

DATE: May 13, 2008

TO: CSU East Bay Academic Senate

FROM: Donna Wiley, Associate Director, Concord Campus  
and CSUEB Representative to the CSU Academic Council on  
International Programs

SUBJECT: 2007-2008 Year End ACIP Report

### **1. Student Applications to Study Abroad**

Applications to Study Abroad from CSUEB remained constant with the number of applications from 2006-2007. There were seven new applications this year, six to programs in the Northern Hemisphere and one to the Southern Hemisphere, and one of this year's participants in Spain applied for a continuation to the program in Chile. All six of our applicants to Northern Hemisphere programs were accepted (one was selected for her second choice program). Our students will be participating in programs in China, Sweden, France (2), Spain and Mexico. The personal stories of all of the applicants continue to be inspiring, including that of one Katrina survivor. The student in the China program was also selected to be a recipient of a Wang scholarship. The interview for the student applying to the Southern Hemisphere program in Australia will be conducted later this week. As in 2005-2006, the BCLAD program in Mexico remained suspended, and this program had previously been very popular with CSUEB students. The Study Abroad coordinator position remains unfilled. While Kelly Moran does an excellent job, she is spread extremely thin with her other responsibilities as Director of the Center for International Education, so she does not have as much time to devote to promoting study abroad opportunities as a full time coordinator would have.

For the 2008-2008 Fall cycle there were a total of 774 applications submitted for the northern hemisphere programs, of which 715 were completed applications that were reviewed by the selection committee. 616 were accepted to their program on choice, 34 were given the option of participating in alternative programs and 77 denied. Data regarding number of applications and acceptances per program or by each of the CSU campuses was not provided. Data for the southern hemisphere programs is not yet complete as applications are in progress. The reason for the lower number of acceptances and the alternative choices were due to the state of the IP budget, which will be discussed in a later section.

At the ACIP Spring meeting, which was held at CSU San Marcos, we were provided with a budget projection for 2008/09 that indicated that the average cost per student for Study Abroad (i.e. the cost to the State of California) is expected to be around \$9,258, ranging

from a low of \$1,525 per student to a high of \$12,759 per student for the most expensive program. The total cost of the program is \$5.13 million with the majority of financing coming from the General Fund and student fees. More information about the budget and financing situation for IP will be presented later in this report.

### **1. Faculty Participation and Opportunities in Study Abroad**

#### Faculty Interviewers

The response to the call for volunteers to participate in student interview committees was very strong, with more faculty volunteering than could be utilized, primarily because of conflicts between their schedules and student availabilities. Seventeen faculty participated in the six interviews, including several junior faculty (and one who participated for the first time, and they were very excited to learn about the program and promised to promote it in their classes. In February, 16 faculty participated as interviewers.

#### Resident Directors

There were three CSUEB applicants for Resident Director positions for the 2009-2010 academic year (in contrast to no applicants last year). Dr. Lettie Ramirez was selected for the RD position in Mexico. Information on Resident Directorships can be found at <http://www.gateway.calstate.edu/csuienet/faculty/index.shtml>

#### Faculty Wang Scholarships to China and Taiwan

I am pleased this year that Dr. Evaon Wong-Kim, Department of Social Work, has been awarded a Wang Faculty Fellowship Grant at Shanghai Jiao Tong University. Four faculty scholarships of \$10,000 each are offered each year for faculty wishing to teach or do research in Taiwan and China courtesy of the Wang Family. Information on this and other opportunities for faculty can be found at <http://www.gateway.calstate.edu/csuienet/faculty/index.shtml>. This scholarship program will run through 2012.

### **3. Performance of ACIP Representative Duties**

In addition to recruiting faculty to participate in selection committees, organizing the interviews, participating on each interview committee, and completing the student evaluations, I also participated in the two ACIP meetings, the fall meeting held in Long Beach and the spring meeting held at CSU San Marcos. This year I served on the Program Review Committee, and the committee reviewed the programs in France and Sweden. Issues reviewed by this committee are discussed in the section below.

### **4. Additional IP items.**

As in last year's report, the budget for the IP program continued to be the most pressing topic of discussion, and the situation has become even more dire. The dollar has continued to lose value against most foreign currencies, making the programs even more costly to operate. It was reported that a projected budget scenario assuming the same level of participation as the current year would result in a 1.5 million dollar deficit. Therefore, enrollments in some of the most expensive programs (i.e., programs with relatively low fixed costs and high per student costs) were reduced for the 2008-2009 AY. In addition, after the discussions in ACIP that were reported last year and further consultations with the International Programs Fee Committee, Executive Order 1028 was issued on February 5, 2008 instituting a \$500 per student fee for AY 2008-2009. These measures, in addition to a one-time special allocation from the Chancellor's office, should allow the program to operate with a balanced budget. However, it is clear that IP will continue to have to seek ways to reduce costs while still providing opportunities for students, especially considering the current state of the California budget and the continuing devaluation of the dollar. Efforts will focus on restructuring existing programs, with a focus on expanding programs that involve direct exchanges and reducing programs that require IP to pay full-cost tuition.

ACIP, along with the CSU International Planning Group, worked actively to ensure that international issues were included in the CSU Access to Excellence final report, and that effort appears to have been successful. One of the eight "CSU Commitments" identified as key to accomplishing the three priorities for the system is to "enhance opportunities for global awareness, including to "support work that internationalizes curricula and the experiences of students and faculty alike".