

## **NYU Tel Aviv Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

*Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 11:00am*

*383 Lafayette Street Room C08*

### **Attendees** (\*Denotes joined remotely)

- David Abramson\* (College of Global Public Health)
- Janet Alperstein (Assistant Vice President, Global Programs)
- Carol Brandt\* (NYU Abu Dhabi)
- Zlatko Bacic (FAS-Chemistry)
- Maria Christodoulou (Academics, Global Programs)
- Ilana Goldberg\* (NYU Tel Aviv)
- Benjamin Hary\* (NYU Tel Aviv Site Director and FAS – Hebrew and Judaic Studies)
- Linda Mills (Vice Chancellor, Global Programs and University Life)
- Nancy Morrison (Vice President, Global Programs)
- Marianne Petit (Associate Vice Chancellor for Global Network Academic Planning)
- Sunder Narayanan (Stern)
- Mark Siegal (FAS – Biology)
- Ronald Zweig (Chair, FAS – Hebrew and Judaic Studies)

### **INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The meeting opened with Marianne Petite providing a description of the work related to the Global Learning Objectives Report:

The Faculty Working Group on Global Learning Objectives (GLO) first convened in October 2016 for the purpose of having a faculty-driven conversation about global learning objectives. Comprising 17 faculty members from across the university, the committee met 8 times during the 2016-2017 academic year.

In May 2017, the committee issued a report on its findings (available on the NYU website [here](#)). The report begins the process of articulating the desired outcomes of study away so that the university can begin to measure its success in meeting these objectives.

Global Programs is in the process of reviewing the report. In the spring of 2018 we plan to have a larger conversation with faculty to learn more about the outcomes of the report as well as data from the Survey of Admitted Students to guide a larger discussion on the university's objectives moving forward. As NYU is a leading institution with global programming, we are well positioned to be a leader in assessment of global learning.

### **Site Director Report**

Benjamin Hary, Site Director at NYU Tel Aviv, reviewed the Site Director Report, which was distributed to the committee in advance of the meeting. He also shared a Powerpoint presentation to show the space at the new academic center and highlight some of the events and activities that occurred. Dr. Hary noted a few highlights during the meeting:

- **Site Identity:** the site director mentioned that the staff site came together to discuss and identify the site's identity, in keeping with the perspectives of the SSAC.
- **Academic Curriculum:** the site director noted the steady growth of Biology majors over the past few spring semesters and gave thanks to Mark Siegal for all of his work in promoting the site and advising Biology students. Dr. Hary also mentioned the challenges the site has faced in attracting Stern and NYU Shanghai Business and Finance majors and the need for continued efforts to reach out to students. He also offered how the launch of the Innovation Lab will provide a space for students to develop special projects and serve as an additional recruitment tool.
- **Site Enrollment and Low Enrolled Courses:** the site director highlighted that the site will have record breaking enrollment in the Spring 2018 and this has been an exciting development for the staff. Dr. Hary also remarked on the challenges of addressing low enrolled courses when this occurs due to the small size of the site. The site director mentioned that the Assistant Director for Academics, Edan Raviv as well as other site staff are currently working on implementing strategies to balance course enrollments including posting the class schedule in advance and producing faculty videos.
- **Local Engagement:** the site director described various activities and events that the site has been coordinating in an effort to promote local engagement. The site director showed pictures of biology student participation in the ILANIT 2017 Conference in Eliat. The site director also mentioned other activities that the site has been working on finalizing such as plans for a weekend homestay program for Arabic speaking NYU students and hosting conferences in Spring 2018: the annual conference of the Israeli Association for the Study of Language and Society and a symposium under the theme Politics, Language, and Identity in Israel.
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** the site continues to improve on its efforts to ensure students have a balanced and multidimensional experience while studying away.
- **Affordability:** The site director highlighted the site's continued efforts to make studying away more affordable in support of the University's affordability initiatives. One new initiative is the introduction of a new local cell phone plan for students which broadens coverage and reduces communication costs.

## **Program Evaluations**

Due to time constraints, the site director did not fully review the program evaluation results, however, these results were made available to the committee in advance of the meeting.

### **Other Items Discussed**

- The site director presented floor plans and pictures of the new academic space and shared in more detail how the site plans to use the incubator space. Dr. Hary noted that the move in date is scheduled for November 27th and that the first group to use the space will be January-term students.
- There was a conversation about obtaining student visas.
- Dr. Mills announced that President Hamilton and Dr. Mills will be visiting the site in the beginning of February. He will also be attending a symposium jointly sponsored by Tel Aviv University and NYU, New Horizons in Chemistry: From Fundamentals to Applications. Dr. Mills suggested that if scheduling allowed perhaps President Hamilton could visit the chemistry class during his visit to the site. Dr. Mills also proposed that perhaps if the dates align the spring SSAC could be hosted at NYU Tel Aviv. The committee members were open to this option.

### **Next Steps**

- Finalize the plans for the spring SSAC meeting and President Hamilton's visit