



Faculty Committee on NYU's Global Network

Monday, April 12, 2020, 8:30am-10:00am EST

ATTENDANCE

Eliot Borenstein, Chair (FAS Russian and Slavic Studies)

Amy Bentley, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development (Nutrition and Food Studies)

Taylah Bland, Student Government Assembly

Mosette Broderick, Faculty of Arts and Science (Art History)

Sylvain Cappell, Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty Senators Council (Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences)

Duane Corpis, NYU Shanghai

Zhan Guo, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

Christian Haefke, NYU Abu Dhabi

Benjamin Hary, Global Sites (FAS Hebrew and Judaic Studies)

Maya Kesrouany, NYU Abu Dhabi

Gavin Kilduff, Leonard N. Stern School of Business

Robin Klar, Rory Meyers College of Nursing

Martin Klimke, NYU Abu Dhabi

Marilyn Moffat, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development

Yaw Nyarko, Provostial At-Large Appointment (FAS Economics)

Danielle Ompad, College of Global Public Health

Adedamola Osinulu, Liberal Studies

Rohini Pahwa, Silver School of Social Work

Marianne Petit, Technology-Enhanced Education (Tisch School of the Arts)

Jon Ritter, Continuing Contract Faculty Senators Council (FAS Art History)

Paul Wachtel, Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee (Stern)

Joseph Weiler, School of Law

Josh Taylor, Associate Vice Chancellor, Global Programs & Mobility Services

MEETING MINUTES

Josh Taylor (Associate Vice Chancellor, Global Programs & Mobility Services) provided an update on the status and planning at the global sites for Fall 2021. For the past academic year, the University has implemented the Go Local program in order to give students, who could not travel to their home campus, a local touchpoint and some in-person instruction at an NYU location. With vaccination distribution in the United States and abroad generally becoming more widespread, and health conditions generally improving, the University has decided to reinstate its traditional study away program, while also preparing to support students who are not able to get to their home campus. The Office of Global Programs and the Office of Global Services are prepared to help international students find an alternative location within the global network, if needed, and it is likely that the Go Local program at NYU Shanghai will continue to be offered for the fall semester. However, outside of traditional study away, interest in studying at alternate locations -- with the exception of Shanghai -- is expected to be minimal if visa processing improvements that we began to see this spring continue through the fall. The notion

of “Go Local” may continue to be an option in some form, beyond the current pandemic, for students facing international mobility issues, or otherwise have specific interest in being closer to home.

Based on the number of applications the Office of Global Programs has received, students have expressed a high level of interest in study abroad, though the yield rate given current circumstances is difficult to predict. Global Programs is currently in the process of evaluating course offerings at the global sites and will be prepared to add more depending on enrollment. The University is planning to open all of the global sites for study abroad (with the exception of NYU Sydney, given that the Australian government has not yet opened its borders to international students), but it will continue to monitor the specific health situation on the ground at each location and will look at myriad factors -- including infection rates, vaccine rollout, the rate of hospital and ventilator use, etc. -- to determine whether a closure or delayed opening at a specific location might be necessary.

Regarding health and safety precautions, the global sites typically follow the same guidance as New York, unless local guidelines are more stringent. The global sites are awaiting guidance from New York as to whether any vaccine recommendations or requirements will be implemented, and are preparing to use the same restrictions for housing at the global sites as has been used in New York this past year. *[NB: Following the meeting, the University announced its intention to require vaccinations for students in New York, and that it expected to apply the same requirements to students studying abroad.]* Due to the high level of interest in study abroad, additional housing will be procured at our global sites, assuming we have flexibility in cancelling should students be unable to arrive due to visa or vaccination issues. The Office of Global Programs is also looking into relaxing the housing exemption policy and prioritizing students who need housing most.

The committee thanked Josh for attending the meeting and briefing them on the plans for the fall semester. The committee continued its discussion on the potential future of Go Local, as well as other items for the committee to add to the agenda for the following year. In order for Go Local, in some format, to be successful in the future, the committee identified several practicalities and policy decisions for discussion, including the ability of faculty to have autonomy over the mode of instruction; the implementation of robust advising regarding course locations and taking courses in different time zones; and the need for strong institutional connections between faculty and lecturers around the global network. In particular, it was agreed that the University’s approach to technology, asynchronous teaching, and the role of faculty in deciding the mode of instruction should be discussed by the committee and by the university writ large, and should not be decided on an ad hoc basis.

The committee also decided to discuss how faculty can be more involved in joint-teaching and research across the global network. There have been several iterations of co-taught courses across the global network and it could be helpful to have a more centralized mechanism to facilitate these types of activities. It was noted that Global Programs has traditionally helped to facilitate the development of such courses and could provide some background information on successful courses and the process. It was also noted that a centrally administered fund for conferences, workshops, and events was on the verge of being announced before COVID-19; it is expected that the roll out will continue once travel and mobility has been restored.

The committee also reconfirmed its interest in getting a better understanding of the global sites and their unique characteristics, as well as how to restructure or supplement the Site-Specific Advisory Committee Meetings to better engage with faculty.