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TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: Michael D. Lee, Associate Professor
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SUBJECT: 2004-05 Year-End Report

1. Student Applications to IP

CSUEB Applicants and Participants

This past academic year (2004/2005), the student application process was administered by CSUEB’s campus CSU IP Coordinator, Wagaye Johannes, and the interview process coordinated by myself. As in previous years, as well as holding several study abroad open houses in the library, Wagaye mounted display desks at various events such as the Student Orientation Fair and at undeclared major-minors and other campus-wide events, and made dozens of classroom presentations about study abroad opportunities. We also sent letters and emails out to faculty soliciting support for promoting study abroad and volunteers for the interview process.

In spite of these efforts, applications were down for the CSU IP Study Abroad Program in 2005/2006, an experience mirrored across the CSU. Perhaps due to rising fees and exchange rate deterioration that has made estimated living costs for a year abroad higher, the total number of applications received by the Office of International Programs (OIP) for northern hemisphere programs fell from 916 for 2004/05 to 751 for 2005/06. In all, CSUEB had 12 applicants to the 2005/06 northern hemisphere programs and two applicants to the 2005 southern hemisphere program (both to Australia). The Australia applicants have not yet been evaluated by OIP. Of the twelve northern hemisphere applicants, nine were accepted – two to Spain, one to the United Kingdom, one to Taiwan and one to France. In addition, four were accepted to the CSU IP bilingual credential program in Mexico (BCLAD). Three students were rejected due to having low GPAs. Our Taiwan applicant received one of the $4,000 Wang family scholarships offered to students through the OIP. Thus a total of nine CSUEB students are confirmed to be studying abroad through the CSU IP for the 2005/2006 academic year, with a potential three additional students studying abroad for the 2006 calendar year. The majors represented by the nine students accepted so far are: International Studies, Latin American Studies, MBA, Political Science (2), and Teacher Education (bi-lingual) (4).

System-wide Applications and Participants

For 2005/2006 there were a total of 638 students accepted to the CSU IP program for the Northern Hemisphere programs not including Australia and New Zealand which should add an additional 35 or more. This is well in line with the total of 695 in 2003/04 and up from the 620 in 2002/2003 and 660 in 2001/2002. The numbers of students applying to Australia and New Zealand this year is expected to be over 100 again. There are likely to be more slots available this year due to increased
funding that will allow OIP to send additional students to Australia and New Zealand in excess of the number of their students coming to the CSU. Previously, the number of slots available was based on exchange only. However, at an additional per student cost of about $5,000, slightly less than the average per student cost to the CSU system of $6,990, OIP plans to increase the number of opportunities for study in these very popular locations.

The total number of applicants for northern hemisphere programs for 2005/06 was 751, down from the record high of 2004/2005 of 916, and substantially lower than the 881 in 2003/2004, 775 in 2002/2003 and 800 in 2001/2002. However, the quality of applicants was generally very high and a lot of applicants meeting the requirements will be denied due to the limited funding available. CSUEB is one of the smaller participants in CSU IP in terms of number of students applying to the program, historically having ranked around joint 16th or 17th of the 23 campuses in the system by number of applicants. For the last few years, however, our ranking has increased. For 2005/2006, CSUEB participation was a little lower than our record of 2004/2005, but still joint 14/23 in applicants and acceptances by number. This is slightly down from 13/23 and 12/23 respectively in 2004/05. We still lie far behind the leaders of CSU study abroad such as SFSU and CalPoly, which generate 155 and 90 applicants each year respectively. Anecdotally, the demographics of our student body and the preponderance of individuals with families and job commitments seem to be a contributing factor to keeping the number of applicants well below the approximate 1% of the student body that apply annually system-wide. This would be about 25-30 per year based on the 13,000 undergraduate and graduate students studying at the CSUEB. I would like to add that in talking to colleagues from other campuses equal to or larger in size than our own, the outreach efforts by Wagaye Johannes, myself and the staff of Ray Wallace’s Office are equal if not greater than many others with much larger applicant numbers.

2. Faculty Participation and Opportunities in IP

Faculty Interviewers

Due to effective outreach, some 24 faculty and staff offered to serve on the CSU IP applicant evaluation committees this year, demonstrating that support for IP and the study abroad experience is high on our campus. Due to scheduling constraints, we used a smaller cadre of interviewers this year – some 17 were used on our 10 hour-long interviews.

Resident Director Opportunities

Next year, 12-month, full-time, one-year Resident Directors (RDs) will be sought for the China, France, Mexico, Spain and Italy programs. An RD application packet will be available from me or via the web at www.gateway.calstate.edu/csuienet. Only full-time faculty can apply, thus FERP participants are ineligible.

Faculty Wang Scholarships to China and Taiwan

I would like to again remind CSU Faculty concerning the Wang Family Scholarships. This program provides four $10,000 stipends to be awarded annually through 2012. One faculty stipend of $10,000 each year through 2012 is designated to be used for research and teaching at the National Taiwan
University in the Republic of China, Taiwan and one faculty stipend of $10,000 each year through 2012 is designated to be used for research and teaching at the National Tsinghua University in the Republic of China, Taiwan. In addition, the fund will provide annually two faculty stipends of $10,000 each through 2012 for research and teaching at Peking University in Beijing and Jiao Tung University in Shanghai in the People’s Republic of China. The scholarships seem very flexible and do not require that the recipient spend a year overseas. Full details can be obtained through the CSU IP web site at www.gateway.calstate.edu/csuienet. In 2004/05, Dr. Meiling Wu of the Dept. of Modern Languages and Literatures was successful in applying for a Wang Family award and received $10,000 to work with the National Taiwan University. Our applicant this year was not so fortunate, due to the fierce competition for the four awards available. Two awards went to Sacramento and two to San Francisco faculty.

3. **Performance of ACIP Representative Duties**

*ACIP Representative Responsibilities*

As CSUEB representative to CSU ACIP, I participated in campus outreach, attended the student participant orientation at SFSU, assisted the Center for International Education in student Fulbright interviews, coordinated campus applicant interviews to the CSU IP program and participated in the two scheduled ACIP meetings for 2004/2005, the first last October at the Chancellor’s office in Long Beach and the second in April at CSU Bakersfield. As part of my duties as Chair of the Academic and Fiscal Affairs Committee (AFAC), I helped conduct reviews of the Canada, Chile, China and Taiwan programs.

*Chair of ACIP and hosting of spring meeting 2006*

At the Spring meeting, 2004, I was elected Chair of the ACIP for 2005/2006 and will continue to participate in the Executive Committee functions of ACIP next year, taking part in at least one additional meeting at the Chancellor’s Office (September) as well as a number of conference-calls and list serve discussions over the academic year. As Chair, I may be called upon to perform other duties as required. The Academic Senate should note that the ACIP Spring meeting will be at our CSU East Bay campus in 2006 and as Chair and host, I will be working closely with the President’s and the Interim Provost’s Office and the Center for International Education to plan this meeting and an opportunity for CSUEB faculty and administrators to meet the OIP staff and other campus representatives to the ACIP while they are visiting. I will circulate a list of ACIP members and their academic specialties to all CSUEB faculty prior to this event to encourage faculty interactions by discipline and with respect to study abroad options for different majors.

Note that by being Chair for my last year of service on the ACIP, I will continue attending ACIP meetings for another year as Chair ex-officio, the expenses for which will be covered by the Chancellor’s office. This will allow me to accompany my replacement ACIP representative during his or first year of service on the ACIP in 2006/2007. I will assist the Academic Senate in its search for this replacement next year and suggest that we appoint the successful candidate before the Spring 2006 meeting at CSUEB to allow him or her to attend the meeting as an observer and meet the other representatives and IP staff.
Resources required of CSUEB

The cost of participating in ACIP meetings was born partly by the Chancellor’s Office (Spring meeting) and partly by CSU East Bay (Fall meeting). This year’s Fall meeting in Long Beach resulted in expenditures of around $400.00 for which the Provost’s office provided reimbursement. As ACIP representative, I received one class release for performing my duties.

4. Additional IP Items

IP Budget

The budget situation has affected CSU IP as it has the rest of the CSU, although having said that, IP enrollment continues to climb. The budget for 2004/2005 is expected to be a little over $4.7 million with the cost per student averaging at almost $7,000 across the 16 active country programs. IP administration totaled almost $1,000,000. This is considerably higher than the $700,000 or so experienced in previous years even with a freeze on certain positions and cost-cutting measures such as the elimination of certain paper-brochures in lieu of wholly on-line communications. The rise is largely due to the worsening value of the dollar against the Euro and other currencies. The remaining $3.7 million comprises in-country tuition, administration and operating costs. Some programs result in no additional in-country costs to the CSU, being wholly balanced by exchanges from those partner institutions whereas the more expensive programs can result in per student costs up to $13,000. Actual budget forecasts for 2005/2006 are more optimistic than for 2004/05 with some enrollment-projection increases and additional funding that should allow more students to be sent to Australia and New Zealand and a pioneer group to be sent to the new program in South Africa in advance of a full-scale recruitment program that will be mounted for the 2007 southern hemisphere academic year. OIP Director van Cleve was successful in securing funding and permission to hire a new budget director and Assistant Director, both of whom retired last year.

Program status and opportunities

The Zimbabwe and Israel programs remain suspended for the foreseeable future although they have not been discontinued. A survey of opinions across the CSU was made with respect to Israel and the decision was made for both security and budget reasons to continue its suspension for the time-being. In its Spring discussions, the AFAC recommended to Director van Cleve that the Israel program not be reopened until the US State Department Travel Advisory is lifted and to monitor the status of other university programs that were also suspended as an additional indicator of changing conditions. Any decision to reopen the program should be timed in a manner to permit campuses to generate sufficient interest among students to achieve more cost-effective enrolment levels. AFAC also recommended that for the first few years following any restart, that a Resident Director be appointed. However, AFAC was of the opinion that the program should only reopen when the security situation ideally has returned to a level that would allow the OIP to run the program in Israel without a Resident Director due to the expense.

The situation in Zimbabwe is still not suitable to reopen this program. The economic and political situation is still very unstable but more importantly, the University of Zimbabwe has been decimated
by budget cuts and by the departure of many key faculty to other universities outside the country. Until the quantity and quality of programs needed by students are restored, this program appears to no longer provide the opportunities expected for CSU students. However, progress on developing two other Africa programs has been steady. The Ghana program will begin accepting students in 2006/07 and a pioneer group will hopefully be sent to South Africa in 2006 with a full-blow program ready to run in 2007. The Ghana site will be on the Northern Hemisphere calendar (Fall-Spring) and the South African sites the Southern Hemisphere (calendar year).

Support for study abroad at CSUEB

As I did the last three years, as a final note I would once more like to encourage all CSUH faculty to help us further promote Study Abroad opportunities for our students. In doing so, I echo the results of the independent Strategic Task Force on Education Abroad report submitted to Congress in 2003 that called for significant increases in the number of U.S. College Students who learn foreign languages and study abroad. Although they may spend a year away from our campus and thus our FTE, they gain immensely from the process, both personally and academically. Many of our programs are exchange programs and students from our partner institutions come to the CSU in a simple swap and thus overall, student enrollment is not greatly affected. Moreover, in advising our CSUEB students, we stress the opportunity that Study Abroad offers them to become a double major or complete a language minor, thus it may be that many students still complete four years at East Bay, getting extra qualifications and experience that may be critical in this increasingly globalized economy. As an institution promoting excellence and a diverse culture, Study Abroad fits very comfortably into our mission To this end I would encourage faculty to send me the names of any student that they believe might do well in Study Abroad or especially benefit from the experience and I will contact these students personally to explain the program and offer them the opportunity to apply. In particular, I believe that many so-called heritage students with familial origins in our Study Abroad destinations should be key targets, since the program will allow them a cost-effective and structured means of experiencing their parents’ or grandparents’ native lands as well as advance their academic progress. Generally students need to have GPA’s of 2.7/3.0 or greater depending on the program. The program is open to juniors and seniors. CSU ACIP currently offers programs in Australia, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan and the United Kingdom. Ghana and South Africa will also be an option next year. Our student’s pay their home CSU campus fees and the total cost of studying in the CSU IP program for a full academic year is around $12-13,000, everything included. Financial aid applies to Study Abroad through CSU IP and several participating countries allow students to pursue part-time work, should they choose to do so. Additional scholarships are available such as the Freeman Asia Fund awards or the Wang Family Scholarships.