Faculty Advisory Committee on NYU’s Global Network

Meeting 3: April 29 (8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.)

Meeting Notes

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN MEETING

Una Chaudhuri, Co-Chair
Joyce Apsel, Liberal Studies
Jose Alvarez, School of Law (International Law)
Ruth Ben-Ghiat, Provost Advisory Committee on Academic Priorities (FAS Italian Studies, History)
Sylvain Cappell, Faculty Senators Council (Courant Institute, Mathematics)
Jennifer Carpenter, Undergraduate Academic Advisory Committee (Stern School, Finance)
Andrea Chambers, SCPS (Media Industry Studies and Design-Publishing)
Patricia Corby, College of Dentistry (Periodontology and Implant Dentistry)
Lucinda Covert-Vail, Division of Libraries
Michael Dinwiddie, Gallatin School
Richard Foley, Administrative liaison to the Committee (Vice Chancellor for Strategic Planning)
Don Garrett, FAS (Philosophy)
Paul Glimcher, FAS (Neural Science)
Liliana Goldin, Silver School
Natasha Iskander, Wagner School of Public Policy
Zhong-Ping Jiang
Gbenga Ogedegbe, School of Medicine (Population Health and Medicine)
Clemente Marconi, Institute of Fine Arts
Vicki Morwitz, Stern School (Marketing)
Fred Myers, FAS (Anthropology)
Robert Rowe, Steinhardt School (Music and Performing Arts Professions)
Gail Segal, Tisch (Graduate Film and TV)
Malcolm Semple, NYU Sydney (FAS, Neural Science)
Joshua Tucker, FAS (Politics)
Joanna Waley-Cohen, NYU Shanghai (FAS, History)
Nancy Van Devanter, College of Nursing
Interactive Presentation & Discussion with Linda Mills

Co-chair Una Chaudhuri and acting Co-chair Fred Myers (filling in for Eliot Borenstein) opened the meeting by inviting guest Linda Mills, Vice Chancellor for Global Programs and University Life, to take the floor for the first hour for a discussion with committee members.

Committee members first requested Linda to walk through the document titled “The Global Sites” (Linda Mills, April 13, 2013), which had been sent to the Committee in advance. This document provides a brief timeline of the development of the sites and “snapshots” with current data about the sites, e.g., number of students, number of faculty, average course size, etc. Additional slides summarize conversations to-date over the past year with key groups, including the trustees, students, site directors, deans, departments, and faculty, as well as a set of “Phase 1” goals that grew out of those conversations. (Link to “The Global Sites” document)

During the discussion that followed, the issue that attracted the most attention and concern was that the global network (sites and portals) has significantly increased the work load for NY departments (programs) and their chairs (directors). A few departments have addressed this problem by having a faculty member become their “global coordinator,” with the help of financial support from Global and the Dean’s Office. One committee member observed that in most general form, the question raised by this problem is, “what is the correct management model for a department (program) with extensive global involvement?” Other committee members agreed but also cautioned against a “one size fits all” approach, observing that the right approach may vary from school to school and from department to department.

A number of other issues were also raised:

* In developing sites, the value of having significant input from NY offices and departments has to be balanced against the value of the local knowledge possessed by site director and the local faculty teaching at the site.

* There should be an emphasis on avoiding simply replicating course offerings that exist in NY; offerings at the sites ought to be distinct from those available in NY, but at the same time they need to be designed so that students can advance their program of study.

* In principle, sites have more flexibility than the portals in revising and supplementing their programming, but there are significant restrictions on this flexibility (for example, local labor laws, the availability of local academic talent, and limited space).

* Going forward, the site specific committees being created should have major say in the selection of site directors as well as other major issues at the sites.

* Communication issues involving the sites are especially complex, since site directors, global leadership, the department chairs, and the relevant dean all need to be involved in deliberations and decisions.
The Committee thanked Linda for her visit and indicated it may wish to have further meetings with her next fall. Following the discussion with Linda, the Committee identified some topics for later discussion with Linda or other members of Global leadership. These included:

- Attention to how the global network is affecting NYUNY students (are outcomes as positive for them as for NYUAD students, as described by Linda?) How does the quality of AD students benefit other units?
- Role and importance of research at sites and portals (since Linda’s presentation focused primarily on students)

The committee then formulated some requests for follow-up information from Linda’s office

The requests for information were the following:

* Data on the number of students’ studying a semester or longer as study away students in NYU’s global network; the number of first year students’ studying at global sites; and the number of students’ studying away for two semesters or more.

* Data on faculty/course evaluations broken down by site and department/discipline as well comparable data on faculty/course evaluations for the departments/disciplines in New York and Abu Dhabi.

The Committee also expressed interest in inviting to a future meeting an outside expert who could brief the committee on different strategies for internationalization being employed by other major universities.

Finally, the committee prepared for the next meeting at which the invited guests will be NYUSH Dean Joanna Waley-Cohen and NYUAD Dean Judy Miller. Among major topics identified were:

- Curriculum development (especially in relation to curricula at the Square)
- Budgetary situation: year to year or long-term planning?
- Faculty hiring: tenure vs. contract faculty