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Committee on International Education
2004-2005 Annual Report

1. During the course of the 2004-2005 academic year, the CIE held seven (7) two-hour meetings. It invited several guests and visitors to discuss special topics. Committee members represented a wide variety of disciplines and international experience.
2. After the revision of its bylaws (4.29.2004), the Committee has continued to be in the forefront on issues related to Study Abroad as well as the status and welfare of international students and scholars.
3. The work of the CIE was closely related to that of the UCIE through Françoise Sorgen-Goldschmidt, Chair of CIE and Representative to UCIE, as well as that of the CDD (Council of Campus Directors) through Ignacio Navarrete, BPSA Faculty Director and Representative to CDD.
4. The Committee requested and received from BPSA figures on EAP participation by department so as to better target priorities for increasing those numbers. The Committee hopes to help BPSA target departments with participation in EAP of fewer than 10% of their majors.
5. The Committee was informed of and discussed proposals for new EAP programs, reviews of existing programs, the establishment and monitoring of a “watch list” of programs that may not be providing courses or programs that are on par with those on UC campuses. It also approved UCIE’s decision to not resume programs in Israel given the State Department’s continuing ban on travel there. The programs will be reopened as soon as the State Department travel ban is lifted.
6. The Committee reviewed CDD proposals on academic probation, pre-departure GPAs, and transfer GPAs.
7. The Committee or its Chair responded to a number of requests from UOEAP on such matters as identifying candidates for program review committees, interview of candidates for study centers, and comments on draft documents.
8. The Chair represented CIE at one one-day and two two-day meetings of UCIE. She was a member of five UCIE sub-committees: a. Formal review of the short programs in London, Siena, and Paris; b. Selection of Study Center Directors (the “short list” of candidates selected by their respective campuses); c. Revision of questions for SCD’s and former SCD’s whose Study Centers are being reviewed; d. Formal review of the EAP Hong-Kong program. e. She is continuing as a member of the Faculty Advisory Committee for the Paris Summer Program, due to start in Summer 2006.
9. The Committee continued to discuss the potentially catastrophic effects for Education Abroad of a “unit cap” if students going abroad did not receive an exemption from the “Excess unit fee policy”, and was gratified to note that an issue it had originally raised in 2003-04 was now being discussed at the highest echelons of UOEAP, UCIE, and the system-wide Academic Senate.

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10. Academic Integration (AI) between courses taken abroad and courses taken on UC Campuses has continued to be a high priority for UOEAP. BPSA was able to hire a part-time assistant to work on AI. Efforts will first concentrate on four departments including two new ones (Public Health, Urban Studies), African American Studies, and Ethnic Studies. The Committee agreed with BPSA that it is necessary to adapt to a more and more interdisciplinary reality, as well as approach AI department by department.
11. The Committee passed a resolution stating that the articulation of language courses should be made a priority within the larger goal of academic integration
12. The Committee endorsed the Executive Summary and Recommendations of the USA Patriot Act Task Force on International Students and Scholars, and proposed that special attention be given to the issue of H1B vs. J1 visas for post-doctoral fellows.
13. The Committee had on-going discussions with representatives from SISS (Services for International Students and Scholars.) Director Ivor Emmanuel early on presented the duties and responsibilities of his office to the Committee, along with the difficulties it faced in meeting them for lack of space and financial resources.
14. A Committee member brought up the issue of the type of visas post-doctoral fellows receive at UC Berkeley as compared to what happens in other universities, stating that the current policy had at times prevented UC Berkeley from recruiting the most qualified applicants. Following discussions with Ivor Emmanuel and Ron Reeves from SISS, the Committee wrote to Division Chair Robert Knapp recommending that the administration adopt a policy directing SISS to support applications for H1B visas for visiting scholars, postdoctoral fellows (and other relevant academic employees from abroad) when Deans request this type of visa for academics from overseas who meet the federal H1B visa requirements. Despite extensive background information provided by the committee, DIVCO requested further work with campus deans and SISS to develop guidelines and criteria for determining which type of visa is most appropriate for visiting scholars and postdoctoral fellows
15. A Committee member brought up the issue of financial resources for graduate students from developing countries, who may have difficulties meeting SISS minimum amount requirements.

In 2005-2006 academic year, the Committee will continue to explore ways to increase the participation of Berkeley students in EAP. Issues related to the welfare of international students will continue to require the Committee's attention. Two issues in particular need further discussion with SISS: type of visas (H1B vs. J1) granted to post-doctoral students, and funding for graduate students from developing countries. Finally, the Committee will be ready to advise, comment or act on issues related to international education that are brought to its attention by Committee members, the Senate Chair, Senate committees, the system-wide IE Committee, and the campus and UOEAP Administrations.

Prepared by Françoise Sorgen-Goldschmidt

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