

2009-2010 Global Education Committee Summary Report
Prepared by the Global Education Office for Undergraduates
June 2010

I. Topics Discussed

Study Abroad Committee becomes Committee on Global Education for Undergraduates

On November 16, 2009 it was reported to the committee that the A&S Council unanimously approved the name change to Committee on Global Education for Undergraduates. A new charge was also approved by the committee to include domestic programs and the new name. These changes came about by request to the A&S Council indicating the need for such a change to reflect the new name and expanded mission of the old Office of Study Abroad into the new Global Education Office for Undergraduates (GEO-U or GEO) that now administers domestic off-campus programs as well as international programs.

Pratt Language Requirement

Pratt School for Engineering DUSes invited Dean Riley to a meeting to discuss an interest they had in waiving the language requirement for Engineering students wanting to study abroad. The number of Engineering students studying abroad has been increasing, but some within the school believe the requirement that students must take at least one course in the host language if it is other than English limits students with regards to the courses they take abroad and the program locations they consider. Some Engineering faculty feared that students may be choosing sub-optimal programs in English-speaking countries to avoid the language requirement. Engineering recognizes the value of students learning another language, however, they are interested in increasing the diversity of places that engineering students study abroad. An interest in a program in Sweden brought about this topic of discussion.

It was later noted that results of a survey conducted amongst Duke Engineering students indicated foreign language was not a determining factor in where students chose to study. The main concern for students regarding their choice of destination was the ability to meet curriculum requirements. Currently Engineering students have expressed an interest in studying abroad in a Spanish speaking country in Europe. The committee discussed the possibility of offering engineering courses at the Duke facility in Spain where housing and classroom facilities are under-utilized, especially in the spring. This topic has been tabled for future discussion.

Curriculum Integration

GEO has communicated in many different venues and to many different audiences (e.g. pre-major advisors, DUSes, parents, first year students, etc) the need to view study abroad as an integral part of the undergraduate experience. With advanced planning, programs like Duke Engage and study abroad can be fully integrated into the undergraduate experience. Both the committee and GEO feel that the focus of study abroad needs to shift from “a great time abroad” to an “academic experience” that complements the undergraduate career.

The committee discussed ways that students can integrate their study abroad experience with their academic program on campus. Although some students integrate study abroad into their capstone experience, the committee seeks more information on how study abroad is affecting students once they return to campus. Committee members Margaret Riley and Tom Robisheaux will follow up on incorporating items regarding curriculum integration into study abroad student evaluations.

II. Policy Changes

Travel Embedded Courses

New courses proposed to be taught on campus that include international travel have been vetted through GEO to address issues related to travel off-campus. GEO has created a checklist of items that focuses on student health, safety and other important issues/concerns. Faculty are guided by the checklist during the course approval process. With the addition of domestic programs to the GEO portfolio, the Course Committee determined that now courses with domestic travel also must be vetted through GEO, for the same reason. Although this policy change does not directly affect the committee, the GEO directors felt it necessary to alert the committee to this policy change.

III. New Programs

Global Semester Abroad

The Global Semester Abroad program was unanimously approved for spring 2011. The student cohort will be split into two groups with one cohort starting in Beijing, China and the other in Udaipur, India. Halfway through the semester, the cohorts will switch places. Students will take four courses (2 in China and 2 in India). The faculty directors are Anirudh Krishna (India) from Public Policy and Ralph Litzinger (China) from Cultural Anthropology, and Amanda Kelso from GEO is administering the program. Due to logistics, the application deadline for spring 2011 was spring 2010.

Organization for Tropical Studies: Tropical Medicine and Global Health in South Africa

The committee unanimously approved (contingent upon the departmental approval of the course number) the addition of an OTS program in South Africa for summer, 2011. The proposal was for a one-month, one course summer program that will utilize the infrastructure that OTS already has in place in South Africa for the semester program. The course will focus on the environment intersecting with public health.

Duke in Belize summer program – not approved

George McLendon, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Dean of Trinity College and Professor Arlie Petters from the Duke Math Department proposed a six-week, two course program for summer 2010 to be based in Belize with a focus on entrepreneurship in a developing nation. Although the committee welcomed the proposal in principle, the program did not seem adequately developed for approval, therefore, the committee recommended resubmission for summer 2011.

KTH Sweden

The Pratt School for Engineering petitioned to add Kungliga Tekniska Hogskolan (KTH) in Sweden to the list of approved programs. Although the majority of petitions the committee reviews are student based, this petition originates from a departmental interest. Pratt has witnessed an increase in student demand for this program and a solid relationship already exists between KTH and Duke. Students will have the option to study at KTH during the second semester of their junior year or the first semester of their senior year. More than 900 courses are

taught in English at KTH, but students will also be required to take a course in Swedish. The committee unanimously approved the addition of the program to the approved list with the understanding that students must still meet the language requirement.

Additions to the Approved List

SIT Chile: Comparative Education and Social Change (semester)
Stoney Brook College in Madagascar (semester)
SIT Switzerland: Global Health and Development Policy (semester)
Spain: CEA Barcelona Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (semester) (*for beginning and intermediate Spanish students only*)
Japan: Kyushu University Asia in Today's World (summer)
Arrezzo, Italy: Accademia dell'Arte (summer)

Removal from the Petition Process

Korea: Yonsei University (summer)

Removal from the Approved List (not attended by Duke students for a five year period)

SIT India: National Identity and the Arts (semester)

IV. Petitions

The GEO and Global Education Committee received a total of 62 petitions for non-approved programs during the 2009-10 academic year. Of those, 52 were approved and 5 were conditionally approved after discussion by the committee. Twenty-one were summer petitions, 36 were semester petitions, and 1 was for the academic year. The countries represented were China (2), Israel (2), Australia (1), Japan (1), India (1), Switzerland (3), Spain (11), Argentina (1), Oman (1), France (4), Senegal (1), Mongolia (1), United Kingdom (3), Korea (2), Cuba (1), Hungary (2), Netherlands (1), Guatemala (2), Germany (2), Taiwan (1), Morocco (4), Norway (1), Egypt (1), Iceland (1), Italy (8), Madagascar (1), Brazil (2), Jordan (1).

V. Committee Membership and changes

The committee was chaired fall term by Tom Robisheaux, History. Due to Professor Robisheaux's leave spring term, Professor Tod Laursen served as acting chair of the committee.

Professors Laursen (from Mechanical Engineering, representing Pratt School of Engineering) and Marcy Litle (from International Comparative Studies representing Social Sciences) both conclude their service to the committee in August, 2010. Their successors have been determined: Dean Linda Franzoni (Mechanical Engineering and Dean's Office) will represent Pratt School of Engineering and Professor Ken Rogerson (Public Policy Studies) will represent Social Sciences.