

**Minutes for Study Abroad Meeting**  
**Friday, May 8, 2020**  
**Zoom**

Present: Dr. Modhurima DasGupta, Ms. Katy Gerber, Ms. Stephanie Jarrett, Mr. Kerry Loewen (Co-Chair), Mr. Ethan Wilde, and Dr. Kent Wisniewski (Co-Chair)

Absent: Ms. Danielle King

Special Guests: Mr. Albert Yu and Dr. Kirsten Swinstrom

Topic	Discussion
Interviews starting 8:30 am	<p>Dr. Eric Thompson            Mr. Leonard Wagner            Mr. Marc Bojanowski</p>
Special Guests 11 am	<p>The committee was visited by Mr. Albert Yu, Business Department instructor, who was the instructor of record for London, England Fall 2018 and Dr. Kirsten Swinstrom, Biological Sciences instructor for Barcelona Fall 2019.</p> <p>For the first time, a CSU course was taught abroad. Along with two UC transferable courses, Mr. Yu taught BAD 52—Human Relations in Organization. Dr. Swinstrom taught three UC transferable biology classes. As always, both instructors also taught INTDIS 90, a life and culture course pertaining to their destination. Both instructors were very happy with their study abroad experiences.</p> <p>Mr. Yu felt that his overseas venture improved his teaching stateside. He had no major criticisms. He thought that it would be an advantage if instructors could arrive at least a day before students to better acquaint themselves with the environment. He also felt that field trips could have been more organized. He shared that there was one field trip that didn't have an AIFS representative in attendance. He was the only person supervising the trip! There were also some complaints from students about the condition of the dormitories.</p> <p>Dr. Swinstrom's experiences with field trips in Barcelona were quite different. They were very well organized and attended by sometimes, multiple AIFS representatives. However, she would like to see more overlap between instructors regarding the planning of field trips, but the disparity of course offerings would make this difficult. If they had more time before the trip (as Mr. Yu had earlier suggested) maybe they could integrate more field trips.</p>

Q&A	<p>Dr. Kent Wisniewski, committee co-chair and anthropology instructor, wondered about the housing arrangement in Barcelona. Were these home stays? Swinstrom answered that students were scattered in different apartments throughout the city. As far as quality of their living spaces, some students were “luckier than others.”</p> <p>Mr. Kerry Loewen, Dean of Arts and Humanities and the other committee co-chair, talked about the inequity in housing that he witnessed during his London visit. Even the living conditions from dorm to dorm were varied. Mr. Loewen asked about collegiality with other faculty members in the consortium. He had heard rumors that there were discrepancies in grading. Yu confessed there was such a problem on his trip. Again Swinstrom’s experience was positive in this regard. Instructors had met and agreed on grading all of the assignments the same way.</p>
The Future	<p>The 2020 summer trip to Ireland has been postponed, but the same instructors selected for this year’s trip will be participating next year. Loewen mentioned that the same will follow for any other instructor whose trip is cancelled for any reason.</p> <p>SRJC recruitment for Fall London 2020 is pretty healthy, but numbers for the rest of the consortium are not. The fourth college dropped out. The prospects for this trip aren’t promising.</p> <p>Ms. Stephanie Jarrett, Human Resources, Training and Compliance Manager; revealed that there has been a change where Title 9 won’t be included in Study Abroad programs. This is a federal change and will definitely alter how study abroad programs proceed.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.</p>