

NYU Accra Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, November 6, 2019 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST
19 Washington Square North, Global Seminar Room

Attendees

- Akosua Anyidoho (NYU Accra, Site Director)
- Rosalind Fredericks (Gallatin - Chair)
- Robyn d'Avignon (FAS - History)
- Renee Blake (FAS - SCA & Linguistics)
- Frankie Edozien (FAS - Journalism)
- Andrew Eisenberg (NYU Abu Dhabi)
- Elisabeth King (Steinhardt - Education Studies)
- Linda Mills (Global Programs)
- Nancy Morrison (Global Programs)
- Gbenga Ogedegbe (Global Programs)
- Tyra Liebmann (Global Programs)
- Janet Alperstein (Global Programs)
- Peter Holm (Global Programs)
- Nyoka Joseph (Global Programs)

Meeting Minutes

Rosalind Fredericks opened the meeting, at which point Linda Mills and the committee members thanked the outgoing Site Director, Akosua Anyidoho, for her outstanding leadership over 15 years. The committee then acknowledged Frankie Edozien, FAS Journalism, who will be taking over as Site Director at NYU Accra.

Nancy Morrison led the committee in a discussion regarding two University Initiatives, Affordability and Sustainability. The cost of study away is a concern for students; the Office of Global Programs provides a variety of financial support mechanisms for students, including the Global Pathways Scholarship as well as other global programs scholarships. The Office of Global Programs, in collaboration with NYU's Office of Sustainability, is in the process of evaluating the sustainability efforts at the sites with regards to greenhouse gases and the environmental impact of travel.

Akosua Anyidoho, Site Director at NYU Accra, discussed new curricular developments and activities at the site, as detailed in her Site Director's Report (see attached). In particular, Akosua Anyidoho highlighted the introduction of the first course sponsored by the Silver School of Social Work, *Inequality*, and that community engagement is robust with students participating in local internships. The site has also made significant improvements on its sustainability efforts, including a newly cultivated vegetable garden at the Academic Center that will harvest okra, tomatoes and other seasonal crops.

The committee discussed the possibility of a Global Research Initiative (GRI) at NYU Accra in the future. Linda Mills remarked that access to research opportunities is important for students and that the leadership of Global Programs is currently developing a template to ensure that students can include research opportunities while studying away.

Fall 2019 Site Director's Report: NYU Accra

Curriculum: New Development

- A course, *Inequality*, introduced this semester, is the first sponsored by the Silver School of Social Work, and taught by Dr. Doris Boateng, Department of Social Work, University of Ghana, Legon.

Global Network Initiatives

- Summer Program
 - CAS Journalism: This group of 6 students studied in Ghana under Dr. Frankie Edozien from May 26 – July 6.
 - Steinhardt International Development and Education: This group comprised 10 graduate students, who were taught by Dr. Carol Spreen from June 10 -19.
 - Steinhardt Education Internship: Five graduate interns were placed with various education related agencies from June 19 – August 1. Dr. Carol Spreen stayed another week after her first program to work with the students.
 - Steinhardt Fellows: Sixteen Astor Teaching Fellows, led by Dr. Shondel Nero, used the site from July 9 – 19. They were interested in exploring how indigenous languages and knowledge are engaged in multilingual classrooms in Ghana.
- J-Term 2020
 - The following have announced their intention to again use the site:
 - NYUAD
 - CAS presidential student scholars
 - Liberal Studies: African Cultures
- Spring Break 2020
 - Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service: International Development Conference
 - Steinhardt: Dean's Global Honors Seminar: Intro to Global Issues in Nutrition
 - Steinhardt: Multicultural and Professional Issues in Communication Science Disorders
 - Tisch: Professor and Chair of Photography and Imaging, Deborah Willis, is hosting a conference, "Artists in Migration in Accra"

Enrollment

- There are thirteen (13) students in the program this semester, however the first round applications for Spring 2020 are thirty-seven (37) so we expect to have more students next semester.

University Priorities

- Community Engagements/Immersion

- This semester, three students are taking courses at the University of Ghana, Legon.
- Five students are enrolled in the for-credit Internship Seminar and Fieldwork course. As usual, they are enjoying the opportunity to mingle with Ghanaians in the workplace.
- Diversity/Inclusion
 - During orientation, students were incentivized to engage by learning some facts about one another. At the end of the week, those who were able to identify all the members by name and shared some interesting facts about them received prizes. This activity was aimed at minimizing the formation of cliques based on race and ethnicity.
 - The bi-monthly conversation series continues this semester, allowing students in each apartment to choose a topic of interest and to take turns hosting a discussion with a guest speaker.
 - World Tour is an event which gives students the chance to learn about an aspect of the local culture, and is next scheduled for November.
- Student programming/events
 - This semester's group trips include a three-night excursion to the Volta Region, where a third-party vendor, ADANU, will facilitate the activities, which include volunteering in rural schools, rural home-stay, and cultural engagement with a community.

Spring 2019 Program Evaluation

- Overall, the student evaluations were very positive. Students commended the lecturers and the staff and appreciated the programming and other activities.

APPRECIATION

This being my last attendance in the SSAC meetings, I would like to thank this committee for the guidance and support I have enjoyed over the years as the Site Director of NYU Accra.