



UNIVERSITY FACULTY COMMITTEE ON GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT (UFCGE)

MINUTES 9/25/15

Attendees: Ken Hill, Nina Morgan, Joseph Dirnberger, Edward Eanes, Hai Ho, David Schmidt, Christie Emerson, Binbin Jiang, Lance Askildson, Ermal Shpuza, Daniel Paracka, Douglas Moodie, Tom Pusateri, Todd Harper, Cindy Bowers, Pamela Dembla

Meeting opened at 09:00

1. Global Learning Scholarship Recommendations & Feedback
 - a. The committee discussed the recent recommendations for a 32.5% reduction to the Global Learning Scholarship and the elimination of faculty site-visit funding and STAR student funding by the Global Learning Scholarship Fee Committee (GLSFC) in the Division of Student Affairs.
 - b. In examining the circumstances leading to the GLSFC recommendations, the UFCGE expressed concern about the structure and governance of the GLS Fund and the lack of coordination with relevant stakeholders. The UFCGE also expressed concern that the management of the GLS Fund has resulted in a sudden cut to international funding. The committee agreed that many of the factors leading up to the depletion of the GLS Fund and its reserves should have been addressed in advance of the current crisis.
 - c. The UFCGE also expressed concern that the current short-fall in GLS funding is only being formally addressed now when the antecedents of this deficit in funding have been known since at least last Spring. The committee believes that the current crisis was avoidable in terms of severity had the GLS Fund been managed more effectively and had corrective action been taken more expeditiously.
 - d. Despite these concerns, the UFCGE recognized that the current fiscal reality of the GLS Fund required that the Division of Student Affairs proceed with the proposed cuts to the GLS Program. However, the committee recommended that the "service learning" funding be eliminated from the GLS calculus and that this funding be equitably and proportionally shared across all three program length categories of the scholarship. The UFCGE made this recommendation with three rationales in mind: 1) Nearly all study abroad already incorporates service learning; the financial incentive for service learning was a significant cause for the rapid depletion of GLS Fund reserves over the past 2-3 years; and any cuts to the GLS Fund should focus on maintaining as much of the core scholarship amounts instead of scholarships+service distinctions.
 - e. The committee tasked Lance Askildson with communicating its feedback to Dawyn Dumas in the Division of Student Affairs in his capacity as chair of the UFCGE. Askildson was encouraged to send this feedback as soon as possible in order to facilitate

a faster resolution of scholarship amounts for faculty waiting to advertise their programs at the Sept. 29 annual education abroad fair.

2. Montepulciano Updates & Clarifications

- a. Lance Askildson provided a series of updates and clarifications regarding KSU's new facilities and programs in Montepulciano. Askildson emphasized that the programs in Montepulciano are unique from other education abroad programs and models at KSU for two distinct reasons: 1) Montepulciano is KSU's first and only permanent facility abroad and because of this, 2) Montepulciano exemplifies the access and affordability mission of education abroad at KSU overall. Askildson also explained that the status of "permanent facilities" in Montepulciano requires a significantly greater degree of risk management, emergency response and general support capability than any other study abroad program model at KSU. Askildson explained that DGA was working to hire an onsite facilities manager to meet its ethical, legal and fiscal obligations for these new permanent facilities. Askildson also explained that this facilities manager will help support all academic directors and programs that are offered in Montepulciano. Finally, Askildson announced that Todd Harper's interim role as Director of KSU in Tuscany Programs would end on January 1, 2017. Askildson thanked Harper for his service and his significant efforts helping to develop the new Montepulciano facilities. Askildson noted that Harper will be working with all Montepulciano programs and stakeholders over the course of the Spring 2016 semester -- and particularly the longstanding summer programs -- to develop formal governance structures to improve transparency and decision-making for Montepulciano programs. The UFCGE discussed the need for onsite management support for risk management and the possibility of additional staff being added to support a larger array of programs being offered in Montepulciano. The committee also discussed some of the needs for Spring semester programs and the current limits in housing for new programs in Montepulciano.

3. Competitive Solicitation Policy Proposal Feedback

- a. Askildson introduced several proposed changes to competitive solicitation policies at KSU that would directly affect education abroad programs and processes for approving vendors and expenditures. The committee discussed the complexities of education abroad expenditures and noted that airfare and in-country vendors were often selected according to a complex calculus of cost, availability and safety that would not be accounted for in the newly proposed competitive solicitation rules. Askildson suggested that it would be helpful for 1-2 members of the UFCGE to accompany him and DGA Director of Finance, Ashley Johnson, during their upcoming meeting with the KSU AVP for Finance, Comptroller and Director of Procurement to discuss these concerns and explain the unique challenges of competitive solicitation in study abroad. Christie Emerson and Doug Moodie both volunteered to attend as representatives of the committee and experienced education abroad directors.

4. Emert et al. SIG Internationalization Prize (Marietta) Request for "Significant Change"

- a. The committee discussed a recently submitted proposal from Randy Emert et al. for significant changes to their proposed SIG Internationalization Prize for the Marietta Campus. The committee had a number of questions and concerns regarding the proposed changes to this SIG-funded initiative. The committee asked Lance Askildson to invite

Emert to the next UFCGE meeting to discuss his proposal in more detail before making a decision on his proposal.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10