

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted to Policy Council: April 25th, 2016

Chairs: Rex Stockton

MEMBERS:

Deborah Hutton, Patty Kubow, Laura Stachowski, Conney Freese-Posthuma, Brian Plankis, Erna Alant, Martha Nyikos, Karen Franks, Kate Baird, and Meagan Call-Cummings

STUDENT MEMBER:

Amara Stuehling

EX-OFFICIO:

Elizabeth Boling and Linda Hanek

STAFF:

Liyao Zhao

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES:

The International Programs Committee (IPC) held eight meetings during the 2015-16 academic year, in which it addressed a number of topics related to the IU School of Education's international initiatives. The following are summaries of the Committee's key activities.

International Education Week

International Education Week (IEW) took place during the week of November 15th. The event was well attended by students and faculty. A successful webcast posted online for International Education Week. On Wednesday, November 18th, the Cuban ambassador visited the School of Education and engaged with graduate students and faculty in a Q&A session.

Visiting Scholars

Visiting Scholar Host Reception. The spring reception took place on Tuesday, March 8th, 2016.

Certificates of appreciation were awarded to the scholars per usual. The receptions were a success; the scholars enjoyed them.

Visiting Scholars Policy Follow-up

Elizabeth Boling reported that two forms had been passed through the Policy Council. One is a form for the faculty sponsors of international visiting scholars to complete in order that they understand their responsibilities. The second is a report to be filled out by the visiting scholar after completion of his/her stay, in order that the department learns of the scholar's contribution. ETS has put these forms online.

CIEDR Updates

In 2015-16 academic year, CIEDR has been leading and involved in a variety of international programs and initiatives. These include: the Fulbright scholars from nine countries doing work on master's teaching in elementary and high school education; the Fulbright Russian International Education Administrators Program, in which eight scholars stayed for a month at IU; the Transformational Leadership Program in Kosovo; and a partnership with an international NGO to bring education development, particularly English language instruction, to Nicaragua.

CIEDR continues to be involved with the Afghan Junior Faculty Development Program. Ten Afghan scholars from both urban and rural settings came to IU between January and March. Only two were women. The scholars were from a variety of disciplines, not education alone. The program is supported by the IIE and the State Department. Patty Kubow noted that in future iterations of the program, CIEDR will attempt to incorporate a greater measure of gender sensitivity training and civil rights awareness training to make the cultural transition from Afghanistan to the United States smoother for these scholars.

CIEDR is also partnered with University Polytechnic in Nicaragua, which runs an “Institute of Peace Education”. Because IU does not have many ties with Latin American institutions, Kubow expressed that this was an important program for CIEDR to pursue and engage with. International Community Partners reached out to IU to get involved in this program. The program is currently being formalized now that US Embassy, IU, and the University Polytechnic have given their respective blessing.

Also, CIEDR is involved in ongoing talks with Beijing Normal University to develop a faculty exchange program that would grow into a student exchange program that would allow Chinese students to conduct masters and doctoral work at IU. There will be various areas of emphasis that will rotate every one-to-two years. Terry Mason is going to contribute a graduate student to help the program get underway. Kubow added that since China has the funds to accommodate the travel costs of their students, IU might have additional funding left over to build relationships with less developed countries that do not have the funds to send their students abroad.

Global Gateway for Teachers

Laura Stachowski noted that since 2012, IUB has been responsible for placing student teachers from currently 15 U.S. colleges and universities in host nation primary and secondary schools. Additionally, student teachers from Ball State, ISU, IUPUI, and Butler participate with our credit-bearing Overseas Program, along with IUB student teachers, completing our preparatory and on-site requirements. There are 79 students in the preparatory phase of the Overseas Program for placements in 2016-17, with 58 who fulfilled the prep phase last year and will be going overseas in March and May, 2016 (following the successful completion of their Indiana student teaching placements). The committee agreed that this program offers excellent opportunities to promote the School of Education to prospective students and their families.

Guest Speaker: Terry Mason (Interim Dean of School of Education)

Terry Mason was invited to the committee meeting to report on two international initiatives. The first, in South Sudan, was a project to bring 14 South Sudanese women to Indiana University to complete master’s degrees. The program was begun in 2012. Mason noted that the program was enormously successful: each of the 14 participants has since acquired a position in an NGO, a government ministry, or in a university. Because of the program’s success, USAID is now offering funds for a new program to initiate master’s degree programs at the University of Juba.

Another program is now underway in Turkey. Mason explained that IU is forging partnerships with Middle East Technical University and Boğaziçi University in Turkey. The Dean of METU, came to IU in early December, 2015. She led a discussion with IU faculty to discuss possibilities for further collaboration between the three campuses. A formal agreement has been reached to generate funds for faculty to go Turkey to conduct educational research. The program will also allow faculty members from the aforementioned Turkish universities to come to IU. Faculty from IU can contact faculty from METU

(or vice-versa), and develop a topic or research proposal. Mason asked that the International Program Committee create a subcommittee to develop a series of criteria by which the candidates for this faculty exchange will be chosen. The subcommittee would also generate a call for proposals. The following volunteered to be on the subcommittee: Linda Hanek, Rex Stockton, and Karen Franks.

Guest Speaker: Scott Witzke (Director of Marketing and Communications)

Scott Witzke was invited to the spring committee meetings. As the Director of Marketing and Communications for the School of Education, Witzke was introduced to each member of the committee, and he encouraged marketing techniques that were centered on long-term strategy (two examples he gave was the use of social media and project management software called Basecamp). He emphasized, too, that that open communication will be critical to manage expectations from various departments and centers due to the fact the marketing team is small and working on so many projects.

Mandela Fellowship Opportunity

Rex Stockton noted that the Obama administration is awarding one thousand fellowships to sub-Saharan Africans, and that IUB could submit an application to become part of the fellowship process.

Teshome Alemneh, associate vice president for international research and development at IU, was invited to speak about Mandela Fellowship. Alemneh noted that about 1,000 young Africans participate in the program each year. IUB is looking to acquire 25 of these fellows. The cost is \$150,000 plus a \$100,000 cost share. The latter has been raised by a confluence of local institutions. It runs from mid-June through the end of July. Alemneh added that the Mandela Fellowship program, while costly for IUB, would pay for itself in international recognition, as this is a highly visible program. Alant commented that IUB had no connections in Washington D.C., and so might have difficulty competing for the fellowship, but Alemneh noted that because of its fund-raising capability, IUB had little in the way of competition, and should be able to secure a role in the program. It is imperative, though, that the 25 young Africans to visit Indiana next year have engaging, enlightening, and positive experiences to relay to Washington as well as their home countries. The committee showed intense interest in doing all it can to facilitate IUB's participation in the Mandela Fellowship program.