

BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

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SYSTEM COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

September 22, 2000, 9 AM to 12:45 PM

Georgia Center for Continuing Education

1197 South Lumpkin Street, Room YZ

University of Georgia

Athens, GA

Executive Summary

The meeting of the System Council for International Education took place on Friday, September 22, 2000, at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education, University of Georgia. The Council meeting was preceded on Thursday by the annual System Conference on Study Abroad hosted by the University of Georgia, with a working dinner for Council members that evening to discuss strategic planning for future funding initiatives. The Council consists of thirty-four representatives appointed by the presidents of each USG institution, joined by the chairs of the World Regional Councils and other special committees. Richard C. Sutton, the System's Director of International Programs and Services, chaired the meeting.

MINUTES

Present: Claude Perkins (ALB), Joseph Adams (AASU), Curtis Bailey for Janis Reid (AMC), Jeanne Jensen (AUG), Robert Welborn (CSC), Neal McCrillis (CSU), Beth Biron (DAL), Roberta Gates (DAR), Dudley Salley (FLD), Gerald McIntosh (FVS), Chaudron Gille (GAN), Dwight Call (GC&SU), Harvey Charles (GIT), Nancy Shumaker (GSO), John Hicks (GSU), Karen Guffey (GDN), Tom Keene (KSU), John Ricks (MID), Brian Murphy (NGC), Carl McDonald (SGC), Dorothy Joiner (WGC), Richard Reiff (UGA)

Not present: Gaye Elder (ABAC), Stan Webb (BAN), Watson Holloway (BRK), John Derden (EGC), Harriet Nichols (GPC), Harold Nichols (GSW), Gwen Sell (MAC), Beverly Tarver (MCG), Joseph Silver (SSU), James Sotiropoulos (SPSU), Tracy Harrington (VSU)

Guests: Jan Headley (GSU), Don Rubin (BOR)

At approximately 9:05 AM, Richard Sutton convened the System Council on International Education:

1. Approval of Minutes of 21 April 2000

So moved and approved.

2. SCIE Organizational Issues

A brief overview of the System office was given – Dr. Dan Papp’s appointment as the new Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Fiscal Affairs, the resignation of Senior Vice Chancellor Lindsay Desrochers, the reorganization of the Board of Regents Central Office: Capital Resources has been divided so that Facilities is now part of External Relations, Business & Finance is part of Academic Affairs, and Auditing is part of a reconfigured division of Support Services. The International Office is in the Office of Academic, Faculty, and Student Affairs.

A. Appointment of FY 2001—FY 2002 Membership

The Presidents of the 34 system institutions have confirmed the appointments of their Campus International Coordinators for two-year terms. There have been some changes in the membership of the SCIE. A welcome was given to all new members.

B. FY 2001 Meeting Schedule

The Council agreed that there will be two SCIE meetings this year with the next meeting to take place in Spring, 2001.

C. Committee Structure

To broaden the base of System participation among USG faculty and staff with international interests, a cabinet has been established to handle issues in four main areas. These committees are: Budget Advisory Committee (Dwight Call, Harvey Charles, Harold Nichols, Janis Reid, Nancy Shumaker, Pete Silver); Study Abroad (Richard Reiff, chair); International Student and Scholars Issues (Dwight Call, chair); Faculty and Curriculum (Neal McCrillis, chair). The first two committees were previously in existence; the last two committees are new. In response to several questions, it was determined that the Budget Advisory Committee will not be responsible for regulating external funding proposals, and that ESL will be included in the International Student and Scholar issues.

The four world regional councils were also discussed and how they fit into the new structure. Though the System office plays a supporting role in funding the Councils and requires accountability for that funding in the form of periodic audit checks, the councils can operate most effectively with a wide degree of autonomy and flexibility to pursue their separate activities. The world regional council chairs will remain as non-voting delegates to the SCIE, along with the chair of the System’s Foreign Language Academic Advisory Council and others with appropriate interest who might also

be invited to participate in Council meetings.

3. Strategic Agenda in International Education for 2000-2001

This agenda was developed in response to briefing book information requested by the new senior vice chancellor for academic affairs.

A. Priority Initiatives

a. Foreign Language & Technology Initiative (Sutton)

With the Title VI proposal being turned down, a proposal was made to NSEP in August with a response expected in November. If approved, this funding will provide nearly \$500,000 over the next four years for foreign language instruction via the internet, a project begun by the System's Desktop Initiative. The languages that will be focused on are Chinese, Japanese, and Russian. Arabic would have been a logical choice, however, no campus in the system teaches this language. African language instruction is being developed under a Global Partnerships grant and Title VI funding. A discussion ensued regarding the value of language self-instruction and independent study.

b. EU Center & Web Certificate (Murphy)

The three year grant will expire at the end of the academic year. Receiving a good evaluation, the center should have no trouble with grant renewal.

Several items of interest were mentioned: Dr. Papp will be going to Brussels to represent the EU Center; Patrick Ireland has been named the new co-director of the center; Adrian Taylor, Scholar-in-Residence, will be available to visit campuses until early December; 27 institutions will offer the EU Certificate and 3 non-system institutions have expressed an interest; the University of Munich will offer the certificate and will approach other universities in Europe; the center will have a student retreat next March, which will be a springboard to start a Student Association.

c. Benchmarking & Accountability Indicators (Sutton)

Though International items were not included in the 31 benchmark indicators, the system council has initiated the gathering of data in preparation for its own internal purposes. Sid Davis was the point person but was not reappointed as Southern Polytechnic State University's representative to the system council. The survey will need to be reworked; the system office may need to contract with an institution in order to gather the information and manage this project.

d. Assessment of Study Abroad Student Learning Outcomes (Rubin)

The system office has contracted with the University of Georgia and Dr. Don Rubin for a study on Study Abroad Student Learning Outcomes. Dr. Rubin gave a presentation which identified the overall objectives: identify learning outcomes, identify program characteristics, identify student characteristics, identify institutional practices, assess economic benefits, and disseminate

method for assessing the impact of study abroad on student learning outcomes. The study will help answer several questions including: do students become more active course takers; what is their graduation rate versus those who don't study abroad; what is their language achievement? Dr. Rubin believes that the data gathered will make a compelling case for study abroad, and could have preliminary data as early as late spring or early summer.

B. Programmatic Objectives

a. Study Abroad Scholarship Fundraising (Headley)

The system office has contracted with Jan Headley, Georgia State University, to research possible sources of funding for Study Abroad scholarships. Jan gave background on the Regents Study Abroad Scholarship program and the reasons behind the need for more funding. Even though there were more scholarships given this year, many of those scholarships were smaller than the previous \$1000 maximum. The question was raised as to the possibility of larger awards being made with fewer scholarships being offered, but there was limited support for that approach. The council was advised that the dollar-for-dollar match is still required, and the standards are still in place regarding programs of less than 4 weeks, more than 4 weeks to 1 semester, etc. A proposal was made to charge more money for a program to provide scholarships for needy students; the initial response to this was negative, but will be investigated with respect to the legality and ethics of such an approach.

b. Hispanic Task Force Initiative (Sutton)

This initiative has been assigned for management to the Office of International Education. There may be a forthcoming announcement regarding a North Georgia Pilot Program with teacher training and student assistance that will be a collaborative effort.

c. Study Abroad Enrollments (Lund)

Participation by USG students in study abroad programs totaled 2,765 for the period Summer 1999-Fall 1999-Spring 2000, equal to 1.68% of the System's Fall 1999 undergraduate headcount and 11.04% of undergraduates who completed their degrees in FY99. Using the latest Summer 2000 numbers instead of Summer 1999, this brings the totals from 1.68% to 1.92%. Some institutions use one set of figures, some use another (see item e below). The importance of reaching the 2% goal this year was reinforced.

d. Global Partnership & National Collaboration Grants (Sutton)

The competition for the new Global Partnership Awards closed Friday, September 15. There are a total of 40 grant proposals so far, and these will be forwarded to the Budget Review Committee. As this is the only competition for FY2001, all available money will be given out.

e. Study Abroad Data Collection (Reiff)

Dr. Richard Reiff advised that the University of Georgia has been contracted to take

responsibility for establishing a quantitative tracking system with more information on this system forthcoming. There was some discussion regarding tracking some programs that do not earn credit, internships that do not earn credit, and transient students.

f. Latin American Studies Certificate (Jensen)

Dr. Jeanne Jensen, chair of the Americas Council, advised that the Latin American Studies Certificate is responding to a changing demographic and resource base. It is not designed to compete with existing programs but to galvanize resources and levels of expertise. The certificate program is a solid curriculum with three-hour components, and will allow all students to participate, whether web-based or classroom, and will encourage even two year students. The goal of implementation is to target six to ten institutions at a time to offer the program, and to establish a board of advisors that will include the private sector. In order for the certificate program to be presented to the Board of Regents for approval, the institutions must be identified and letters of endorsement obtained.

g. Asian Economic Development Initiative (Keene)

Dr. Tom Keene, chair of the Asia Council, advised that they would like to take a survey of courses in Asia studies and team up with other institutions to establish something similar to the European Union Center.

h. African Teacher Training Initiatives (McIntosh)

Dr. Gerald McIntosh advised that additional external funding from ALO was sought and received for the teacher training initiative with the University of Cape Coast, Ghana.

Dr. McIntosh also advised that Fort Valley is hosting a Fulbright Scholar from Nigeria, Dr. Okepete Kanu, for the academic year. Her training is in the area of Education and African History; she is available for lectures.

i. International Student Enrollments (Call)

Dr. Dwight Call asked for a written statement from the system office regarding the maximum number of international students allowable per 1995 Board of Regents policy.

A copy of the newspaper article featuring Georgia College and State University international students was handed out; Dr. Call stated that the article made everyone look good.

Regarding institutional waivers: there is currently a 2% limit – 1% for international students, 1% for students of distinguished merit and ability. Responding to the question of pooling these waivers, it was explained that waivers were not money that had been collected; if institutions shared these waivers, it would become a hard-dollar matter and would require policy adjustment by the Board.

j. System Membership Model for ISEP Exchange (Harrington)

Dr. Tracy Harrington was absent from the meeting; however, it was stated that it was his desire to develop a system membership in ISEP, who has longer-term programs in many

countries. He and his staff are working on a reduced administrative fee for students. It was suggested that any institution interested should contact Dr. Harrington.

C. Operational Responsibilities

a. Study Abroad Scholarship Management (Lund)

Study Abroad catalogs with scholarship application and campus contacts have gone out to each coordinator. This information is also available on the OIE web-site. It was noted that if anyone had new programs to add or needed to delete old programs, Lindsay Parsons at the University of Georgia is the contact.

1. Application Deadlines

Study Abroad application deadlines are November 1, 2000, for Spring 2001, and March 1, 2001, for Summer 2001, Fall 2001, and Academic Year 2001-2.

2. Reporting Requirements

Data information will be transmitted electronically and student essays by fax to the central office; original applications will be retained by the institutions. It was noted that the central office will not release scholarship funds until all required data has been collected by the central office.

3. Requests for Changes and Substitutions

Changes and substitutions will be handled the same as FY2000: if a student chooses not to accept a scholarship, the next eligible student will be awarded the scholarship. It is the responsibility of the institution to notify the central office of the change and to transmit all new scholarship awardee information to the central office.

b. Chancellor's Awards/Faculty Development Seminars (Lund)

The Faculty Development Seminars for this year are India, sponsored by the Asia Council, and Cuba, sponsored by the Americas Council. More information will be on the web later this fall.

c. J-1 Exchange Visitor Program (Lund)

Exchange visitor information sheet and IAP-66 request forms for students and scholars were handed out. The council was reminded that J-1 Exchange visitor requests should be made in a timely manner to avoid the excessive Federal Express charges.

d. Communications, Publications, Information Dissemination

1. System Calendar of International Events (Foster)

The central office will begin utilizing the calendar on the OIE web-site. The council was requested to email any event that would be of interest, providing the name of the event, date of the event, and contact information or web-site, to sfoster@mail.regents.peachnet.edu.

2. SCIE Newsletter (Sutton)

The council was queried on the possibility of starting an electronic newsletter that originates from the central office. The majority of the council, by a show of hands, was enthusiastic regarding the idea as long as the newsletter is brief.

3. USG Viewbook on International Education (Headley)

The OIE has contracted with Jan Headley, GSU to create a viewbook for the central office. A handout was given, exhibiting the work she has been doing on the viewbook. She noted that this book would be generic, organized by themes and not institutions, so that anyone could utilize the viewbook to highlight the international aspects of the entire University System of Georgia.

4. Other Business/Announcements

A. Study Abroad Catalog and Program Certification Procedure (Reiff)

Dr. Reiff advised that an announcement regarding procedure would be available next month.

B. International Rescue Committee Request (Sutton)

Materials regarding student volunteer internship opportunities were received at the central office; it was made available for viewing if anyone was interested.

C. Other Items

The issue of age as a factor in participant selection was raised as a consideration for all Study Abroad program directors. Some study abroad programs in the catalog list a minimum age of 18 and some do not; other qualitative characteristics should be part of selection criteria. It was noted that this item had been on a previous agenda.

5. Adjournment