

NYU London Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2017

Attendees:

- Laura Levine (Tisch – Chair)
- Momette Broderick (FAS – Art History)
- Robert Boynton (FAS - Journalism)
- Catherine Robson (FAS – English / NYU London)
- Clayton Curtis (FAS - Psychology)
- Paul Thompson (Tisch)
- Erin O'Connor (Steinhardt – Teaching and Learning)
- Tim Dore (NYU Abu Dhabi)
- Linda Mills (Global Programs)

Introductions/Announcements

As the global network continues to evolve and play an increasingly significant role in contributing to NYU's academic mission, and in response to suggestions from two key faculty committees, the University created new part-time faculty leadership roles related to global academic and faculty planning and conducted open searches to fill them. Coming out of that process, senior faculty members from five schools (i.e., Arts and Science, Global Public Health, Medicine, Shanghai, and Tisch) have taken on new roles over the past year:

- Associate Vice Chancellors for Global Network Academic Planning: Professor [Olugbenga \("Gbenga"\) Ogedegbe](#) (School of Medicine and College of Global Public Health) and Professor [Marianne Petit](#) (Tisch School of the Arts and NYU Shanghai)
- Associate Vice Chancellor for Global Network Faculty Planning: Professor [Zvi Ben-Dor Benite](#) (Faculty of Arts and Science)
- Senior Academic Convenor for the Global Network: Professor [Eliot Borenstein](#) (Faculty of Arts and Science)

Faculty members should feel free to reach out to Gbenga, Marianne, Zvi, or Eliot with comments or questions about the global network at any time.

It was noted that this is the first meeting without Gary Slapper, Director of NYU London, who passed away on December 4, 2016.

It was also acknowledged that MaryJane Walsh, NYU Tisch London Director of 17 years, retired during December 2017. Global Programs leadership is currently re-grouping with Tisch and other Arts partners to determine Arts leadership for NYU London going forward.

Catherine Robson was commended for her tremendous work filling in as acting director after Gary's passing.

Site Director Report

Following up on her report which was submitted to the committee in advance of the meeting, Catherine noted that Gary was a larger than life figure and it has been difficult to move on in his absence. There was a moving memorial service in London and committee members were encouraged to go to the celebration of Gary in the afternoon where more information about Gary's legacy and memorial service in London was shared.

The London team has worked together to move on after Gary and MaryJane's departures. They are proud to carry on the tradition of a rigorous academic program. Catherine is particularly proud of NYU London's efforts around diversity, equity, and inclusion (which are noted in the SD Report). Catherine worked specifically to revise the orientation to highlight that London is a multi-ethnic diverse community. She is happy with where they currently are but hopes to continue to make improvements. NYU London is also endeavouring to ensure that the site is providing students support during these tumultuous political times. Brendan Hogan, visiting faculty from LS, has been facilitating a set of dialogues around these issues. NYU London is also getting more support for wellness counseling and will be hiring an additional counselor. The site received additional counseling support from NYU Paris in the wake of Gary's passing.

Catherine welcomed feedback from the committee on a new initiative at NYU London: moving from a once a week, three hour lecture model to a new schedule using shorter, more frequent class meetings. The once a week model exists primarily for the convenience of lecturers (so they only had to come to NYU London once a week), as well as for students (to allow for a more compact schedule, freeing up time for travel, etc.). As neither of these historical reasons are pedagogical, Catherine would like to shift to shorter, more frequent class meetings.

Given that many lecturers teach two courses and come to the site twice a week already, there is evidence that this can work with lecturer schedules. Site lecturers have also agreed that adding

some evening teaching sessions is feasible, which frees up time in the schedule and classrooms. London staff have worked out some potential model schedules, with a mixed model as a starting point, for how the site might begin to gradually move in this direction.

Committee members from a variety of disciplines voiced support for the shift in teaching schedule. Catherine and the committee agreed that the once a week block schedule will remain ideal for some courses (e.g. theater studios, the architecture course that involves sketching / walking tours, etc.) It was also noted that the change should be implemented with care to ensure that the shift does not jeopardize NYU London's ability to retain high caliber lecturers. In some instances retaining a three hour block schedule due to a lecturer's limited availability may be warranted. It was agreed that departments with close relationships to instructors may aid in conversations with lecturers.

Catherine noted the importance of having the NYU community treat the global sites with respect and as equal partners rather than sites that exist to do the bidding of the NYU New York campus. Visitors should give adequate lead time when hoping for assistance with hosting events, etc. Catherine noted that her added perspective of being a NY faculty member has made her keenly aware of the dynamic between NYU London and NYU New York. It was noted that leadership is currently working to offer global resources to faculty and graduate students for research etc. in a more intentional way.

Survey and Enrollment Data Review

In response to a request from the fall SSAC meeting, pre-departure survey data was shared with the committee. Student survey respondents noted "Having courses relevant to major and/or minor" and "Interest in the local culture" as the top reasons for selecting to study away at NYU London.

It was noted that Global Programs is happy to provide additional data or come into walk through data on study abroad enrollment with departments. It was noted that there continues to be an imbalance in enrollments between fall and spring terms. It was also noted that there are groups of students (e.g. nursing) that still come to NYU London even when a set of courses in their major do not exist at the site. Course enrollment data was provided to the committee, and additional data (such as course enrollments broken down by major) is available upon request.

Partnership check-in and Curricular Development

Andy Hamilton and Linda Mills visited the National Film and Television School in London. The Sight and Sound Studio course will be offered in partnership with the NFTS, helping to replace the former BBC program. The program will likely start with 12 students.

A committee member wondered about how we can meet the excess demand of the RADA program and whether we should think about a RADA summer program, if that was possible as an option. It was decided that Linda Mills and Catherine Robson will look into whether we could partner with RADA to increase fall/spring capacity or add a partnership summer program to meet this excess demand.

A new British Studies Graduate program has gone through a series of approvals, however there is currently an FAS hold on this program due to the low enrollment trends in MA programs generally. Global remains ready and willing to help support graduate programs that use the sites.

AY17-18 Reminders

Faculty visits to the site are encouraged. Faculty can use the [Request for Short-Term Trips to Global Site\(s\) Form](#) to submit a request.

Global Programs also asked committee members to notify the committee staffer as soon as possible if they are planning to be on leave for 2017-18 so as to ensure continuous representation on the committee.

Committee members were reminded to review 17-18 courses to let the Global Programs academics team (global.academics@nyu.edu) know if there are any changes before courses are rolled over to 18-19.

Follow-up Actions:

- Linda Mills and Catherine Robson will look into whether we could partner with RADA to increase fall/spring capacity or add a partnership summer program to meet this excess demand.