NYU Washington, D.C. Advisory Committee Meeting
October 1, 2014, 9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Attendees:

Pat Egan (CAS Politics)
Christian Haefke (NYU Abu Dhabi)
Vicky Kiechel (NYU Washington, D.C.)
Martin Klimke (NYU Abu Dhabi)
Elizabeth Larson (Wagner)
Amy Lui (NYU Shanghai)
Maria Montoya (CAS History)
Chris Schlottmann (CAS Environmental Studies)
Charles Seife (CAS Journalism)
Michael Ulrich (NYU Washington, D.C.)
Matthew Santirocco (Office of the Provost)
Janet Alperstein (Global Programs)
Kerry Barrett (Global Programs)
Larry Jackson (Office of the Provost)
Erin Kuhn (Global Programs)
Tyra Liebmann (Global Programs)
Nancy Morrison (Global Programs)

1. Committee Business

Welcoming New Members

The committee welcomed two new members from NYU Abu Dhabi: Christian Haefke and Martin Klimke, who will now be joining the committee’s meetings. Kerry Barrett, who had been representing NYUAD on the committee, will continue to participate in meetings to help coordinate joint New York/D.C. initiatives. Also joining the committee is Amy Lui, who will represent NYU Shanghai.

Global School Liaisons at Committee Meetings

The group also agreed that the Global School Liaisons should come to the committee’s next meeting, where it will be decided how best to incorporate them into future meetings.

Affiliates

The committee agreed to invite all affiliates to a future meeting (date TBD). Affiliates are those schools and departments that offer at least one course at the site, but do not sponsor pathways there for their majors or take a more active role in the intellectual life and academic identity of the site. Generally, the courses that
affiliates offer are service courses that allow students to satisfy general education requirements while studying away. Partners are those schools or departments that have a deep intellectual stake in the site and currently offer (or are developing) curricular pathways there. The group agreed that it was important to have representatives from these schools and departments participate in at least one discussion about the overall curriculum in D.C.

**Travel Opportunities**

Working closely with the Faculty Advisory Committee on the Global Network and Global School Liaisons, the Office of Global Programs has developed a process for NYU faculty from New York to propose short-term visits to the global sites. The purpose of the visit must be to strengthen a school or department’s academic relationship with the site. Faculty who wish to apply for travel funds must have sign-off from their department chair and their Global School Liaison. The site must also be able to accommodate the timing of their proposed visit. Pre-existing curricular conversations are not needed in order to apply for funding, but the objective of the trip must be to further a school or department’s academic connections with the site. Funds can also be used to look at ways to partner with local institutions or programs. These activities allow NYU students to integrate into the community and connect with local students. Further information can be found here: https://www.nyu.edu/faculty/faculty-in-the-global-network/ny-faculty/teaching-at-the-global-sites.html

If faculty are looking to conduct research or conference activities at the global sites, funds are available through the University’s Global Research Initiatives: https://www.nyu.edu/research/provosts-global-research-initiatives.html

Finally, the newly-developed Global Faculty Fund (GFF) provides opportunities for site faculty to enhance the courses they teach, establish multisite projects, pursue professional development opportunities, and travel to New York to strengthen relationships with their schools and departments. In order to take advantage of the GFF, local faculty must develop proposals that will be reviewed by a committee consisting of: one Site Director, one faculty member from a (different) global site, and two faculty members from New York who are currently serving on Site-Specific Advisory Committees representing another two global sites. Members were enthusiastic about the opportunity to bring local faculty to New York to meet with colleagues in their departments.

**Faculty Chair**

Committee members were asked if anyone would be interested in volunteering to chair the committee. No one volunteered, so members agreed to revisit electing a chair at the next committee meeting. *Subsequent to the meeting, Pat Egan volunteered to serve as chair.*
**AY 15/16 Course Lists**

The committee reviewed the course lists for Academic Year 15/16 and had no edits at this time. It was noted that approving course lists early is critical to horizon planning and advising students on study away opportunities.

**2. Update from the Site Director**

Enrollments at the DC site are up this semester, and NYU groups also continue to use the site for short-term visits. A new development is the presence of 15 students from Liberal Studies this fall (two from Global Liberal Studies and 13 from the core program). Besides Liberal Studies, Politics has the largest cohort of students with six. This January NYU Abu Dhabi will offer courses there for the third year, and the site will also have visitors during the winter break. Over the summer, the site was nearly at capacity for several weeks in July, with students doing internships and participating in a dissertation-writing workshop. As a result of the increasing numbers of students in DC the site has added three new faculty and four new staff members, including two in residential life.

Vicky Kiechel is joining the committee in place of Laura Sponsler, who has moved to Denver. Vicky teaches Globalizing Social Activism, and has done work with the summer dissertation group, an initiative supported by the Global Research Initiative.

**3. Advising**

The committee briefly reviewed the PowerPoint presentation on advising, which had been distributed earlier to members, and discussed best practices. It was observed that most students rely on Google searches for information, so it is necessary to optimize all websites where site and course information is available. The importance of offering courses at the sites that are at the appropriate level for study-away students, who are usually juniors, was also noted. At the same time, these more advanced courses should not have so many prerequisites as to be available only to a select group of majors. Politics is identifying subsets of students who may be interested in DC by the courses that they are taking. The department might also offer a required course in DC that is usually over-subscribed in New York. Journalism has relaxed its limit on the number of study-away courses that their students can take, provided they go to DC. Because DC doesn’t have the same locational appeal for students as other, more distant sites, its academic identity needs to be especially well defined. Certificates, minors, and tracks could also be useful incentives. Finally, it was noted that classroom visits by site faculty could generate interest among students, citing a recent visit from a Berlin faculty member to his department. Two DC faculty, Steve McMahon and Tad Devine, met recently with students in New York.
The University is now piloting a new online planning tool, called the Global Arch Initiative Academic Planner, to assist students (and their advisors) in creating four-year academic plans, including study away opportunities. Members noted that it would be helpful for the advisors in their schools to have a timeline of important dates for studying away, including deadlines for applications, visas, internships, as well as deadlines by which departments have to propose new courses.

4. Next Steps

- Global Programs will develop a timeline of key dates to share with committee members.
- Global Programs will develop a summary of best practices for advising to share with committee members.