Minutes of the USG Study Abroad Committee Meeting  
Macon State College  
November 18, 2005

In Attendance:  
Jim Anderson (AASU), G. Titi Oladunjoye (ASU), Chris Bourdouvalis (ASU), Betty LaFace (BC), Chris Ward (CSU), Neal McCrillis (CSU), John Lugthart (DSC), Aya Ogawa (DC), Caesar Perkowski (EGC), Liz Havey (GCSU), Dwight Call (GCSU), Amy Porter (GSW), Leigh Walker (GSU), Colleen O’Hara (KSU), Carol Pope KSU), Jane Knight (MGC), Dlynn Armstrong Williams (NGCSU), Ivan Nikolov (VSU), David Starling (VSU), Betsy Arrington-Tsao (UGA), Dierdre Williams (OIE), Sue Watson (OIE)

1. Chair Jim Anderson declared the meeting open at 10:10 a.m. and the members present introduced themselves. Each campus representative had the opportunity to give an update of his/her campus study abroad efforts. Anderson also spoke about the report from the Commission on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program and the “Year of Study Abroad” Resolution in the U.S. Senate.

2. Anderson reviewed the SCIE Study Abroad Committee Charge and noted that the SCIE Theme for FY06 is “Collaboration”.

3. Dierdre Williams and Sue Watson supplied the System International Office update. These included The Gwinnett Center becoming a full-fledge university beginning in 2006, and a couple of name changes for some existing colleges and universities in the system. Other items discussed were: study abroad insurance, study abroad web site updates, data collection and transient student issues.

4. The Online Study Abroad Catalog will be available on November 19, 2005. Study Abroad Directors will be able to update their programs on the catalog. New Program Approval Forms can be secured in the System Office. Sue Watson reminded us that all study abroad programs need to be approved by the System International Office.

5. Study Abroad Insurance – as a part of discussion about study abroad insurance, those present passed a motion that recommending that mandatory study abroad insurance be mandatory for all participants going on USG programs. This recommendation will be reviewed by Rick Sutton and presented at the next SCIE meeting.

6. Members discussed the successful practices for the Study Abroad system-wide and it was agreed that LISTERV should be used to discuss emerging issue about study abroad concerns.

7. Study Abroad Workshops - it was agreed that regional workshops should be developed to address some of the needs for study abroad directors, faculty, and financial aid/admissions/registrar personnel. Topics suggested including dealing with transient
students, marketing study abroad programs, student misconduct, and how to deal with emergency issues before/during study abroad programs.

8. The duo of Colleen O’Hara and Carol Pope, from Kennesaw State University, made a presentation on “Study Abroad for Students with Disabilities—Opening Doors to Global Learning”. Those with additional questions regarding study abroad and disabled students were encouraged to contact the two presenters.

9. The discussion on the new funding opportunity—mini-grants to support new collaborative partnerships for existing study abroad programs was led by Dr. Anderson. Members discussed this extensively. The FY 2006 Request for Proposal was provided to those present.

10. Members were encouraged to contact their campus Institutional Research Office to obtain data on retention, progression and graduation rate as they relate to study abroad students. This information should be forwarded to the System International Office.

11. Forms were passed out for New Grant Competitions for FY06 with regards to Global Partnership Grants and Best practices in International Education Awards.

12. Some members announced future activities taking place on their campuses.

    The meeting came to a close at 12:20 p.m.

    Recorded by G. Titi Oladunjoye