

**MINUTES FOR STUDY ABROAD
MEETING**

September 9, 2016

**Location: Doyle Library 4248
Video Conferenced to Call 632**

Present (in alphabetical order):

Michelle Hughes Markovics, Instructor Behavioral Sciences Department
Mai Nazif, Chair, Modern and Classical Languages
Anita Rich, Administrative Assistant, Arts and Humanities
Vayta Smith, Director, Admissions and Records
Dr. Anna Szabados, Dean of Arts and Humanities and Committee Chair

Absent (in alphabetical order):

Dr. Terri Frongia, Instructor Modern and Classical Languages Department (Petaluma Campus)
Dr. Masanori Imura, Instructor Chemistry Department
Emmanuel Monter, Student Committee Member and Director of Clubs, Petaluma Campus
Dr. Nicole Slovak, Instructor Behavioral Sciences Department
Dr. Kent Wisniewski, Instructor Behavioral Sciences Department and Committee Co-Chair

Special Guest: Eira Klich-Heartt, Faculty, Health Sciences

1. Minutes of March 11, 2016 approved

2. Faculty Co-Chair:

Mr. Kent Wisniewski will start the process of transitioning from the position of co-chair. Ms Michelle Hughes-Markovics, Instructor, Behavioral Sciences Department and Ms Mai Nazif, Chair of the Modern and Classical Languages Department have both expressed an interest in assuming that mantle. Unfortunately Nazif cannot take on that responsibility because of the onus of department chair

3. Faculty Selection for Academic Year 2018-2019 Programs

Administrative assistant will contact members via Doodle polls to coordinate meeting times for application and screening deadlines for Faculty Selection for Academic Year 2018-2019 programs. Interviews are scheduled for early January 2017.

4. Updates:

a. Consortium meeting

Three of the consortium members were present in August. Diablo Valley College was unable to participate. The travel destination recommendations were London for Fall 2018 and Florence for the Spring 2019. Paris was not considered because of fears regarding terrorist attacks.

Below are the final SRJC numbers for recent Study Abroad trips:

- b. Florence (Spring 2016)--19
- c. Oxford and Costa Rica (Summer 2016 programs)--25 for Oxford and 19 for Costa Rica
- d. London (Fall 2016)--25
- e. Florence (Spring 2017)—31 deposits for the consortium; 7 for SRJC

f. Dr. Anna Szabados, Dean of Arts and Humanities and Committee Chair, attended the Transatlantic Technology Meeting Conference. This is an organization that Dr. Szabados has been involved with for a number of years. It is a consortium of European and North American colleges. It is a great place for international connections. There are two conferences a year—one in Europe and one in the United States. This spring, the conference took place in Birmingham, Alabama. Szabados met educators from Germany, Denmark, Holland, Spain and Italy. She has embarked on an idea of short-term faculty exchanges and

shared the idea with Ms Peg Saragina, Director International Student Programs. Yesterday, this idea came to fruition with Mr. Mark Nelson, Chair of the Communication Studies Department and Mr. Roy Gattinella, Chair, Business Administration departing for the first exchange to Denmark. International Education, Study Abroad, and Staff Development funded this venture. The hope is that more money will be allocated for other short-term teacher exchanges. Szabados asked how the Study Abroad Committee members felt about this venture. Hughes Markovics, Anthropology Instructor, inquired as to whether these instructors were covered by substitutes during their two-week absence. Szabados assured her they were. Ms Vayta Smith of Admissions and Records asked if this involves outreach for the college. For her, this was the key. Szabados affirmed that it did involve outreach.

5. Program Promotions and Support

a. Szabados would like to order more promotional bags.

b. Hughes Markovics mentioned that the Petaluma campus now has a 3D printer, which enables the creation of small promotional items such as guitar picks. Smith expressed concern regarding money being spent on too much needless “stuff.” Szabados shared her unease about the cost of materials for 3D printers. Hughes Markovics countered that the cost of creating guitar picks was ten cents. Szabados asked if Hughes Markovics could investigate the 3D printer and costs involved. Szabados offered another idea of Study Abroad flash drives loaded with testimonials filmed by our media students. The committee thought that this was an excellent idea. Ms Klich-Heartt. Faculty Health Sciences suggested also including a Study Abroad application on the flash drive.

6. Miscellaneous

Mr. Eric Thompson, Religion Instructor and Mr. Joel Neuberg, Adjunct Faculty, Agricultural/Natural Resources Instructor, aspire to visit South Africa Summer 2017.

There were some challenges with the Costa Rica Spanish classes regarding teaching to various skill levels.

Szabados reminded the committee that mentors are needed for future study abroad instructors. She will send emails to solicit instructors who may want to serve as mentors to Thompson and Neuberg.

Hughes Markovics suggested student mentors. Smith suggested hosting another student-faculty mixer similar to the one last December. Nazif will be taking the lead on the student event and faculty pair up event. Other committee members felt that January may be a more practical time for such an event.

The question arose about loans of laptop computers to Study Abroad. Unfortunately, IT limits the period for a loan to three to four weeks. In that case, can Study Abroad afford to purchase a laptop that could be passed among faculty? Hughes Markovics agrees with this idea. She's prefers Macs or Mac Airs. Smith mentioned that if you considered surrendering your desktop, you can procure a laptop, but it will mostly likely be a PC platform

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am.