

USG Study Abroad Committee Meeting Minutes

Armstrong Atlantic State University

February 18, 2005

Members present:

Jim Anderson, AASU

Martha Hughes, East Georgia College

Joanna Avant, Georgia Tech

Alison McCubbin, USG OIE

Irina McClellan, VSU

Jonathan Leightner, ASU

Libby Davis, GC&SU

Aya Ogawa, Darton College

Betsy Arrington-Tsao, UGA

David Starling, VSU

Alberta Johnson, Floyd College

Chaudron Gille, Gainesville College

Carrie Sloan, USG OIE

Valerie Sheppard, VSU

Neal McCrillis, CSU

Dwight Call, GC&SU

Fay Feagin, GSW

Vaughn Roste, Bainbridge College

Jeff Palis, GA Southern

Minutes

Jim Anderson, committee chair, called the meeting to order. Those in attendance introduced themselves and provided a brief update on study abroad activities at their campus.

Alison McCubbin reminded members of the two mini-workshops scheduled for Clayton College & University (Feb. 11) and at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (April 8). Since this was her last meeting with this committee before moving back to Australia, Alison thank everyone for their assistance and kindness to her during her time working in the System Office.

Jim Anderson provided a copy of the USG Study Abroad Enrollments 1998-2004, and reminded everyone of their targets for 2007. He also provided members with a copy of the Standards for Good Practice for Education Abroad published by the Forum on Education Abroad. The SAC will be working with this document more during future meetings.

Alison McCubbin updated the group on the Underserved Program Development Funding Competition. The deadline for proposals this year is March 1 with the underserved regions being the Caribbean and the Mid-East. She also gave a report on the new study abroad programs funded in 2003-2004. The programs to the Czech Republic, Rio de Janeiro, and Mendoza, Argentina have sufficient enrollments to make during the first year of recruiting. For a number of reasons, the two other programs (Czech Republic and Brazil) have had problems and will not make.

The group discussed the STARS funding and the various categories (work stipends, travel grants, and program assistants). Individual members of the committee reported on the various ways that students fulfilled their ambassador requirements: worked on a Habitat for Humanity Project, in an orphanage, and with endangered turtles in Veracruz. Those student teaching in Sweden organized email communication between schools in Georgia and in Sweden while those in San Salvador cleaned and painted schools . The various duties for a work-study student were also discussed. Some of the ideas included providing administrative help, developing a study abroad library, assisting the program director, and maintain brochures across campus.

In a discussion about this year's study abroad folders and CD's, a number of those attending thought that the inclusion of the CD was not necessary since the CD was out-of-date by the time it was published. Students could be given the just study abroad brochures and encouraged to go to the catalog web site. Individual institutions could also stuff the folder with information about their study abroad programs.

Those in attendance indicated an interest in having a 30 minute presentation at future meetings about areas such as recruit/promotion of study abroad and cross-cultural communication. The idea of a retreat for study abroad members was thought to be a good idea. The committee will consider it for next fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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