

NYU Buenos Aires Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, November 6, 2019, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM EST

CO8 Conference Room (383 Lafayette Street)

Attendees

- Janet Alperstein, Office of Global Programs
- Lourdes Davila, FAS - Spanish & Portuguese
- Robert Hawkins, Social Work
- Jonathan Martinez, Office of Global Programs
- Gigliana Melzi, Steinhardt - Applied Psychology
- Nancy Morrison, Office of Global Programs
- Juan Piñon, Steinhardt - MCC
- Sebastian Providente, NYU Buenos Aires
- Matthew Rohrer, FAS - Creative Writing
- Shanker Satyanath, FAS - Politics and International Relations
- Diana Silver, CGPH
- Anna Kazumi Stahl, NYU Buenos Aires
- Edward Sullivan, FAS - Art History
- Alejandro Velasco, Gallatin

Meeting Minutes

Anna Kazumi Stahl, Site Director at NYU Buenos Aires, opened the meeting and the members introduced themselves. Sebastian Providente, NYU Buenos Aires' new Assistant Director of Academic Programs who was in New York to meet with the Office of Global Programs, was also welcomed to the meeting.

Anna discussed new curricular developments and activities at the site, as detailed in her Site Director's Report (see attached). She drew particular attention to the Cross-Continental Masters' program in Global Health. Diana Silver praised the close collaboration among all stakeholders, which was essential in order to launch the program. Also highlighted were new pathways in international relations, global public health, and applied psychology. Faculty engagement efforts, including Diana Silver's upcoming visit to Buenos Aires to co-teach a Masters' level course were also discussed.

Nancy Morrison announced the sustainability efforts which were noted in the agenda. She also highlighted the scholarships available to students who study away. Members of the committee were very interested in understanding when they should reach out to students with information regarding scholarships and global internships. The committee was assured that a student's first year is a good time to start outreach. It is particularly important that funding opportunities are circulated among students, because some students are concerned with costs. Janet Alperstein informed the committee that Chris Nicolussi offers scholarship information sessions weekly, with special sessions for Pell Grant recipients.

Juan Piñon welcomed questions from the group, noting that Anna had provided a very thorough description of new developments and highlights at NYU Buenos Aires.

NYU Buenos Aires Site Director Report: Fall 2019

1. Curriculum

New Developments and Pathways:

Global Public Health: This Fall the inaugural cohort of 17 Master's students are doing a semester at NYU BA as part of a one-year, accelerated "Cross-Continental Master's in Public Health" (DC-BA-Madrid) with a Spanish language component. Director Diana Silver, will co-teach "Latin American Health Systems" with BA lecturer Martin Langsam, a development that came out of Martin's Spring 2019 visit to NYU NY with a Global Faculty Fund grant.

Liberal Studies/Global Liberal Studies: NYU Liberal Studies chose BA for their annual symposium on: "Integrating the Global South in the Liberal Studies Curriculum." Over 45 Liberal Studies faculty members from six study away sites plus NYU NY, with Dean Julie Mostov and Associate Dean Molly Martin, conducted sessions that engaged seven NYU BA lecturers across disciplines leading seminars plus fieldwork in local contexts.

Pathways highlighted via BA lecturer visits NYU NY academic sponsors:

Through the Global Faculty Fund, three NYU BA lecturers – all established Argentine scholars – were able to visit corresponding Departments, meet with students and observe NY classes.

- International Relations: Nicolás Comini to CAS Politics with Shanker Satyanath.
- Global Public Health: Martin Langsam to Joyce Moon Howard and Diana Silver.
- Steinhardt for Applied Psychology: Cecilia Calero (Developmental Psychology) with Director Gigliana Melzi and faculty member Adina Schick.

Opportunities for Clustering:

- Health-Related Cluster: Epidemiology for Global Health (Spring) or Health & Society (Fall); Health Policy in a World Context; Internship/Fieldwork Seminar; Spanish for Health Professionals
- Politics, International Relations, Social Justice: Inter-American Relations; Political Institutions & Economic Policy (Spring); Global Media Seminar (i.e. politics and the media in Latin America); Cultures and Contexts: Revolutionary Movements in Latin America; Journalism & Society: Leaks & Whistleblowers
- Art, the City, Social Justice: Art and Politics in the City (digital humanities); Expressive Culture: Film in Latin America; Terrorism and Culture (Spring); Creative Writing/Travel Writing: Argentina; Reporting Buenos Aires (Fall)
- Diversity: Culture, Identity, and Politics; Visual Cultures in Colonial & 19th Century Latin America; Queer Cultures and Democracy (Spring); Tango and Mass Culture; The Language of Buenos Aires

- Academic Work in a Foreign Language: Borges & Argentine Culture (Fall); City, Architecture, Landscape (Spring); Culture, Identity, & Politics; Terrorism & Culture (Spring); Latin Am. Cultural History: Myths, Icons, & Invented Traditions (Fall)

Emerging Themes:

- Poverty, Development Studies, Public Policy, Social & Behavioral Factors
- Digital Humanities

Faculty Engagement (since our last SSAC meeting):

- Lina Meruane (LS, S&P) gave a talk at NYU BA late Spring 2019 as part of her participation in a Gender Studies conference at local university UNTREF.
- Antonia Lant (TSOA, Film Studies) made a research visit in Summer 2019 to connect with resources in Human Rights and Political Memory.
- Julie Avina (CGPH) has twice visited NYU BA this Fall 2019 to support the Masters semester students. She also connected with PH undergrads.
- Diana Silver (CGPH) will visit in November and co-teach a Masters course.
- Lila Zamborain (S&P MFA) will connect remotely with NYU BA & local University UNGS's colloquium on Hebe Uhart, org by BA lecturer Pia Bouzas.

Upcoming Spring 2020

- Gallatin has chosen NYU BA for its next annual Symposium.
- Gabriel Giorgi (S&P) will present at NYU BA on culture & biopolitics.

2. Other Local New Developments

Announcements:

Sebastian Provvidente, PhD, is NYU BA's new Assistant Director for Academic Programs. An historian, Dr. Provvidente is a member of the Argentine Research Council and previously was Academic Coordinator for US study abroad in BA. Beginning in Spring 2020 he will teach the CAS/Gallatin Internship Seminar.

Other New Initiatives of Interest:

Malba museum's new Curator in Chief, Gabriela Rangel, has worked with NYU faculty such as Art History Professor Edward Sullivan and BA lecturer Florencia Malbran. Both Gabriela Rangel and founder Eduardo Costantini express interest in engaging academically with NYU BA, for ex: allowing our course(s) access to Malba's holdings, engaging with Malba's renowned film archivist Fernando M. Pena, and engaging with their Writer's Residency program in April-May and September-October.

The Human Rights Memory Site "exESMA" has achieved formal nomination to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site for political memory, offering a unique opportunity for insights into the process which involves exESMA, UNESCO, and the Argentine National Ministry of Justice. The exESMA already partners with NYU BA on human rights research, archival research, and arts practice in relation to political memory.

3. Special Programming for Students:

NYU BA is in its 5th consecutive semester of the Global Equity Fellowship, galvanizing student leadership, community building, and research on IDBE locally. Fall 2019 GEF Brian Ruiz is focusing on Argentine Afro-Descendants, Indigenous peoples, and Queer Identity.

In our sustainability efforts, the ground floor now uses only water main dispensers, and all students received NYU BA water bottles to use. We have transitioned to re-usable utensils and enhanced recycling processes. Plans for this year include shifting water dispensers upstairs too.

4. Program Evaluations:

Highlights:

- Academic Rigor: Students report NYU BA as offering a meaningfully challenging academic experience. Several indicators show students are able to contact locals to speak with and to attend external cultural events.
- A Sense of Community: Key to acquiring/enhancing cross-cultural competencies is the sense of community that students report valuing while at NYU BA. Our smaller size and local cultural inclination towards dialogue make it possible to cultivate an environment of connectedness.
- Local Immersion: 40+% NYU BA students contribute 6 to 10 hs/wk in local NGOs or research institutes throughout their semester.

To work on further:

- Engagement with Local University Students: Calendar differences with Argentine school year and the language gap make it challenging to connect our students with local peers. We currently host two language exchange events and at least one visit to a local campus. We are now hosting more activities with colleague institutions, bringing more local researchers and students to our site.
- NYU BA facilities: We refurbished the entrance hall, modernized the electrical circuits, and refurnished the student kitchenette. We seek to continue improving the study space & equipment in the main hall and refurbish classrooms we rent in the nearby ICAPA building.
- NYU BA's smart room is 5+ years old and is showing reduced performance. We are analyzing with Global IT services. Networked courses offered this AY are: Art & Politics in the City (Fall & Spring) and Queer Cultures & Democracy (Spring).