

Study Abroad Committee  
System Council for International Education  
September 30, 2016 Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Yana Cornish, Vice-Chair, UGA; Danielle Smith, Secretary, GaSou  
Funwi Ayuninjam, GGC; Cele Blair, GGC; Hannah Carley, AU; Emilee Carr, GaSou; Maria Doyle, WGA; Lise Lange, UNG; Jarris Lanham, GCSU; Neal McCrillis, CSU; Stephen Murray, GaState; Ivan Nikolov, VSU; Darby Sewell, ABAC; Melanie Smith, SSU; Eric Spears, GCSU; Laura Thomason, MGA; John Williams, Albany State; John Wilson, UNG; Carlise Wynne, UNG

Guests in Attendance: Tammy Rosner, Board of Regents Office of International Education

- I. Meeting called to order at 1:10pm. Vice-chair Yana Cornish filling in for Chair Liz Havey.
- II. Introductions around the room.
- III. Minutes from the January 2016 meeting approved.
- IV. Tammy USG updates/announcements
  - A. Study Abroad Database
    1. would like to take the current page down and replace with "Coming Soon"  
New information uploaded differently depending on whether the school is a Terra Dotta user or not.
    2. Looking at the SUNY system data base as the model
    3. Yana volunteered UGA to be the Terra Dotta test school and have TD extract the data
  - B. Risk Management Workshop being held on Oct. 21, 2016 at MGA  
So far 50 are registered and 100 can attend; attendance is free
  - C. Italy Registration
    1. Some schools were contacted by an individual claiming that their schools needed to complete the process of registering with the Italian government in order to avoid potential taxes, fees, and being turned away at the border
    2. Based on USG research it appears to be legitimate though schools that have an Italian partner might be exempt is it unclear what constitutes a partner
    3. Originally applied only to those with campuses overseas but now is re-interpreted to mean a recurring presence
    4. Question about how to develop a system for payment if we move forward with this – schools with have to pay the one-time registration fee of \$20,000, not the USG
    5. Discussion about cost v. benefit and level of risk for incurring these fines or being turned away
    6. Tammy will send out the information she has so that individual schools can share it with their legal office and ask for feedback – the issue will be revisited at the January meeting
  - D. Question about whether the group should change working from Study Abroad to Education Abroad

1. Group generally decided “no” for strategic reasons – the BOR is already familiar with the term “Study Abroad” and Tammy’s limited time is better used in other ways
- E. Tammy relayed that the increase of MOWR students on campus is leading to increased questions about their participation in study abroad programs. It is on her agenda and further guidance will be forthcoming
- F. World Councils – Tammy would like to have a better relationship with and learn more about all the councils
1. Reviewing MOU of European Council and using it as the possible model
  2. Suggesting councils return to practice of providing annual report at September meeting and write this back into the by-laws of the SCIE
  3. EC is unique in that it is predominantly study-abroad programming focus rather than faculty development
  4. It was mentioned that the Asia and Africa Councils also have MOUs, but Tammy noted these haven’t been vetted by the USG and many institution reps noted they had not seen these.
- G. International Education Grant Proposal
1. No feedback yet since Tammy submitted request for funding
  2. Program would provide 4 grants per year @ \$2,000 each
  3. Proposals that increase numbers, based on research & data, show strong structure and commitment would be competitive
  4. Grant must apply directly to the proposal, and proposal must be signed off with support by campus Senior Int’l Ed officer
  5. Advice on application cycle was for calls in April and selection/dispersal in July
  6. Selection Committee to be OIE staff plus the chair and 1 member-at-large from the Study Abroad Committee
  7. A final report back from the grantee will be required 1 year after the award is disbursed
- V. General Items for Chair
- A. Yana will scan and send out copy of RedPoint insurance info – available to every USG employee  
Travel assistance insurance is part of existing Minnesota Life Coverage  
UGA doesn’t enroll their faculty in CISI unless traveling with students
- B. The Study Abroad Fair survey spreadsheet will be updated to include question about whether outside programs/faculty can participate
1. Some schools also do a smaller spring fair – a new survey will be sent out for this
- C. A new handbook for Clery reporting was released at the end of the summer
1. Yana will resend with the link to the handbook and UGA’s updated incident report form
- D. Upcoming Conferences
1. Lessons from Abroad – Oct. 23
  2. NAFSA Region VII – Nov. 6 – 11
  3. GAIE – Feb. 1 -3

4. GILC – Feb. 17 – 19

- VI. Travel Warnings discussed
  - A. VSU doesn't send undergraduates to places where there are travel warnings – most reps in the room agreed this was general practice
  - B. GState restricts undergrads from earning GState credits or using money
  - C. Many schools handle Mexico on a state-by-state basis; the comment was made that at NAFSA one panel indicated programs to places with travel warnings are very planned and provide no free time outside of the program
  - D. Some schools use review committees to vet travel warning petitions often submitted by graduate students
    - a. Comprised of faculty, legal, title IX, risk management, etc. and make a recommendation to the OIE but on a decision
  - E. A question about health warning then also prompted the suggestion to have a workshop on handling/dealing with disability accommodations abroad
    - a. Some in the group asked how much medical information students should be required to disclose
    - b. Generally the recommendation was that as much physical activity/accessibility information as possible should be included in the program recruitment materials
    - c. Others wanted to know more on student needs related to LGBT, etc.
    - d. Some schools already require Title IX training, etc. as part of faculty director training
    - e. DiversityAbroad.com was recommended as a resource
- VII. Next meeting sometime in January. Exact dates to be sent out by SCIE chair.
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 3:05pm