Global Steering Committee

Agenda

1. Global Learning for All
   a. ACE Internationalization Lab
   b. COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning)
   c. Global Options - Curriculum
2. Fall 2021 Off-Campus Study and Travel
3. Other Updates

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<th>Meeting Date</th>
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GCS Committee Members

Gifty Ako-Adounvo, (GAA),

(Minutes: Cherie Rowe)

1. Nicole Asal (NA),
2. Sigrid Berka (SB),
3. Tom Boving (TB),
4. Karen de Bruin (KB),
5. Shaw Chen (SC),
6. Richard Gillie (RG),
7. William Godorn Jr. (WGJ),
8. Rabia Hos (RH),
9. Tom Hospod (TH),
10. Kristin Johnson (KJ)
11. Katherine Maher (KM),
12. Diane Martins (DM),
13. Richard Mcintyre (RM),
14. Princess Metuge (PM),
15. Frankie Minor (FM),
16. Cara Mitnick (CM),
17. Brietta Oaks (BO)
18. Rosaria Pisa
19. Nancy Stricklin (NS)
20. Elin Torrell

Global Learning for All

GAA shared presentation outlining the strategy to incorporate global learning into the curriculum for all students irrespective of their major. The aim is for all students to develop the foundational global competencies to position them to engage and thrive culturally and globally.

Our actions include:
• partner with ATL and other organizations to provide workshops for faculty on teaching experiential and global courses
• formalize a global studies minor that reinforces students’ global competencies,
• create experiences and opportunities, such as international trips, certificates and expanded study abroad or domestic travel opportunities within majors and graduate programs
• Noted that the aim is not to that we should be doing anything to take away from education abroad experiences abroad as those are the gold standard and we should be trying to send as many of our students abroad as possible. In order to be equitable and in order to ensure that all our students have global competencies and have global outcomes, we need to go beyond study abroad.
• GAA recommending that the global steering committee comes together to have internationalizing the campus as a major goal. “While I'm sure global will be in the new academic plan but I think that giving internationalization of the curriculum a major focus will allow us to come away with some really good outcomes. Part of the multi-pronged approach that we have is COIL classes, a collaborative online international learning community.”
• We'll have coil classes, we will have courses with significant mobile content, and of course we have our general education courses that are tagged as global. We will be working harder to bring more students to study away through the National Student Exchange and education abroad.
• We need to focus on how we can bring the Global Studies Certificate to fruition.
• We need to consider a URI International Distinction or Global Options (consider the naming)

Committee discussed memberships to ACE Lab and COIL.

• ACE Internationalization lab reached out the Provost because they are at the point of recruiting new members. The lab is described as an inclusive learning committee for strategic planning and advancing equitable global engagements, which should be at the forefront of institutional transformation. Benefits and the advantages of using the of the internalization lab were outlined. Membership is around 36,000 per institution. It was identified that many of the benefits were already accessible with the exception of COIL.
• Consideration for us to focus efforts on joining COIL, a collaborative online international learning network is a global network of institutions for academic matchmaking. There's an institutional annual membership is about $500. A variety of options regarding workshops, courses, and modules are available for faculty and students. The assistance would be available up for us to scale up the virtual global projects and collaborations that already exist.
• Difference between COIL and working with direct exchange insinuations with which URI already has institutional partnerships. Clarification provided that COIL was not a third-party provider and would allow the university to scale up collaboration on research projects and academic courses internationally.
• Concern raised regarding proportion of asynchronous/synchronous learning as students are likely to be resistant to asynchronous learning due to the intensity of past twelve months.
• Noted that COIL is not an online learning platform for students but a means to connect faculty from global institutions to collaborate and set up academic projects. Faculty at each institution
will be able to construct the best format and technologies for connecting students on academic projects/courses.

• KDB gave examples of how the Rennes program works
  o Discussion around opportunities for faculty to connect with the archive of possibilities and network opportunities to connect scholars that COIL could provide.
  o Noted that COIL will not take away faculty agency but is intended to help find new ways of helping students to develop global competencies and in ways that might be exciting to them that maybe spur that interest in having an experience abroad.
  o COIL might be considered as a supercharged ATL. As a member you are provided with access to workshops focused on global collaboration, accessibility and expanding the opportunity to enhance our global offerings to all students as much as possible, to internationalize the curriculum across the board with the technology that now exists. It is based out of the SUNY system it's been there for some time. The network includes people who are highly regarded in the field of education, it's very reputable and there's a lot of great resources there.

• Discussion whether URI should be leading a “COIL” type initiative rather than joining SUNY COIL. This may be a future opportunity.
• Committee agreed to move with COIL membership. Discussion around encouraging faculty to avail themselves of COIL resources once we gained membership.
• GAA shared that the Provost is engaged and willing to put some funds towards it.
• Committee agreed not to move forward with joining ACE Internalization Lab

2. Study Abroad Summer 2021 and Fall 2021

• TH shared updates from the International Travel Review Committee. They are considering the summer programs. A questionnaire was sent out to the hosting providers, specifically related to procedures, policies and so on and so forth related to COVID-19 and those been returned. Those have been returned to which is waiting to final review by the ITRC to make a determination of those students will be approved to go forward this summer.
• A decision will be made around May for Fall Programs.
• Committee members shared strategies in case students were unable to travel including enrolling into institutions abroad and taking online classes, (German IEP) for example.
• Committee noted that vaccination requirements may support possibilities for travel.
• Committee members requested an update on the risk waiver for students to sign.
• Update on Fulbright students provided by KM who supported concept of a risk release form and/or the opportunity to petition in case there is some suspension of travel. It was noted that undergraduate students may not be as well equipped to cope difficulties should they have to undergo quarantine in country.
• TH to send waiver to committee. GAA requested all to remember that although we have done our due diligence to ensure students are informed of potential risks, there is no legal protection provided by the waiver against being sued. We have attempted to mitigate risk as far as possible.
• We should note that some government programs are moving forward and others, such as Gilman program are not. We have encouraged students to plan ahead in either scenario. A waiver, an institutional questionnaire has been set to students Acknowledged that there are many moving parts. GAA requested a show hands to recommend to the ITRC that we have education abroad options for the fall.

• GAA expressed kudos to everyone and especially to Tom because he has taken on the majority of the workload on and is continuously working through the complexities.

• Committee voted approval to move forward

3. NS shared that she is retiring in August. “After being at URI for over 30 years building the Global Steering Committee from scratch, nine years ago, it has been an honor and an inspiration to work with you. Some of you I’ve traveled with internationally and I’ve had some great experiences, the highlights of my professional career so I want to just share that with you say thank you, thank Gifty for her support since she’s been here, but also to say, continue to do the good, great work that I think we have all been doing together. I’ll be here until August 1 so if there’s anything that you're working on or I’m working on that I need you for or you need me for, please reach out.”