Global Steering Committee Minutes
March 28, 2013
2:00 – 3:30 Alumni Board Room

Members Present: David Abedon, Sigrid Berka, Tom Boving, Shaw Chen, Haibo He, Kristin Johnson, Ric McIntyre, Kat Quina, Navindra Seeram, Yang Shen, Nancy Stricklin, Nasser Zawia

Members Not Present: Jenny Audette, Dania Brandford-Calvo, Alicia Curtin, Bo Gillie, Maureen Moakley, Manbir Sodhi

1) We welcomed a new member to the Committee from the Graduate School of Oceanography, Yang Shen.

2) David Abedon presented to the Committee on “URI – Design for Development.” During his recent sabbatical he learned about many opportunities that URI students could take part in. He gave information about numerous groups that focus on “Design for the Other 90%” or “Design that Matters.” He visited the MIT Design Lab. He also presented about The National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA) which has about 200 member colleges/universities. Annual membership is $500 for universities and, by becoming a member, URI students would be eligible to apply for grants to support design projects. The Committee recommended that URI join for the upcoming academic year. Discussion also followed about design labs and URI engineering students who do senior projects. They could benefit from this membership with NCIIA.

3) Update about the visit April 1 from the Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission. Committee members were invited to attend a meeting if they were interested.

4) Update about the Office of International Education sponsoring a Brazilian themed Block Party on April 11. The two Brazilian students here on the BSMP scholarships are taking part and having a booth. Next fall we have potentially an additional 12 students from Brazil.

5) Global Web Site updates:
   a. There now is a link on the site for a form (Global Activities Questionnaire) for faculty to fill out to add to a database of global activities. We will change some of the wording based upon discussion.
   b. Nancy drafted a letter that will be sent to Deans and/or Chairs that explains the new website and has a link to the Global Activities Questionnaire. The questionnaire is optional for faculty, but the letter will encourage them to complete it, as well as explain how this information will be displayed eventually on an interactive world map.
   c. The Global Curriculum “bucket” is not complete yet, but there is a list of examples of undergraduate majors. Minors will be added.
   d. More photos are needed for the website. Members are encouraged to send in with an explanation of activity.
   e. The International Partnership “bucket” was updated in fall 2012. It will need to be updated again, since quite a few new partnerships and agreements were developed since then.
6) Definition of “Global”: General discussion took place about this definition. Focus was on international vs. global. Nancy compiled input from members and handed out for discussion. Dania Brandford-Calvo has done some research, but was unable to attend the meeting. Nancy will get her input and put together a working document for the committee. When this becomes final, Nancy will email to the chairs the existing list of courses identified as global, which was put together a few years ago, along with the document and ask the chairs to look at the list and add to or edit. This list will be put up on the Global website.

7) Global Studies minor: Discussion postponed to next meeting.

Follow Up:
1) Nancy will look into URI becoming a member of the NCIIA for a fee of $500.
2) A follow up meeting with Communications will take place to change some wording on the Global Activities Questionnaire and to add photos and the list of minors. The goal is to have to site go live in the end of April. When the site goes live, Nancy will send a letter to the Deans and/or Chairs to request that faculty complete the questionnaire.
3) The Office of International Education will update the list of URI partnerships.