Global Steering Committee Minutes  
September 17, 2015  
1:30pm – 3pm  
President’s Conference Room, Green Hall

Members present:  David Abedon, Jenny Audette, Laura Beauvais, Sigrid Berka, Dania Brandford-Calvo, Shaw Chen, Bo Gillie, Bill Gordon, Haibo He, Norbert Hedderich, Sarah Lopolito, Kathleen Maher, Diane Martins, Princess Metuge, Rosaria Pisa, Navindra Seeram, Nancy Stricklin, Nasser Zawia

Members Not Present: Tom Boving (teaching this semester), Maureen Moakley

Introduction of Members
The Committee welcomed four new members. Bill Gordon, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture (includes Geography), Diane Martins, Associate Professor from Nursing, Princess Metuge, Career Counselor from CCE and Rosaria Pisa, Director of Women and Gender Studies and Sociology/Athropology lecturer.

Overview of Committee Progress
Nancy provided a brief overview of the Committee’s accomplishments and progress from its beginning. The first meeting of the Committee took place in April 2012. The general overview of progress included the following:

- Partnership with ACE – English Language Institute
- Global Website developed and on URI homepage
- MOU process clarified, streamlined – has a website
- Increase in undergraduate international student enrollment
- Partnership with Brazil and Saudi Arabia – ESL, exchange and matriculated students
- Partnership with Roosevelt International Academy – Chinese students
- International Education Week – planning committee – expanding
- International Atrium in Union – flags representing countries of URI students
- Housing - open during breaks – Hillside global living community with Global Ambassador
- Welcome week for new international students – expanded and supported
- Education Service Providers (agents) – process approved – initiated fall 2014
- Study abroad numbers increasing – J-term courses expanding opportunities
- Summer URI programs for international students increasing
- Fulbright Advisory Team formed – workshop for faculty and Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant
- New general education requirement has a global competence area
- International partnerships/collaborations continue to grow (Cuba, Indonesia, Japan, Taiwan, China, etc.)
- Distinguished Visiting International Scholar – new committee formed to oversee
- Pathway program (Cambridge Education Group) – developing collaboration
- Peace Corps Prep program – approved, formal contract signed, launching spring 2016
- Comprehensive Internationalization Plan – final draft developed – new Academic Plan
**Comprehensive Internationalization Plan**

By the end of spring 2015, using the ACE Model of Comprehensive Internationalization as a guide, the Global Steering Committee completed a final draft of a Comprehensive Internationalization Plan for URI. This plan identifies goals, strategies and action steps.

The six pillars of ACE’s model, which are included in the Plan, are:

1. Articulated Institutional Commitment
2. Administrative Leadership, Structure and Staffing
3. Faculty Policies and Practices
4. Curriculum, Co-curriculum and Learning Outcomes
5. Student Mobility
6. Collaboration and Partnership

The members of the Committee were sent this final draft prior to this meeting. Each member was asked to prioritize Action Steps. At the meeting, checklists were distributed and members filled in their selections. These will be tallied and will provide a roadmap for the Committee to follow. It was explained that, given the breadth of the plan, there will need to be some outside subcommittee work needed, in order to accomplish our goals.

“Field Trips” were proposed, so that members could get more of a first-hand look at some of the programs and issues at URI. For example, there will be a walk to Graduate Village from the main campus. Also, there will be a visit to the ACE English Language Institute. Other suggestions are welcomed. Norbert and Nancy will plan accordingly and will send out email announcements for these optional but encouraged visits.

It was also suggested that members of the community, who are not on the Committee, be invited to participate or present when appropriate.

There was a discussion on some of the issues/challenges faced by international graduate students, particularly in regards to Grad Village. Also, support for grad students and their spouses was discussed as an area needing improvement. This topic will continue to be on the agenda of the Committee moving forward.

**Update on Cuba**

An overview of the upcoming MOU signing between URI and the Institute of Philosophy in Havana, Cuba was provided to committee. This takes place on September 28, 2015. Students are being recruited to take part in the spring 2016 study abroad program in Cuba. There is also a Cuba J-term. Maureen Moakley, Political Science and Ric McIntyre, Economics are the faculty coordinators of both programs.
Nancy presented an update about Cuba and the Graduate School of Oceanography. A trip to Cuba in July resulted in keen interest to further collaborate with the Center for Marine Research at the University of Havana and the Institute of Oceanology. Also, there is a November conference in Cuba focused on marine issues. The Dean of GSO is doing a plenary talk and three GSO faculty are presenting.

**Peace Corps Prep Program**
URI received notification in April that it has been selected to become formal partners with Peace Corps. A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed by President Dooley over the summer. Professor Mike Rice, Fisheries, is the Coordinator of the PCP program. He has submitted required paperwork to the CELS Curriculum Committee for approval. Once this is finalized, URI can begin to build the program. This will include publishing a PC Prep website, finalizing program guidelines, preparing student paperwork, etc. The target date to launch is spring 2016. Dave Abedon from CELS is the co-coordinator. Nancy Stricklin will work closely with them to facilitate the process. Beginning in January, Kathleen Maher will work more closely with the program. The goal is to have a presentation about the PCP program during the International Education Week in November.

**Japanese Program Updates**
Norbert Hedderich, co-chair of the Committee and Chair of the Department of Languages, gave the members an overview of the growth in interest in the Japanese language classes. Classes are full and interest in a major continues to grow. Future opportunities with the International Engineering Program are in discussion. This past summer, 11 URI students did a 6-week program at Kochi University in Japan. There is discussion of expanding URI partnerships to other universities.

**Undergraduate International Admissions Updates**
Bo Gillie, International Admission Advisor, shared the latest information regarding the incoming class of undergraduate international students. This fall there are 80+ new students enrolled. This is the highest new enrollment URI has seen. URI has also contracted with a few Educational Service Providers (agents), and we have our first student, from Norway, who arrived as a freshmen this fall. The Undergraduate Admission office just hired a new International Admission Officer, who will be responsible for managing all agent relationships.

**Foreign Language Overlay Proposal**
Norbert Hedderich summarized a proposal that the Language Department has put forth. It would require all students to take one course delivered in a language other than English, in order to graduate. Based upon the new General Education requirements, which are supposed to be put into practice in fall 2016, the Language Department is suggesting this model.

**Future Meetings**
There are four meetings each semester. Each meeting will have a *Global Updates* section. This will give everyone a chance to share news and inform members of global issues, activities and
updates. Each member should return to his/her department or college and share the updates. The Committee will discuss this process to suggest best ways to do so.