

Memorandum

TO: School of Education Policy Council
FROM: Luise McCarty, chair
SoE International Programs Committee
SUBJ: Standing Committee Report
DATE: 19 April 2010

During this last year, members of the International Programs Committee (IPC) engaged in the following activities.

1. Organized an International Conference

Under the leadership of then chair Martha Nyikos, members of the IPC from AY 2008/2009 hosted a conference entitled: “Toward a Research-based Approach to Internationalize Teacher Education” from May 21st to 23rd, 2009 in the SoE. Roughly 60 participants registered for the conference and signed up for one of the three strands: (1) Reconciling Global and Multicultural Perspectives, (2) International Ethics and Global Citizenship, and (3) Internationalization of the Arts, Sciences and Humanities. Another 20 local and invited participants attended the conference and engaged in lively discussions that resulted in final presentations and documents with suggestions for further research and practical application.

The conference also included two international speakers, Professor Annette Scheunpflug from University of Erlangen-Nuernberg, Germany and Dr. Douglas Bourn, editor of the International Journal for Development Education and Global Learning.

2. Publishing Proceedings of the May conference

The Center for the Study of Global Change agreed to publish the proceedings of the conference on their website, including the working papers that were given by our invited speakers during the previous academic year (Professors Hansen, Kramsch, and Parker) together with the notes from the discussions of the three strands. Professor Nyikos is in charge of editing and preparing these documents for publication.

3. Revival of the Goodwill Ambassadors Program

IPC negotiated with the Office of Graduate Studies (OGS) to revive this graduate student recruiting tool created by Nita Levinson more than ten years ago. Nelda Montemayer

from OGS, with the help of members of IPC, is recruiting two advanced doctoral students from each department of the SoE who will volunteered to be Goodwill Ambassadors for international students who are interested in coming to IU and want to get information from an international student's perspective. This program is advertised on the OGS webpage and will be maintained by OGS.

4. Internationalization of Teacher Education

Members of IPC discussed ways to internationalize our teacher education program by integrating some of the activities of Title-VI Centers and the Cultural Immersion Program into courses of our Teacher Education Programs. Terry Mason, Heidi Ross, Bradley Levison and Debora Hutton represent four Title-VI Centers on the committee. These Area Studies Centers on campus organize workshops and produce materials for K-12 teachers. Terry Mason suggested that some of the work that the Title-VI Centers provide to in-service teachers could be adapted, expanded, and integrated into some of the teacher education coursework in the SoE, such as social studies methods and foreign language methods courses.

Due to the work involved with the reapplication of Title-VI grants and of the NCATE review in the SoE during this academic year, we did not make any concrete progress. This will become a focus of next year's activities. IPC would like to have an international or global dimension included in the six principles for teacher education.

5. Concerns and Needs of International Graduate Students

a) Opportunities to learn to teach

IPC members decided to conduct some interviews and focus groups with international graduate students about their needs. One area of concern is their opportunities to get experience as instructors. Diana Cross and doctoral student Vanashri Shripati held a focus group and then a workshop to better prepare their international students as Associate Instructors. Using international students as speakers in courses, holding workshops and brown bag lunches to address needs of international graduate students are suggestions from IPC members that we plan to pursue in the coming year. Furthermore we will work with Karen Hallett-Rupp of the Office of Instructional Consulting to help us generate concrete plans on how best go about preparing international graduate students as instructors in higher education.

b) Other forms of support

We invited the director of the OASIS (Outreach and Support for International students and Scholars) program, Peiwei Li from the Center for Human Growth. She organizes weekly meetings at the International Center to discuss issues with international students and provide group counseling services on various topics as well as free individual counseling services to international students at their own center. IPC plans to work more collaboratively with OASIS.

6. Applied for Title-IV Funding

We applied for an annual grant over four years to be included in the Center for the Study of Global Change's reapplication of Title-VI funds. We requested funding of IPC activities to finance international activities of SoE faculty and students. Unfortunately this request did not get included in their re-application.