Global Steering Committee Minutes
December 10, 2015
1:30pm – 3pm
Alumni Center Boardroom

Members present: David Abedon, Jenny Audette, Shaw Chen, Dania Brandford-Calvo, Bo Gillie, Norbert Hedderich, Kristin Johnson, Sarah Lopolito, Kathleen Maher, Diane Martins, Princess Metuge, Rosaria Pisa, Nancy Stricklin
Members Not Present: Laura Beauvais, Sigrid Berka, Tom Boving (teaching this semester), Bill Gordon, Haibo He, Maureen Moakley, Navindra Seeram, Nasser Zawia

Comprehensive Internationalization Plan
Following the October meeting, four out of a possible six subcommittees were formed, which met outside of the regularly scheduled GSC meeting. Each subcommittee reported their recommendations to the group as follows:

Subcommittee 2
Student Mobility – Outward flow of domestic students to other countries to engage in an education abroad experience
Members – Jenny Audette, Kathleen Maher, Princess Metuge, Diane Martins, Dania Brandford-Calvo
This subcommittee developed an extensive list of suggested steps. After discussion, four main topics of focus emerged, which will continue to be developed. A general summary is presented below, although much more detail exists in the subcommittee’s document.
Advisors – Need to inform advisors on all aspects of study abroad process, from pre-departure advising to posting of transfer credits. Database of transfer credits needs updating. OIE needs support to do this.
Funding – Identify and expand funding sources, centralize the information, improve and publicize funding options, and get URI Foundation/Development involved with a capital campaign focused on international opportunities.
Curriculum Integration – Incorporate study abroad options into advising. Develop curriculum sheets that include this option. Select a few “model majors” to pilot this effort.
Risk Management – Standardize system for addressing risk management issues for all international travel programs, focusing on student and faculty preparation regarding health and safety. Include consideration of Department of State travel warnings.

Subcommittee 3
Student Mobility – Inward flow of international students to study at URI – recruitment, programs, support structures and activities
Members - Nasser Zawia, Haibo He, Sarah Lopolito, Bo Gillie, Shaw Chen
This subcommittee also created an extensive list of action steps. They recommend a few as highest priority, presented below. Many other suggestions from their original document will continue to be developed.
International Student Advisor – Create a new position for an International Student Advisor (navigator) to provide comprehensive guidance for international undergraduate and graduate students. Discussion must take place to identify where this position would be housed (University College, Office of International Education, Graduate School). Resources are needed to fund this position.

Housing for International Graduate Students and Visiting Scholars – Improve housing options for international graduate students and scholars. Explore plans for improvements and expansions to Graduate Village or other apartments. Improve assistance to new international graduate students regarding off campus housing.

Subcommittee 4
Internationalizing Curriculum, Co-Curriculum and Learning Outcomes
Members – Kristin Johnson, Dave Abedon, Norbert Hedderich, Sigrid Berka, Bill Gordon
Priority for this subcommittee is summarized below:
International Tracks/Global Certificates – Create a formalized process to develop an international track or global certificate option within majors. Select Political Science as a pilot for this. Then assist other departments to do the same.
(Discussion followed regarding the already existing minors that add a global theme to many majors, such as International Development. The new Peace Corps Prep Program will also give students a global option.)
Global Studies Minor – It was suggested to put this on hold for now, although that discussion will be continued.

Subcommittee 6
Collaborations and Partnerships
Members – Maureen Moakley, Navindra Seeram, Rosaria Pisa, Nancy Stricklin
The priority for this subcommittee is summarized below:
Interdisciplinary core review team – Create a small formal review team, established to examine, strengthen, enhance and make recommendations about future requests for international partnership development (MOU’s, MOA’s, etc.) The team needs to maintain a level of flexibility and is not formed to create obstacles. When necessary, invite faculty/staff, who have expertise in a specific country or region, to team meetings to review broader global initiatives.

Fulbright Advisory Team
An update was presented on the status of the Fulbright Advisory Team, which met in the fall to plan future activities. Laura Beauvais and Nancy Stricklin co-coordinate this team. The Fulbright Advisory Team has identified three goals and is taking steps to move forward on them.

1. Increase the number of URI faculty/staff applying for Fulbright opportunities.
   a. Invite a Fulbright representative to URI in April 2016 to conduct faculty workshops.
b. Create a URI Fulbright website with information for faculty regarding Fulbright program opportunities and application guidance.

2. Increase number of incoming Fulbright scholars to URI.
   a. Communicate to Fulbright offices worldwide via email and share information about URI, including link to a future new URI Fulbright website.

3. Provide welcome and support to incoming Fulbright scholars at URI.
   a. Facilitate an orientation, invitations to dinner with local people in the community and a fall reception on campus for new visiting Fulbright scholars.

**Peace Corps Prep Program**
Professor Mike Rice, Coordinator the new Peace Corps Prep Program, presented to Faculty Senate regarding the new program and it met with approval. There is a website developed already, although it has not yet been marketed. [http://web.uri.edu/peacecorpsprep/](http://web.uri.edu/peacecorpsprep/). Dave Lavallee, Assistant Director of URI Communications, will work with the PC Prep committee on launching the program publically to the URI community in late January.

**Virtual Tour of URI in 5 Languages**
Bo Gillie from International Undergraduate Admissions gave an update to the committee regarding a new virtual tour that is now on the URI Homepage. It can be viewed in 5 different languages, including Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese and Japanese. This new option for prospective international students and their families will be of great value for recruitment purposes. [http://www.youvisit.com/tour/uri?pl=v](http://www.youvisit.com/tour/uri?pl=v)

**Distinguished International Visiting Scholars**
Three scholars have been selected to visit URI in spring 2016.

1. **Maurizio Seracini** - sponsored by Michelangelo La Luna, Italian department
   Visiting Professor at School of Engineering at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia
   Professor of Structural Engineering - Was at UC San Diego, University of Ca’Foscari, Venice, University of Calabria and University of Florence
   He is known for scientific examination on 2500 works of art and historic buildings – Art authentication

2. **Salvador Marin Hernandez** - sponsored by Alejanro Hazera, Business, Accounting
   Professor of Financial Accounting, University of Murcia, Spain
   Was Finance Minister for the Province of Murcia and Higher Education Minister
   Now CEO of company which finances establishment of innovative Spanish firms
   Speaks about Spain’s recent financial crisis

3. **James Mittra** - Sponsored by Tracey Dalton, Marine Affairs
   Senior Research Fellow in Science, Technology and Innovation Studies and Director of Graduate School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Edinburgh, Scotland
   Interdisciplinary social science with focus on life science and translational medicine.
Cuba
Nancy Stricklin recently returned from Cuba, traveling with the Dean and faculty from Graduate School of Oceanography. Further progress was made to develop a formal partnership with the Institute of Oceanology in Havana. A relationship is continuing to be developed with the Center for Marine Research at the University of Havana. Dean Corliss gave a plenary talk at an international marine conference, while in Havana. Further relationships were established with Cuban colleagues in the marine sciences, NOAA administrators and US State Department officials who were also in Havana for a signing of an environmental collaboration with Cuba.

Cambridge Education Group Pathway Program
Nancy gave an update on the progress of URI’s proposed partnerships with CEG. In November, President Dooley, Dean Libutti and Nancy visited existing CEG pathway programs in London and Amsterdam. As a result of the trip, a collaboration with CEG is fully supported by the President. URI will continue moving ahead with plans to bring this pathway program to campus, with a target start date of fall 2016. A draft contract is currently being reviewed by URI’s Legal Counsel.