

Study Abroad Sub-Committee

System Council on International Education

Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2020

Attendance: Ryan Donald (GGC), Kristin Karam (GA Southern), Audrey Faulkner (GA Southern), Maria Doyle (UWG), Sheila Schulte (UNG), Yuna Chen (South Georgia State), Judy Orton Grissett (GSW), Baogang Guo (DSC), Eric Spears (Columbus State), Sasha Cokuslu (Clayton State), Erinn Bentley (Columbus State), Katherine Grego (Columbus State), Uzoma Okafos (ASU), Mark Hankerson (Albany State), Mimi Noda (Albany State), Nneka Nora Osakwe (Albany State), Irina McClellan (Valdosta State), Yana Cornish (UGA), Margaret Mullins (USG), Coryn Shiflet (USG), Richard Baskin (Gordon State), Christy Flatt (Gordon State), Liz Havey (Georgia College), Farra Bernardino (Georgia State), Erin Rasche (KSU), Nadine Jones (GSU), Tara McDuffie (GSU).

1. Meeting called to order by Lorie Johns Paulez at 12:38 pm
2. Review of minutes from September 20, 2020
 1. Minutes approved with no changes.
3. Coryn Shiflet – USG updates
 1. SA attribute codes need to be submitted between now and early March for Spring 2020 courses
 2. Adding additional codes for direct exchanges, duration code, provider programs.
 - i. Yana Cornish asked who mandated this attribute and how mandatory this is.
 - ii. Coryn said it was a part of the high impact practices initiative/ study; the first attribute was a low cost attribute.
 - iii. This mandate has been communicated to the banner project leader.
 - iv. Italian government registration. Communicate to Coryn if institutions have new programs to Italy.
 3. Summer faculty pay issue: Coryn read a statement from the USG BOR legal office regarding summer faculty pay issue. This applies to summer, 9-month faculty. Coryn will e-mail it to the SCIE list serv. This statement is also included in section I.E of the Study Abroad Handbook:

Faculty who lead and/or teach on study abroad programs are performing work for those programs. As a result, they must be paid for their work just as they must be paid when they perform work on campus in the United States. Reimbursement for their work-related travel expenses, while also required, and the enjoyable benefit of going abroad are not substitutes for appropriate wages.

- i. Albany State stated that they have a pro-rated study abroad faculty salary model.
- ii. Guidance on the post 9/11 veteran tuition benefits. There will be a webinar on January 31 via NAFSA.

1. Tuition benefits for bilateral exchanges will no longer be approved.
2. Tuition benefits for faculty led programs are still approved
- iii. France visa update: France now requires long-stay visas for any stay longer than 90 days.
- iv. Study Abroad Day – Monday, Feb, 24 – by GO Abroad?
- v. Momentum summit will take place next week
4. Reminder to fill out CISI customer service survey
 - i. GSU rep asked if anyone is experiencing issues with CISI billing and accounting.
4. Open Discussion – Lorie asked for questions/ issues
 1. Ryan Donald of GGC asked what others are doing with their China programs in light of the coronavirus.
 2. Erin Rasche from KSU stated that this is very new and the numbers are very low. Statistically it is not yet significant. Logistics may present a problem, though. CDC level warning was issued for this one province in China. It is too early to say or to cancel. Suggested to have a back-up plan for China. There is no public health emergency announcement. CDC is confident that China will be able to control the situation. Wait and see approach.
 3. Baogang provided the most current statistics: 929 confirmed cases, 26 deaths, 24 in Wuhan city. 15 confirmed cases outside of China.
 4. Country-wide travel warning level is 2, for Wuhan province it is level 4.
 5. Emergency preparedness person on campus at GA Tech called a meeting to discuss the situation and update the President. Communication is important. GA Tech has a group of students that is about to leave for another part of China. But they have some students from Wuhan.
 6. Christy Flatt from Gordon State brought up the issue of lower study abroad numbers across the board. Maria Darley from Augusta also confirmed that she had a 30% reduction in study abroad numbers. KSU rep (Tara McDuffie) mentioned that student focus is changing as well due to financial aid and the number of credit hours they need to take; curriculum is changing and there is not enough wiggle room for study abroad courses; students are more intentional about the benefit of study abroad. Liz Havey (GCSU) asked where other campuses see a decline in study abroad numbers. GCSU noticed a growth in their faculty-led programs.
 7. Maria Doyle mentioned that graduate students are now interested in study abroad and that it is hard to find scholarships for graduate students. Any ideas about research-focused study abroad? Lorie Paulez mentioned that GA Tech does not have many study abroad programs for graduate students, but some programs have created imbedded programs for their graduate students.
 8. Question about funding for study abroad for international students.
 - i. International students pay in-state tuition on study abroad programs
 - ii. Donor-provided scholarships might be a possibility since they do not have restrictions
 9. UNG has a nationally competitive scholarship office that helps students secure study abroad scholarships

10. Maria Darley asked Coryn about Gilman data and the possibility of a Gilman scholarship workshop
11. Next meeting is in September of 2020.
12. Meeting adjourned at 13:36