

Study Abroad Sub-Committee (Virtual Meeting)

System Council on International Education

Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2021

Attendance: Lorie Johns Paulez (Georgia Tech), Eric Spears (Columbus State), Katherine Grego (Augusta State), Melanie Smith (Savannah State), Irina McClellan (Valdosta State), Ivan Nikolov (Valdosta State), Yana Cornish (UGA), Danielle Smith (Georgia Southern), Liz Havey (Georgia College), Farrah Bernardino (Georgia State), Erin Rasche (KSU), Daniela Martinez (UNG), Kristin Kasting Karam (Georgia Southern), Erinn Bentley (Columbus State), Nadine Jones (KSU), Carmine Palumbo (East Georgia State College), Brooke Quarterman (CSU) Fernando Garcia, Laura Boudon (GSU), Laurent Dittmann, Joshua Hudson (Georgia State), Annalese Gibson (Albany State), Funwi Ayuninjam (GGC), Jessica Renard (University of West Georgia), Judy Orton Grissett (GSW), LD Newman, Joseph Holloway, Mary Mears, Tammy Rosner (USG), Ralista Akins (University of West Georgia), Tara McDuffie (KSU),

1. Meeting called to order by Lorie Johns Paulez at 11:01 am
2. Review of minutes from January 29, 2021.
 - i. Dr. Ivan Nikolov motioned to approve the minutes. Lorie Paulez seconded.
3. Minutes were approved at 11:06 with name corrections of several members who attended the January 2021 meeting.
4. 11:07-11:36 am - Yana Cornish of UGA led the Virtual Study Abroad Discussion and reviewed the results of the Virtual Study Abroad Survey that was distributed earlier in the semester.
 - i. 16 institutions participated in the survey
 - ii. 65% offered virtual study abroad options
 - iii. 40% of institutions plan to continue virtual study abroad options even after the covid.
 - b) Student and Faculty Challenges and Successes in implementing virtual study abroad programs were discussed.
 - i. Melanie Smith (Savannah State), Liz Havey (GCSU), Laura Boudon (GSU), Dr. Nikolov (VSU), Annalese Gibson (Albany State), and Eric Spears (CSU) shared their experiences with virtual exchanges.
5. Spring 2022 study abroad plans were discussed. All the institutions reported that they were still moving forward with Spring 2022 study abroad plans.
6. Questions were raised about COVID insurance coverage and recommendations for vaccinations. Discussion of covid-related hospitalization scenarios: COVID is treated like any other illness in terms of medical insurance coverage.
7. Update from the System Office – Tammy Rosner.
 - a) Guidance on Covid 19/ vaccinations – reference to the USG communication regarding Study Abroad and COVID that was circulated earlier in the semester.
 - b) Tammy encouraged all Study Abroad offices to update the Study Abroad Directory on the USG website. Those who do not have the administrative access to the Study Abroad Directory should contact Tammy Rosner.

c) Dr. Ivan Nikolov asked about the Liability Insurance for study abroad directors. Yana Cornish asked about the location of the liability policy on the USG website. Tammy Rosner will send this information to the group at a later time.

Next meeting is set for January 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 11.59 am.