

International Education Council
April 01, 2016

Minutes

IEC Representatives present: Daniel Degrauel (DNCBE), John Binkley (Chair), Jenny Yi (HSCI), Justine Su (MDECOE), Keiko Hirata (CSBS), Shahar Elmaleh (IESC)

Department Liaisons present: Andrew Surmani (MCCAMC), Carol Shubin (CSM), Christine Menizes (MCCAMC), Joseph Wiltberger (COH), Mark Farquhar (MCCAMC), Mechelle Best (HHD), Rachel Howes (CSBS), Samira Moughrabi (CHHD), Shay James (UGS), Vahab Pournaghshband (CECS), Wei Cao (CHHD),

Call to Order

John Binkley, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:06 PM. The meeting was held in the Executive Conference Room in the Bookstore Complex.

The Chair briefly reintroduced the charge of the IEC Committee and explained some of the members of the International Education Council did not realize global learning was a CSUN initiative. Although the University's mission statement does not explicitly reference global learning, Elizabeth Adams (AVP, Undergraduate Studies) indicated in an earlier meeting that CSUN has come on board with the LEAP (Liberal Education & America's Promise) Initiative with AAC&U, which has a global citizenship component.

Defining Global Learning and Finding a Commonality

Each attendee was provided with a handout of all responses received so far from each department. The Chair explained the goal of the meeting was for each department to briefly review and highlight how they define and achieve global learning, with the main objective of finding a commonality.

Department of History (CSBS)

Rachel Howes reported the History department engages in global learning automatically. They have tenure-track faculty whose focus is in trans-national, trans-regional and world history. It is embedded in their Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) and mission statement to help students better understand the world they live. The department's current challenge is ascertaining how to effectively facilitate international students as they adjust to life in the U.S. and on campus.

Department of Music (MCCAMC)

Andrew Surmani defined music as a "true global language" that connects individuals from various parts of the world to communicate creatively through music, essentially speaking the same language. Some of the examples of how they engage in global learning includes their diverse International faculty participating in international concerts, research and events, and the department inviting visiting international groups to perform

regularly for their students, all with the main objective of exposing them to the business and artistry of others from various countries.

Department of Art (MCCAMC)

Mark Farquhar mentioned their department addresses global learning in their SLO's and faculty hiring. In 2006, they restructured their foundation art courses around a world arts model that focuses on the visual arts of three regions and cultures. They are also involved with visiting faculty and students. For instance, their faculty are currently working with a Korean University on creating virtual comics, where upwards of 20 CSUN students are working with Korean students on story development and pre-production.

Department of Theatre (MCCAMC)

Christine Menizes explained international education is not currently included in their SLO's. However, she plans to work with the department to discuss ways to embed it in the curriculum. The department maintains a culturally diverse faculty representation, many whom are non-American Natives. In addition, there are typically 2 to 3 study abroad students in the majority of their classes. Making a conscious shift from sending small groups of students abroad, the department now better utilizes their resources (i.e., Instructionally-related Activity funds) to invite a large number of international guest artists from a variety of disciplines to provide students with more exposure to a diverse global perspective. Christine also mentioned she provides her students whose first language is not English with the opportunity to perform in their native language.

Department of Computer Science (CECS)

Vahab Pournaghshband mentioned the department does not have a consensus on the definition of global learning at this time. However, this question has brought awareness, and they plan to have more discussions on the topic. He discussed some of the examples of what the department/faculty have done in terms of global learning. These include faculty addressing the international community contributions to the evolution of computers and development of programming languages, the concept that computer language is a "universal language," and faculty members giving lectures or holding workshops in foreign universities with which the campus has an MoU. He expressed concerns from faculty on the lack of initiation from the university and college to facilitate and fund such activities.

Department of Political Science (CSBS)

Keiko Hirata mentioned global learning has been a critical component in their program for 20 years, and their emphasis on global learning is embedded in their second SLO: "To develop a global perspective." The department currently offers 40 undergraduate courses under global politics and policy, as well as globalization and world affairs. They also offer a Washington, D.C. internship program where students spend one semester in D.C. interning for members of Congress and the State Department.

Department of Family Consumer Sciences (HHD)

Wei Cao mentioned her department has 6 options which are focused on the human being. The department invites visiting scholars to CSUN to provide their students with a

global perspective. In recent years, they engaged in international tours, and some faculty have expressed interest in continuing this practice. The graduate program is culturally diverse, with a 50% international student population. Presently, the has an Articulation Agreement with China, where their Chinese students study in their country for 3 years (enrolled in 100- to 200-level general education courses) to prepare them for English proficiency when they later enroll in courses at CSUN for 2 years.

Undergraduate Studies

Shay James mentioned UGS is not an academic department and do not have a definition global learning. However, service learning may be the best place where it can begin. She discussed items Geraldine Sare (International Advisor) gathered from various UGS departments regarding global learning. Faculty Development provided her with the Beck Grant, which is a faculty development grant that provides faculty with funding to pursue projects related to student engagement and experiential learning. Community Engagement provided her with details on Madventure, an international service learning experience where students visit another country and later develop a program based on their experience upon their return to California. She also mentioned DIG LA, which is an educational resource dedicated to the enhancement of intercultural communication and appreciation of cultural diversity. Lastly, she mentioned Conversation Swap, a workshop provided by Learning Resource Center where international students meet with native speakers to practice conversational English.

Department of Management (DNCBE)

Daniel Degraevl mentioned he did not submit any feedback, as he has only received two responses thus far. However, he explained global learning is embedded in their college curriculum. They currently invite visiting scholars and some of their faculty attend international conferences. He explained one of the main challenges the college faces are the lack of incentives, resources and financial support for faculty to engage in various global learning initiatives. His faculty have expressed interest and are open to teaching in another country, mentoring and inviting more international scholars, but they are discouraged by the lack of support which makes it difficult for them to engage in such activities.

Department of Mathematics (CSM)

Carol Shubin explained the math department has a global perspective, with nearly 60% of its faculty being foreign-born natives. The department has hosted several long- and short-term international visitors. They also house the Interdisciplinary Research Institute for the Sciences, which facilitates interdisciplinary research activities with real-world applications, and are also a part of the CSUN Climate Science Program, which helps educate scientists for the future. In addition, Carol is the director of the CSUN Peace Corps Master's International Program that allows students to volunteer and earn credit.

Department of Recreation and Tourism Management (HHD)

Mechelle Best mentioned the department has not had the chance to discuss global learning. However, she clarified that the department fulfills this inherently. Their

graduate curriculum has specific courses focused on cultural and global/international perspectives in tourism, and these perspectives are also infused in many of their undergraduate courses. The department's full-time faculty and undergraduate students are culturally diverse, and at least 30% of the graduate population are international. Some of their faculty engage in global research and international guest lectures, while many of their students have opportunities to travel internationally. She also mentioned she is interested in working towards developing study abroad programs at CSUN to increase the exposure to international experiences.

Closing

The Chair thanked everyone for their support, and mentioned each department is in the position to uniquely shape the essence of global learning on our diverse campus. He commended the fact that faculty are bringing global perspectives to the classroom and providing students with exposure to diverse cultures which most students do not normally receive. He looks forward to receiving the other department reports over the next few weeks. He also announced the next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 2:00 PM, and a guest from the Linguistics Department will be present to talk about the Stretch English class.

Adjournment

Having no further business to discuss, John Binkley adjourned the meeting at 3:25 PM.

Prepared by Deazell Johnson