

NYU Washington, D.C. (NYUDC) Advisory Committee

*Thursday, November 6, 11:00-12:00pm
President's Conference Room, 1218 Bobst*

Attendees

- Janet Alperstein (Global Programs)
- Julie Avina (College of Global Public Health - Chair)
- Peter Holm (Global Programs)
- Tyra Liebermann (Global Programs)
- Nancy Morrison (Global Programs)
- Gbenga Ogedegbe (Global Programs)
- Maura Pollard (Global Programs)
- Matthew Santirocco (Faculty Director, NYU Washington, DC)
- Michael Ulrich (Site Director, NYU Washington, DC)
- Michael Williams (FAS – International Relations)

Meeting Minutes

JULIE AVINA opened the meeting in her new role as committee chair.

NANCY MORRISON presented ways in which the global sites are working to support University initiatives in the areas of affordability and sustainability. With regard to affordability, she asked committee members to spread the word that dedicated funding from a variety of sources – including the Office of Financial Aid (OFA), the Office of Global Programs (OGP), and NYU departments – is available for undergraduate students studying away from the New York campus. With regards to sustainability, NYUDC is a LEED Gold building and is at the forefront of such efforts. It also has a bike-share program and is aligned with the university wide-policy to eliminate purchases of single-use plastic water bottles and jugs by January 1, 2020.

MICHAEL ULRICH, NYUDC's Program Director, reported on curricular developments, enrollment, University priorities, student activities, and faculty hiring, as detailed in the Site Director's Report (see attached). The site is continuing to develop partnerships with local institutions and performing arts centers. One example is the new collaboration with the Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company facilitated by NYU Trustee and donor Ronald Abramson, who generously agreed to underwrite tickets to performances for students. NYUDC is also exploring a closer and more regularized relationship with the Library of Congress. The neighborhood around the site is seeing renovations and new construction that will bring increased cultural and recreational opportunities to the immediate area. Planet Word, a new museum focusing on language will open in 2020, and nearby Franklin Square Park is scheduled to begin work on major updates by the end of next year.

MATTHEW SANTIROCCO, NYUDC's Faculty Director, reported on graduate programs at the site, a new UG research agenda, the effort to identify and develop three large areas of focus, and fundraising. Of note, the second cohort of Stern EMBA students is at the site and the program is generating excitement and good publicity. The Global Research Initiative continues to attract students and some faculty members; this term researchers come from a variety of departments: Classics, Hebrew & Judaic Studies, History, Middle Eastern & Islamic Studies, Nutrition & Food Studies, Politics, and Sociology. NYUDC also is serving as a pilot site for organizing inter-disciplinary "clusters" on specific themes, e.g., *Power, Politics, and Policy*. In addition to reaching out to the many alumni/ae in the DC area, NYUDC is also developing initiatives to solicit site specific funding from outside donors.

In other news, NYUDC now has a permanent license from local accreditors to operate. The site is also close to housing capacity, thanks, in part, to agreements in place with Georgetown University and Colgate University. Since there is less housing space available, the site is using a more flexible roommate assignment system that includes a priority room-change request process for NYU students. The academic leadership of the Public Policy major (joint CAS-Wagner) has been administratively located in the History Department. Since DC is a great fit for majors (and minors) in Public Policy, the committee was asked to think about ways to publicize the site to this group of students through History, Wagner, and the CAS Advising Center.

Fall 2019 Director Report: NYU Washington, D.C.

Curriculum/Academics/Research

- Matthew Santirocco, Faculty Director, Michael Ulrich, Program Director, and Fatemeh Hosseini, Assistant Director, continue to collaborate closely and productively on academics for the site.

- Course and Lecturer Evaluations
 - Most of our Spring 2019 courses were evaluated above 4.0. Thirteen courses/lecturers received 4.5 or better and of those four lecturers/courses received 5.0.
 - *Globalizing Social Activism: Sustainable Development in Urban Areas* has been a lower evaluated course and will be replaced with *Urban Greening Lab* in Spring 2020 taught by the same lecturer.
 - *Expressive Cultures: Film* was cancelled for Fall 2019 due to low enrollment. It will be replaced with *Expressive Cultures: Theater/Performance for Fall 2020* taught by a new lecturer.
 - Our students evaluated our academic advising assistance positively.

- Liberal Studies First-Year Global Study Away Program
 - For Spring 2019, 92% of LS students were either somewhat or extremely satisfied with their overall experience. This was our second best result to date.
 - NYU DC LS students have a very high attendance rate for NYU sponsored events, which is also the result for upperclass students.
 - All students enrolled in Writing I/II visited the Library of Congress, Politics and Prose, the Renwick Gallery, *Fences* at Ford's theater. They also interviewed local restaurant owners.
 - Forty-four LS students are enrolled for Fall 2019.
 - We have implemented a few initiatives in response to program and course evaluations. Most notably, our LS students have been connected with American University first-year international students that includes five events for the fall semester. We have asked lecturers to include site visits and guest speakers in courses to support student engagement with the city.

- Global Leadership Program
 - For Spring 2019, 81% of DC Leadership and other upperclass students combined were either somewhat or extremely satisfied with their overall experience.
 - Twenty-three Leadership students are enrolled for Fall 2019. Global programs is projecting 30 Leadership students for Spring 2020 with a nice mix of AD, NY, and SH students.
 - Spring 2019 lecturer evaluations were very strong for both sections of the Leadership seminar.
 - Kurt Davies, Director of Global Awards, began annual visits to the site in 2019 during which he delivered a group presentation, met with students individually for fellowship and scholarship applications, and conducted practice interviews.

- We have implemented a few initiatives in response to program and course evaluations. We utilized a more flexible room assignment system that includes a priority room change request process. In the design and delivery of their courses, we have asked lecturers to include more international and multicultural resources, to encourage discussion amongst students with different ideological perspectives and to recognize socioeconomic diversity concerns.
- Other Upperclass/Affiliates Students
 - The Spring 2019 *Internship Seminar* was very positively evaluated.
 - While most of our upper-class students are involved in the Leadership program, a handful come to the site for a variety of other reasons. This seems like an opportunity for us to think about other cohorts who may not have found their way to the site.
- Graduate Student Programs
 - The Global Research Initiative sent eight graduate students in Spring 2019, three in Summer 2019, and ten this fall. There is one faculty member in Fall 2019.
 - In Summer 2019, the Cross-Continental MPH program returned with seventeen students.
 - A second cohort was launched in the Stern EMBA program this fall. There are 43 students in the first cohort and 49 students in the second cohort.
- Short-term Undergraduate Courses (Summer and J-term)
 - For Summer 2019, CAS offered the *Internship Seminar*, and seven students were enrolled.
 - For January 2020, Patrick Egan will teach *U.S. Politics and Policy*. We will host Abu Dhabi courses on *Israeli Identities* taught by Avrum Burg and *Electing the President* taught by Frank Luntz.

Lecturers and Staff

- Darlene Surprenant was hired for *Financial Statement Analysis*, Anisha Singh for *American Public Opinion*, Jesse Holland for *Journalism Ethics and 1st Amendment Law*, Candace Turrilo for *The Presidency* and Kiran Gore for the *Internship Seminar*.
- Mache Chase was hired as the new Residential Life Coordinator and three new Residential Life Administrators were hired. We are searching for a Manager of Facilities and Administration.

University Priorities

- Research
 - Fatemeh Hosseini, Assistant Director Academics, is developing a new 2-credit research course.
 - Abby Yochelson, Library of Congress, and Dan Perkins, NYU, provided research resources.
- Co-Curricular and Local Engagement
 - There are 35 guest speakers, 30 site visits and four public events coordinated with fall courses.
 - All of the Leadership students have been matched up 1:1 with a local DC-area NYU Alumni.
 - Students met with former CIA director, John Brennan, with students from the University of Texas.

- Inclusion, Diversity, Belonging and Equity
 - NYU DC hosted multiple events commemorating *NYU/Stonewall 50*.
 - The Global Equity Fellow has been in contact with the GEFs at the other global sites and has hosted one on-site program and two off-site excursions.
- Sustainability
 - We plan to install in-line water coolers this fall in support of NYU's initiative to cease all purchases of single-use water bottles and 5 gallon jugs by January 1, 2020.

Student Activities

- In Spring 2019, 28 of 74 (38%) students earned a Director's Award in recognition of engagement.
- There are 28 excursions planned for Fall 2019, and 61% of students have attended at least one.
- We have nine student clubs with approximately 50 of 78 (64%) students participating.
- For Career Week 44 of 78 (56%) of students attended one event, and most attended two or more.

Public Events

- We presented 90 programs in 2019 and currently have 27 programs planned for Fall 2020.
- Special guests have included saxophonist Tom Scott, Secretary General of the Organization of American States Luis Almagro, and Editor-at-large at the Weekly Standard William Kristol.

Engagement with Other Sites / New Global Network Initiatives

- In Fall 2019, former LS FYA students served on a virtual panel for the current LS students.
- NYU Sydney hosted a screening and panel for the *Stonewall 50* documentary and collaborated with NYU DC, Shanghai, and the New York campus for students to interact with the panel in Sydney.

New Undergraduate Initiatives

- Tom McIntyre, Director of External Affairs, is offering a non-credit advocacy and activism program.
- We are collaborating with Global Programs on DC-specific focus areas to strengthen or create
 - Leadership, Advocacy and Social Change
 - Power, Politics and Policy (in the United States)
 - Science, Environment and Society

Other Initiatives

- Several construction projects were completed in Summer 2019, including a redesign of the GRI and Government Affairs offices and two new 30-seat classrooms on the 3rd floor and B2 level.
- Our Faculty Director, Prof. Santirocco, is currently working with the new UDAR VP Bob Cashion on a fundraising strategy for NYUDC, as well as on specific asks for scholarships and other site needs.