

Global Engagement Council Meeting Minutes - October 7th, 2020

Present: Felicia Steele (Chair), Sharon Byrne, Karen Clark, Cecilia Colbeth, Sara Decker, Karen Dubrule, Muskanjot Kaur, Solange Lopes-Murphy, Sejong Yoon, Christa Olson (ex officio)

I. Review and Approval of [Minutes](#) of September 16th Meeting.

After time given to review the minutes and a motion made, the minutes were unanimously approved.

II. Snapshot for Summer 2021

- Faculty led programs in development

Camille Deering, CGE Education Abroad Advisor and Coordinator for Faculty Led Programs, provided a brief snapshot of the Summer 2021 faculty-led programs. 11 were scheduled, 3 have decided not to go forward so the following 8 programs are going forward: Brazil, Canada, Italy (2), Spain-Madrid, UK Cambridge and London, UK London, and UK Cornwall while Vietnam, South Africa, and Alicante were withdrawn. Four programs are in Summer 1 while the other four bridge into Summer 2 and 3 sessions. There are providers identified with all programs but some are still being finalized with budgets. Providers are facing staffing cuts and funding issues so it is difficult to find comparison bids as providers are not taking on new programs. Camille is a little concerned that there are not competitive bids for some of these programs and they are still waiting for bids from WorldStrides/ISA. IFSA, the provider for UK Cambridge is new as a faculty-led program provider but CGE has used them before for semester programs and they are well set to support this program as they have an office in Cambridge. CGE is scheduling zoom info sessions to start recruiting which is a little behind schedule from last year. Last week was the deadline for Spring semester programs so staff can now really work on recruiting for Summer 2021. Of the 8 programs still planning to run, 3 have not run before (Brazil, Canada and Cambridge).

There are still no guarantees that these programs will run and CGE is working with RM/CM to determine the risk for all the programs up until there are any financial commitments. There would typically be two risk reviews - one before going to GEC for review and then one before departure. The current situation requires a different timeline for risk. CGE and RM/CM will need to determine what should be considered to prepare faculty and students and what crisis management plan needs to be developed. So another risk assessment will need to be completed before any financial obligations are

required. Felicia asked Muskanjot how students might be feeling about study abroad and she replied students are inquiring with her and students seem to feel more comfortable with considering education abroad. The Student Senate can help with promoting faculty-led programs and education abroad. Cecilia recently held an info session about the WGS/History Italy program and had more interest than expected so is encouraged. For the first time, Christa is seeing other countries not as welcome to the idea of US students coming to their country so that is another variable that will need to be monitored. Regarding virtual exchange, many of the providers are switching to offering virtual programming and courses but this would require faculty and academic department support. There is some interest among students so alternative global arrangements may be possible.

The Summer I deadline is Feb. 12 for application, Feb 19 for deposit; Summer II deadline is March 5 for application and March 12 for deposit.

III. Review “[Request for Proposals](#)” for new Faculty led Programs 2022

- All things considered, should CGE send out this Request for Proposals (RFP)? If so, in addition to updating dates, are there any additional changes that should be made? For example, should we include a limit on the number of new programs that will be offered in 2022?

This issue was driven not by covid but by the reduced number of CGE staff members. The RFP is for new programs and the Request to Schedule is for existing programs. They usually go out to faculty around the same time. Karen D. asked what capacity of faculty-led programs can be managed and developed and how many can successfully recruit to run. It is difficult given the current CGE staff but Camille informed that every year there are programs cancelled due to low enrollment. New programs take some time to build up interest, etc. but the saturation question is important as each program requires a lot of staff time to coordinate. The financial component (program cost) remains a determining factor for enrollment. Felicia asked if a domestic study tour fit in this structure. There have been several offered in the past few years but did not end up running. The RFP could include domestic programming. Karen D. suggested sending out the Request to Schedule first, to determine which existing programs are looking to run for Summer 2022 and then determine if that would be enough programs offered, being cognizant of current CGE staffing levels as well as the uncertainty of the pandemic and providers ability to deliver a comprehensive program.

Felicia agreed that it is okay for CGE to take a year to maintain the status quo, circulate the RFP with the caveat that due to the current global uncertainty, this RFP will target

Winter and Summer 2023 for new programs. With a motion made and approved unanimously, the **GEC recommends that the Request to Schedule application for Winter and Summer 2022 Faculty-Led Programs go out to gauge existing faculty-led program intent. The RFP for new programs would also go out but will target Winter and Summer 2023 due to current uncertainty.** Camille and Christa will draft a cover letter to accompany the RFP to run by the GEC for review.

IV. [Request to Schedule](#) for Faculty led Programs 2022

- All things considered, should CGE send out this Request to Schedule?
- GEC endorsed a set of Global Engagement outcomes last year. Should they be included in this Request to Schedule?

In the RFP, now going out for Winter/Summer 2023, faculty are asked to comment on how the program/course addresses two of the Global Engagement outcomes. Should these also be included in the Request to Schedule as they currently are not? Felicia asked if there is a significant change to the course design/syllabus, does it require re-approval by department curriculum committees. Courses do need to go through the approval process and can run as a topics course just once before needing to go through the approval process. The Global Engagement outcomes can be included in the Request to Schedule packet but it is unclear if these can be mandated since they haven't gone through governance approval. These could, however, be a tool to help students and faculty consider the class and experience in a global context. After the motion was made and unanimously approved, **the GEC will not retroactively require existing Faculty- Led programs address the Global Engagement outcomes but these will be included in the Request to Schedule packet as a reference.**

V. Communicating our goals for Global Engagement.

- How should GEC members communicate out what we discussed during our meeting?

While the meeting minutes are forwarded to governance, it is unclear if they are ever actually read. Staff Senate reps submit committee reports that are synthesized into a newsletter and circulated prior to Senate meetings and also are posted on the Staff Senate website. For example, [here](#) is the report submitted for the past two meetings. The GEC had its first meeting of the year via zoom on 9/16. The group made introductions, elected Felicia Steele and Karen Dubrule as Chair and Vice-Chair for the year, and reviewed the charge of the committee as well as the current state of global education.

Each member will report back to their governing body in the manner best suited to their constituency.

Meeting adjourned - next meeting will be Wednesday, October 21