Faculty Senate Committee for International Programs
Committee Report, Academic Year 2012-2013

Regular Committee Members: Mary Conran, Kenneth Dossar, Jane Evans, Alistair Howard, Alicia Imperiale, Jessie Iwata, Rita Krueger (chair), Joel Maxcy (Global Temple chair), Matthew Miller, Patrick Murphy, Wilbert Roget, Howard Spodek, Michael Valenza, Ron Webb

Ex-Officio Committee Members: Denise Connerty
Martyn Miller

Committee Charge:
To advise the Director of International Programs, the Director of International Services, and the university community on matters of consequence to: Temple students studying abroad; international students studying at Temple campuses; and American students from other universities who wish to study at Temple University campuses abroad. To explore opportunities for Temple faculty and students to engage in multidisciplinary scholarly pursuits from a cross-cultural, international perspective. In addition, the committee will support efforts to infuse an international perspective into TU curricula. The committee has advisory, consultative, and interpretive roles in serving all the colleges and campuses of Temple University.

Academic Year 2012-2013:

During the academic year 2012-2013, the work of the Committee for International Programs was primarily focused on the annual Global Temple conference (1), a number of issues related to Temple students studying study abroad (2), and the continued development of academic and practical support for the increasing number of international students matriculating at Temple (3). The full committee met once in the fall and twice in the spring, although the sub-committee in charge of Global Temple met more frequently over the course of the fall semester.

1) Global Temple, in its 7th year, was very successful. The conference subcommittee, chaired by Joel Maxcy, began its work in the spring of 2012, planning for themes (for 2012: the dynamic mix of the global and the local) and organization of the overall event. The committee issued a call for papers and panels in the late summer and fall. With the help of the excellent staff of International Programs, the sub-committee organized proposals into panels for a day-long symposium on November 14, 2012. After a plenary session for invited speaker Dr. Peter Watson, the 28 panels and exhibits throughout the day featured student and faculty research, experiences, and artistic creations (program is attached). The committee also coordinated with the International Programs office to award prizes for the best student work. Global Temple is, with TURF-CReWS one of the few opportunities that undergraduate students have to present their work to a wider audience. Thanks in large measure to the support of Denise Connerty and the International Programs office, Global Temple has become an important annual event that highlights the university’s diverse global engagement. It is vital that the Faculty Senate support the event both financially and practically, so that the conference can continue to showcase and support Temple’s internationalization.

2) In terms of study abroad, the committee continued to work with International Programs regarding issues of credit, the rigor of international study abroad experiences, and the approval process for programs and courses.
   - International Programs has created a large number of events over the course of the academic year to encourage students to study abroad and has been very successful in maintaining student study abroad participation despite the economic slowdown and to increase it in some cases. Our committee discussions focused on some of the barriers that students still perceive to studying abroad (whether those barriers are real or not).
• The committee was informed by International Programs about the continued and expanding efforts to keep track of students and faculty abroad as a way to maintain the focus on issues of safety.
• The committee discussed the ways that study abroad models have shifted as faculty and students look for alternates to the traditional semester or year abroad programs. These alternatives have taken the shape of shorter study modules attached to courses and study abroad programs that take advantage of opportunities in the academic calendar between and in the middle of semesters.
• At its March 2013 meeting, the committee discussed with International Programs a process for establishing a list of accepted external programs available for Temple students. Crafting a list of rigorous, high-quality programs that students choose from will help guide students’ study abroad choices, address the uncertainties of faculty, advisers, and students about the vast array of choices for study abroad, and make course equivalents and credit easier to assign. The committee and International Programs sees this list as a way to lessen the pre-program paperwork and anxiety that can dissuade students from studying abroad. Creating this list is a long term project that will continue in the coming academic year and will require faculty participation in making sure that these programs serve the purposes of International Programs and Temple’s students.

3) International Students at Temple
At the May committee meeting, Brooke Walker (Assistant Vice President for Global Partnerships and Programs and International Student and Scholar Services) presented the current innovations supported by the Provost’s office to improve the experience of international students at Temple. As Senior Vice Provost for International Affairs, Provost Dai made it a priority to raise the numbers of international students coming to Temple and resources have been devoted to student recruitment, orientation, and institutional connections abroad. Within ISS, an International Admissions office has been established to work on recruitment. International students will also participate in a new orientation program prior to term and the office has worked with the Writing Center and other university offices to address some of the particular challenges of international students. Those focused on these challenges have also drawn on the report generated by the joint adhoc committee (comprised of Faculty Senate Committee for International Programs and the Faculty Senate’s educational policy committee) that defined some of the issues the university must address as it continues to increase the number of international students on campus.

Chair and membership:
This academic year is the 6th year of Rita Krueger’s participation on the committee and the conclusion of her service as chair. In its final meeting of the year on May 7, the full committee supported the election of Howard Spodek as incoming chair of the committee. The committee has been very fortunate in the active and excellent participation of its members. However, many of the current members have concluded their three year terms and one of the tasks of the incoming chair will be to build up the committee’s membership.

Submitted by: Rita Krueger (May 9, 2013), Global Temple poster/program attached