facultysenate/cie.php>

With input from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, CIE did develop a policy for approval of short-term study abroad courses. In the original ad hoc committee report, the recommendation was to approve short term study abroad courses lasting four weeks or more but that faculty senate would need to approve shorter duration courses. A key concern for CIE in approving short-term study abroad courses was that the majority of programs use a general course number (or floating in the sense it could be used for different courses as the need arises). Thus, CIE was concerned about how to develop an approval process. CIE’s solution, approved by the faculty senate, was to have proposals for short-term study abroad courses submitted to the Center for International Studies (as is currently required) and if the faculty member wanted to offer it as a FLGI course it would also be submitted to CIE for approval. CIE would be looking for three specific components: pre-departure preparation, the depth and breadth of in-country experience, and the post-trip activities. Once CIE has approved a short-term study abroad course, CIE will report that approval to faculty senate. This will be required of all short-term study abroad courses that do not have specific assigned course numbers. Faculty Senate has approved this policy.

Another challenge that CIE had to address was the issue of transfer courses. This issue was particularly challenging. The Illinois Articulation Initiative, as our committee understands it, was not designed to address the Foreign Language Global Issues requirement. Thus, courses offered by other institutions that have been vetted for equivalency to courses being offered at this institution have not been vetted for meeting the specific standards given to CIE for meeting the FLGI requirement. Our position is that this is a process that could perhaps be added to the Illinois Articulation Initiative over time, but for now, this would more effectively addressed by having transfer students request FLGI credit by submitting a request (along with a course syllabus) directly to CIE for consideration. Students wishing to transfer an upper division course and receive FLGI credit would need to make the same request. Faculty Senate did approve this policy recommendation. However, given the timing of this approval and procedural changes needed to implement this policy, students entering the university during the 2011-2012 academic year will be able to treat articulated courses as having met the FLGI requirement if the WIU counterpart course was approved as an FLGI course.

**Ongoing Challenges**

The committee had been primarily focused on the mandate given to it by Faculty Senate for implementing the FLGI requirement and most of the effort has been focused on approval of courses. Now that a sufficient set of courses for implementation has been put into place, the committee will have more time to focus on refining its policies and procedures. CIE with then need to be considering how to implement its charge of reviewing approved courses to ascertain how well they are meeting FLGI requirements. CIE would also like to focus more attention on supporting international activities on campus.

**Officers for 2011-2012 Academic Year**

Michael Stryker will serve as the Chair of CIE. Emily Gorlewski will serve as recording secretary.

Kevin Bacon

Chair – CIE, 2010-2011