

# **NYU Paris Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

*Wednesday, March 4th, 2015, 10:00-11:15am*

*Saadiyat Conference Room*

## **Attendees**

Benoit Bolduc (French)

Ed Berenson (History/Institute of French Studies)

Deborah Landau (Creative Writing)

Afrodesia McCannon (Liberal Studies)

John Moran (NYU Paris)

Susan Rogers (Anthropology)

Andrew Romig (Gallatin)

Ronald Sadoff (Steinhardt - Music and Performing Arts Professions)

Mosette Broderick (Art History)

Aurora Wallace (Steinhardt – Media, Culture, and Communication)

## **Site Development**

### *Pathways and Site Identity*

The Committee opened with a look at the site description currently posted on the [NYU Paris homepage](#), as well as a proposed revision that highlighted the new Academic Center.

Committee Members preferred the revised version, and Global Programs will update the website accordingly.

With the formation of Pathways and the continued development of the site's identity, the Committee agreed on the importance of visibility and having an easily accessible place to post up-to-date information about the site. To that end, Benoit Bolduc will start a Facebook page based on NYU Sydney's Facebook page to use as a platform for updates.

### *Course and Program Approval Process*

A new diagram detailing the procedures for introducing new academic programs and courses to the sites was distributed to the Committee. Recently, departments in New York have gone through both of these processes at NYU Paris: Music Technology has added a program, and Art History has been transforming its curriculum to bring it more in line with the department's curriculum in New York. Though every course and program is unique and may require slight modifications to the process, Members agreed that is important for everyone to review and understand these diagrams, and to bring any questions to Benoit

Bolduc. Members also agreed that it would be best to focus on one program at a time so as to ensure that each program is fully integrated into the site's curriculum and identity.

### *Website and Site Visibility*

NYU has been engaged in a University-wide project to develop an Academic Planner that helps students map out their course of study throughout their time at NYU. Responding to faculty requests to introduce this planner more quickly to the global sites, a parallel widget, the "Global Study Planner," has been created to inform students of the various Pathways and courses offered at the global sites, based on their disciplinary and language preferences. The Global Study Planner will be available on the Global Programs website and is designed to help students understand the opportunities available before meeting with their advisor. Members may test the Global Study Planner [here](#). Please let Josh Taylor know as soon as possible if you encounter any issues or inconsistencies. The website changes and Global Study Planner are scheduled to be live by the end of the Spring 2015 term.

In addition, Global Programs is in the process of reaching out to departments and Schools to develop pathway templates and academically focused printed materials. The pathway templates will help students identify the optimal time and place to study away for a specific departmental Pathway, and they can be posted on both the global and departmental websites. The content of the printed materials, which is provided by departments and Schools in New York, highlights the site identity, departmental course offerings, and Pathways at the global sites. The Global Study Planner, printed materials, and Pathway templates are intended primarily for NYUNY students; NYUAD and NYUSH will develop parallel descriptions and websites tailored to the timing and requirements of that campus's curriculum.

Committee Members were enthusiastic about the web tools and printed materials and agreed they will be helpful to students as they plan their academic career at NYU. The Committee agreed that acronyms should be spelled out on the Global Study Planner (for example, listing MCC as Media, Culture, and Communication), and many Members would like to tweak how disciplines are listed. All the materials shared with the Committee are still in development and are being refined based on faculty feedback.

### **Site Evaluation**

A committee convened by the Provost Office comprised of Site Directors and faculty from Site Specific Advisory Committees has redesigned the site evaluation and piloted the new survey to study away students in Abu Dhabi and in London. The new survey is shorter in length and aims to gauge both academic programming and student life at the global sites using more factual and quantitative data from the students.

The new survey has a higher response rate than the previous survey, and has received positive feedback. After a few minor adjustments, the survey will be administered to all students at the sites in May 2015. In addition, the survey committee is working on a pre-departure survey to capture student expectations and motivations prior to the study away experience. The two surveys may provide additional insight into the academic outcomes of study away and allow the University to analyze data from various perspectives (for example, by School, department, cohort, etc.).

In addition, the committee plans to look at additional assessment in global learning outcomes separate from self-reported surveys, as existing literature on the topic is limited. The committee is also interested in looking into the study away outcomes after graduation, and how the study away experience may impact career choice and employment opportunities. With multiple disciplines and multiple sites throughout the world, the GNU is uniquely positioned to become a leader in this field of research. Members agreed that it is important to use the highest research standards to avoid selection bias and other methodological errors.

### **Site Director Update**

After a challenging beginning to the semester with the Charlie Hebdo attacks occurring immediately prior to students' arrival, John Moran reported that the spring semester is going well. The strong emergency response from NYU, as well as an increase in security at the Academic Center and dormitory, helped to reassure both parents and students. In addition, Linda Mills and Rabbi Yehadu Sarna screened the film *Of Many* and hosted a talkback with students, faculty and staff, which provided a welcomed forum for open discussion.

The Music Technology program started this Spring and, after resolving a few technical issues, students are extremely satisfied with IRCAM and their instructors. Ron Sadoff and others are working with NYU Paris to develop the Music Performance and Jazz programs, which are set to begin in Fall 2015. Other programs, including CAMS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Studies) and GIPH (Global Institute of Public Health), are also continuing to develop at the site.

In addition, NYU Paris has identified a potential new residence for students, which may be available beginning in Fall 2015 and would provide additional housing for academic year Liberal Studies students and graduate students in the summer. At the Academic Center, Loic Houdin, the new IT hire, has begun looking into adding technology to more classrooms.

## **Data Packet and Announcements**

The Committee briefly discussed the data packet and noted several trends, including:

1. Enrollment numbers for the fall and spring terms are beginning to reach parity.
2. More sophomores are choosing to study away during the spring semester. As CAS students have not yet declared their majors at this time, it can be difficult to connect this growth with specific Pathways at the site.
3. Many students whose departments and Schools do not offer coursework at the site continue to study at NYU Paris and enroll in elective courses.

The following information was also announced:

1. The AY15/16 course lists were provided to Committee Members to bring back to their departments for review and discussion. Please advise [global.academics@nyu.edu](mailto:global.academics@nyu.edu) of any changes for AY16/17 prior to May 31st, so as to allow time for coordination with the sites.  
If there are no changes, AY15/16 courses will rollover to the following year. AY16/17 courses will be posted online on July 1st.
2. Members were informed that two new faculty discussions were underway:
  - a. *Europe* -- exploring ways European sites can collaborate with student trips, events, etc.
  - b. *Performing Arts* -- ensuring that arts programs are developed with a cost effective strategy and are not duplicated (e.g. studio space is used in both fall and spring).
  - c. Other suggestions included discussions on Public health and the Americas. These discussions will not necessarily be long-standing committees and will meet on an ad hoc basis.
3. The FAC-GNU committee has asked that Members share information discussed at the Advisory Committee meetings with their departments so as to engage all faculty on activity at the global sites.

## **Next Steps**

1. Global Programs will update the NYU Paris homepage with the revised site description. *(Completed 4/8/15)*.
2. Global Programs will work with the Committee members and departments to refine the Global Study Planner.