



Faculty Committee on NYU's Global Network
Monday, December 7, 2020, 8:30am-10:00am EST

ATTENDANCE

Eliot Borenstein, Chair (FAS Russian and Slavic Studies)
Awam Amkpa, Tisch School of the Arts
Anasse Bari, Faculty of Arts and Science (Computer Science)
Amy Bentley, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development (Nutrition and Food Studies)
Mosette Broderick, Faculty of Arts and Science (Art History)
Sylvain Cappell, Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty Senators Council (Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences)
Scott Collard, Division of Libraries
Nicolas Graf, School of Professional Studies
Zhan Guo, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service
Rohini Pahwa, Silver School of Social Work
Benjamin Hary, Global Sites (FAS Hebrew and Judaic Studies)
Deborah Kapchan, Tisch School of the Arts
Maya Kesrouany, NYU Abu Dhabi
Gavin Kilduff, Leonard N. Stern School of Business
Robin Klar, Rory Meyers College of Nursing
Marilyn Moffat, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
Alexander Nagel, Institute of Fine Arts
Yaw Nyarko, Provostial At-Large Appointment (FAS Economics)
Danielle Ompad, College of Global Public Health
Adedamola Osinulu, Liberal Studies
Jon Ritter, Continuing Contract Faculty Senators Council (FAS Art History)
Shafer Smith, Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences
Peter Voltz, Tandon School of Engineering
Paul Wachtel, Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee (Stern)
Yanyue Yuan, NYU Shanghai
Jiawei Zhang, Leonard N. Stern School of Business

MEETING MINUTES

The committee opened with a discussion on the recent memo from Linda Mills providing an [update on Global Programs in the wake of COVID-19](#). Eliot encouraged members to share the memo with other faculty who have questions or would like to learn more about these updates. The committee agreed that the memo and Linda Mills' visit to the committee in November helped to contextualize recent decisions in the Global Network from the perspective of the Provost's office, but it agreed that it also would like to hear Liberal Studies' perspective. The Executive Committee will reach out to Julie Mostov, Dean of Liberal Studies, to request a response and to invite her to one of the committee's meetings in the spring. In general, the committee would like to understand better how such decisions are made, whether the committee could be involved in such decisions, and how such decisions are communicated.

Eliot noted that the Site-Specific Advisory Committees (SSACs) along with other initiatives such as the creation of Global Coordinators in FAS, were founded to address many of these concerns. Before the SSACs, engagement with the global sites was often limited to a small number of faculty who often had existing research ties and/or other personal interests in the site or its location. By creating several layers of engagement, the SSACs and Global Coordinator positions sought to engage a broader group of faculty in discussions focusing on the identity and pedagogy of the global sites, and to provide a mechanism for these important discussions to be communicated back to schools and departments. However, both faculty and Global Programs recognize that the level of engagement across the SSACs is uneven, and that information does not always filter back to departments as intended. In addition, the semesterly meeting pattern can make it challenging to provide continuity from one meeting to the next, and is not always conducive to responding to time-sensitive matters.

In addition, the committee wondered whether having each site led by full-time New York faculty was the most appropriate structure, but ultimately decided to focus on improving the SSACs. The committee discussed alternative approaches to the SSACs, including requesting that they meet more frequently; creating a sub-committee of particularly engaged faculty to meet more frequently than the larger SSAC; creating a formal connection between the SSACs and the Faculty Committee on NYU's Global Network; giving a title to 2 or 3 faculty in New York who are charged to be more deeply engaged with the site and its curriculum; and providing more opportunities for connections between New York faculty and lecturers at the global sites. The committee acknowledged that any new SSAC structure would need to balance the need to be focused with the need to be broadly accessible so as to increase awareness and make sure that departmental interests are represented. It was decided to form a subcommittee to develop ideas and suggestions to send to Global Programs. Eliot Borenstein, Amy Bentley, Momette Broderick, Paul Wachtel and Anasse Bari volunteered to join the subcommittee.

The committee also briefly discussed the incident in which Zoom abruptly cancelled an event due to the participation of a speaker who violated the company's policy. Sylvain Cappell noted that the issue was also addressed in the T-FSC meeting, but a course of action had not yet been decided. The incident touches on the purview of several committees, including those that focus on the global network, academic freedom and technology. It was agreed that the Executive Committee would request an update from the President's office on where conversations with the Zoom representative stands.