

NYU Prague Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

Monday, April 1, 2019, 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM EST

383 Lafayette, C06

Attendees

- Jiri Pehe (Site Director)
- Peter Rosendorff (FAS-Politics)
- David Schroeder (Steinhardt)
- Aurora Wallace (Steinhardt-MCC, Advisory Committee Chair)
- Matteo Marciano (NYUAD-Music)
- Tom Ertman (FAS-Sociology)
- Gwyneth Bravo (NYUAD)
- Carol Sternhell (FAS–Journalism)
- Eliot Borenstein (FAS-Russian and Slavic Studies; Senior Academic Convenor for the Global Network)
- Nancy Morrison (Global Programs)
- Tyra Liebmann (Global Programs)
- Janet Alperstein (Global Programs)
- John Robertson (NYU Shanghai)

Meeting Minutes

Aurora Wallace opened the meeting and noted that she will be stepping down as the committee chair; she was thanked for her service to the university. The committee expressed enthusiasm that Peter Rosendorff would replace Aurora Wallace as the Prague SSAC chair beginning fall 2019.

Jiri Pehe, Site Director at NYU Prague, discussed new curricular developments and activities at the site, as detailed in his Site Director's Report (see attached). In particular, Jiri Pehe discussed several new courses at the site, including the Foundations of Scientific Inquiry (FSI) Brain and Behavior course, which will begin in fall 2019 and will fulfill a CORE requirement, as well as an International Reporting course, which will fulfill a Journalism requirement and does not have any prerequisites. Jiri Pehe also noted that the Steinhardt music cohort has continued to grow, and courses offered may also appeal to Tisch students, potentially bringing together students from two different schools. In addition, Jiri Pehe highlighted the efforts the site has taken to further enhance its local engagement and IDBE offerings, including trips Roma and other minority communities, as discussed in the report.

In October 2018, NYU Prague hosted the annual Forum on Education Abroad European Conference, which provided exposure for NYU Prague's faculty, curricular offerings, and facilities to other European institutions. NYU Prague continues to receive positive feedback from

the conference, and several other ideas for events have been generated from it, including an event focused on U.S.-European-Czech relations that may include Madeleine Albright as a speaker. The conference also provided a wonderful opportunity for students to be involved in the conference planning and execution as part of an internship.

The committee noted that NYU Prague has fairly even enrollments between fall and spring semesters, though overall numbers are down from several years ago, a trend that some other sites are experiencing, as well. Some of the causes of this could be structural -- for example, the timeline for applying for a visa to the Czech Republic is longer than many other sites, which prevents later applicants from considering NYU Prague as a study away destination. In addition, a change in timing of the career fair at Stern has caused many Stern students to prioritize study away in the fall semester instead of spring. The committee discussed various ways to help ensure that NYU Prague continues to be a viable option for students, including enhancing and expanding opportunities for internships and working with schools to develop graduate programs.