Global Steering Committee Minutes
January 30, 2014
2:00-3:00 PM Alumni Board Room

Members Present: David Abedon, Sigrid Berka, Tom Boving, Dania Brandford-Calvo, Shaw Chen, Alicia Curtin, Bo Gillie, Haibo He, Sarah Lopolito, Kathleen Maher, Ric McIntyre, Kat Quina, Navindra Seeram, Yang Shen, Manbir Sodhi, Nancy Stricklin
Members Not Present: Jenny Audette (teaching), Kristin Johnson (teaching), Maureen Moakley (sabbatical), Nasser Zawia

1) The Art Department is sending out a call for artwork with a global theme. Nancy Stricklin, Sarah Lopolito and Barbara Pagh, professor of Art, will review and select 5 pieces to be hung in the Global Resource Center in Taft Hall (room 105.) A reception will be held to thank the students whose art is represented. More details to follow.

2) A Fulbright Advisory Team has been created which includes Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs Laura Beauvais, Kathleen Maher, Nancy Stricklin, Nasser Zawia, and Professors Laura Meyerson and Mike Rice. The first meeting is Feb. 13th. A plan will be developed to identify one or more Fulbright Campus Representatives, and to plan a presentation this spring for faculty to learn more about the Fulbright experience and application process.

3) David Abedon is convening a group on Feb. 6th at 2:00 PM to continue the discussion of NCIIA.

4) Obama’s 100,000 Strong Initiative program selected URI as one of four US institutions for a grant. More than 100 applied. Sigrid Berka gave an overview of the award and the plan.

5) J-Term trips were highlighted. The Indonesian trip with Tom Boving, the Dominican Republic trip with Alicia Curtin and the Germany trip with Sigrid were all extremely successful. Dania shared that overall, the J-term was successful for URI with a good number of students and very positive experiences both abroad and home.

6) We welcomed a new member to the Committee, Sarah Lopolito, who is the new Director of the ACE English Language Institute. She has been working at ACE since August 2013. She gave an overview of the program. Sigrid shared that IEP often has rooms available during spring term and ACE students looking for housing can consider this. Also, ACE will be able to issue their own I-20’s starting in fall 2014 due to a recent accreditation and certification. This will allow students to study intensive language at URI without being conditionally admitted. The numbers of international students studying at ACE is expected to increase because of this.
7) **IIE Generation Study Abroad** was introduced by Kathleen Maher. It is an IIE sponsored initiative to double the number of US students studying abroad by the end of the decade. IIE wants to identify at least 100 US colleges and universities to make a “pledge” and submit a form and a letter of commitment by February 14th. Dania shared that she and Tom Hospod, from the Office of International Education, had already seen the announcement of this initiative and had considered this. The Committee was supportive of URI taking the steps to become one of the 100 institutions identified. Dania will follow up on this.

8) An announcement was made regarding a CCE exhibit during February. The exhibit features photography of life in East African villages served by The Africa Teacher Foundation along with regional handiwork sold to the benefit of the local artists.

**Follow Up:**

1) Fulbright Advisory Team will meet and plan for future presentation.

2) Office of International Education will follow up on the IIE Generation Study Abroad initiative.

**Topics to continue at next meeting:**

1) Update on written policy regarding travel to countries with State Dept. warnings

2) Enrollment update and recruitment plans – graduate and undergraduate