

2013- 2014 Global Education Committee Summary Report
Prepared by the Global Education Office for Undergraduates (GEO)
September 2014

Meetings

The Global Education Committee (GEC) met once a month from September to May during the 2013-2014 academic year.

Basic Activities

The Committee met regularly to discuss academic policy, strategy, and vision for global education programming at Duke, to look over student petitions for study abroad programs, to discuss summer reviews of programs conducted by directors in the office, to give updates on various programs, and to give suggestions on programs that should be added to and removed from the Approved List.

A. Petitions

In 2013-2014, the committee considered a total of 47 petitions (35 semester, 12 summer)

Breakdown by Country:

Argentina-2	Jordan-1
Belgium-1	Kenya-1
Brazil-3	Morocco- 2
Canada- 1	Peru-1
China- 5	Portugal- 1
Cuba- 2	Russia- 1
Czech Republic – 3	Singapore- 1
England- 2	Spain-8
France-1	Tanzania-1
India-1	Turks & Caicos-1
Italy-2	Uruguay-1
Japan-1	

****Note**** International Honors Program (IHP) visits multiple locations:

SIT/IHP Human Rights: Foundations, Challenges, and Advocacy (USA, Nepal, Jordan, Chile)-
1 semester petition

SIT/IHP Climate Change: Politics of Food, Water, and Energy (San Francisco, Ho Chi Minh City, Rabat, La Paz)—1 semester petition

B. Summer Program Reviews

The Duke-administered summer program review process typically includes two individuals who travel to the summer program review site: a GEO administrator and a Duke faculty member or senior ranking administrator. The following reviews were performed in summer 2013 and considered by the committee in 2013-2014:

a) Rome: reviewed by Susan Pratt and Lee Willard

GEO Assistant Director Susan Pratt presented the findings of the review of the Duke in Rome summer program to the Committee. In general, the review summary indicated that Duke in Rome is a robust and challenging program which provides foundational education on Roman and western European history. The students expressed to the review team that the program was well paced and provided an excellent opportunity for them to learn about Rome using the “city as classroom” model. The review recommended minor changes to coursework and excursions. In summer 2013, a new faculty member took on the challenge of running the program. The new faculty member suggested that the Duke in Rome program should run every summer, instead of every other summer. The GEC suggested adding a disclaimer on the GEO website about the extent of accommodations for dietary restrictions in Italy as the amount of dietary needs are becoming too large for the programs to accommodate. Additionally Pratt suggested the inclusion of a disclaimer about the physical demands for the summer Rome program.

b) Greece: reviewed by Luca Lipparini and Ken Rogerson

GEO Student Services Coordinator Luca Lipparini and Professor Ken Rogerson presented the findings of the review to the Committee. The review team considered the philosophy course taught during the program an important building block for freshmen general education competencies and in particular their ethical and analytical reasoning and critical thinking. During the review it was clear that this program functions very well thanks to the director and the tour leader's passion, organization, and knowledge of Greece. These aspects are reflected in the popularity of the program and the overwhelmingly positive program and course evaluations that GEO has received for many years. It was noted that the program has created good group building strategies and an effective buddy system. The Committee expressed concerns over the demonstrations and riots caused by the economic situation in the country. Rogerson explained that demonstrations were self-enclosed in specific areas and the situation was monitored very closely. It was easy to avoid the areas touched by the protests and to keep students out of danger. The committee also discussed findings and suggestions for the instructional and logistical support networks serving the program.

C. Semester Program Reviews

All Duke-administered semester program reviews are conducted by external parties—study away professionals and professors from the field of interest – with a final written report submitted to Duke. The review may last up to four full days. The review process is extensive, and a long time (up to a year in advance) is spent prepping the review team. The following semester program reviews were reported to the committee in 2013-2014:

a) Duke in Berlin

Pratt presented the findings of the external review committee. This review was conducted during the summer of 2012 and found that there was a large increase in the number of students attending the program in the spring. Spring used to be a much smaller term because German language was a prerequisite, and fall students could participate without any previous German experience. Now, the spring program is able to accommodate beginning language learners. Pratt said that Jochen Wohlfeil (program director) needs a staff assistant to help him run the program in Berlin. Additionally the program is now looking at cultivating closer relationships with feeder schools (other universities). One of the language instructors has been promoted since the review and will be helping with assessment. The staff and directors took the program review to heart and are continuously trying to improve.

D. Approved List

Each year the Approved list is reviewed. New programs that have been positively reviewed by the Directors of Undergraduate Studies, student participants, and the GEO are considered for "approved status"; programs that have had no participants in five years or have not met the standards of the GEC are generally removed, unless there are strategic reasons to keep them active. In 2013-2014, the Committee added two programs, one each in Ghana and Kenya, and removed four programs in Spain.

Accomplishments

During the 2013-2014 academic year, the GEC approved several new Duke-administered programs as well as policy recommendations regarding global education for undergraduates.

A. Program Proposals**a) Duke in Tuscany (SU 14)**

The committee discussed their concern with competition amongst all of the Italy programs (Rome, Venice, Tuscany) and how that would affect enrollment in the programs. The committee considered competing programs and the number of programs offered in the summer since all programs have a break-even number of students needed to operate, and, in the past, some programs have been cancelled due to lack of enrollment. The Tuscany program was seen as a progressive look at archaeological landscapes and their environments using a multidisciplinary approach that integrates environmental and spatial sciences, computing, history, and archaeology. A motion to approve the program in Tuscany for summer 2014 passed.

b) Duke in Alaska (SU 15)

This field-based, four week, one course program from the Department of Biology would allow students to see the three major biomes of Alaska (temperate rainforest, boreal forest, and arctic tundra). The motion to approve the Duke in Alaska program passed unanimously.

c) Duke Engineering and Human Needs in West Africa (Ghana) (potentially SU 15)

This program proposal emerging from the Pratt School of Engineering offered students the opportunity to use engineering skills to solve real-world problems in the Kumasi region of Ghana. The proposal was originally for a six week, two course program, but the Committee felt that content was more suited to a four week, one course program. The Committee recommended that the program proposal be revised and brought back for consideration early in the 2014-2015 academic year.

d) DKU Neuroeconomics Summer in China (SU 15)

This program would be a joint venture between Duke Kunshan University, the Duke Institute for Brain Sciences (DIBS), and the Global Education Office. The six-week, two course program would focus on the intersection of neuroscience and economics, and would take advantage of DKU's proximity to Shanghai and the groundbreaking research on the decision sciences being conducted there by Duke faculty and graduate students, NYU in Shanghai and Chinese scientists. The program will be based on the DKU campus and was approved in the May meeting.

B. New Process for Program Approvals

GEO Executive Director Amanda Kelso introduced the topic during the April 2014 meeting of changing the way program proposals were handled in light of the volume of proposals that came to GEO and the significant attention they must receive with regards to risk management, legal reviews, financial audits, marketing surveys, etc. The committee generated an idea for a two-phase approach to new program approvals. The GEC could review the basic outline of a program proposal before GEO works out the risk management, liability, and legal issues. Then a more detailed proposal could be re-introduced to the GEC for final approval. During the May 2014 meeting the committee voted on the concept of an updated program proposal for faculty-led programs with the addendum that the full proposal comes to the committee for another vote when a hard copy of the document is presented to the committee in September 2014. The proposal was passed with a unanimous vote.

C. New Education Models and Policy Considerations

The Committee was consulted on a variety of policy issues, including a new proposal regarding transfer credit and graduation requirements under consideration by the Curriculum Committee. In addition, the GEC discussed the possibility of students taking online courses while abroad and course load issues on Duke and non-Duke programs, including the question of overloads. The Committee continues to revisit these issues as Duke policy for on-campus courses unfolds.

D. A&S Bylaws – suggested changes for Global Education Committee

Tolly Boatwright was approached by Tom Robisheaux to have the bylaws pertaining to the GEC reviewed. Boatwright presented revisions to the bylaws for review to the GEC in December 2013, and, after discussion, more revision, and approval, a final revision was submitted to the Executive Committee of A&S. It was not considered by that group until spring 2015.

E. Duke Kunshan University Updates

As of the March 2014 meeting the DKU residence halls were still under construction. They were projected to be finished shortly after the semester started in August 2014. The conference center and academic services center were projected to be completed by the school opening in August. The committee discussed in length the search for faculty members and the concern over the lack of language requirement for DKU. This discussion will continue in future meetings.

Challenges**A. Discrepancy in Number of Duke Students Studying Abroad in the Fall and Spring**

In October, the committee discussed the discrepancy in numbers of students who study abroad in the fall and spring semesters. The fall - spring imbalance is cyclical and perpetuated by academic departments and student leadership groups as they plan their special classes and events for the spring semester when they know that more students will be on campus. The large imbalance is difficult for programs to sustain and can only be changed through a campus- wide effort.

Committee Membership

Mary T. Boatwright	Chair/Humanities
Satti Khanna	Foreign Languages
Ken Rogerson	Social Sciences
Bob Malkin	Engineering
Jon Shaw	(Spring 2014) Natural Sciences
Rytas Vilgalys	(Fall 2013) Natural Sciences
Cara Buchicchio	DSG Representative
Forest Etter	DSG Representative
Steve Nowicki	Ex officio
Amanda Kelso	Ex officio
Lee Baker	Ex officio
Paul Paparella	Ex officio (rotating)
Susan Pratt	Ex officio (rotating)
Soraya Campbell	Ex officio (rotating)

Respectfully submitted for the committee and GEO,

Mary T. Boatwright, Chair
Global Education Committee