

## Global Engagement Program Council Minutes

2 October 2013

1:35p meeting called to order

Council Members Present: Rachel Adler (Sociology), Luke Butler (Biology), Seung Hee Choi (Finance), Jaimie DeMarco (Student), Gary Fienberg (music), Michell Lin (Student), Cynthia Paces, Chair (History), Paula Rainey (Library), Moussa Sow (World Languages & Cultures), Jon Stauff (Center for Global Engagement), third student representative (name not recorded).

Also present: Dr. Simona Wright (World Languages and Cultures), Dr. Sara Levi (visiting prof from Università di Modena).

1. Minutes from 18 Sep. approved.

2. Report from the Chair: GEPC's re-written charge is going through governance to be formally approved, then GEPC will be given the revised charge. Point of clarification from Steering: *ex officio* members of the GEPC get a vote.

3. Dr. Sara Levi, archaeologist, from Università di Modena, and current visiting professor at TCNJ, reported on an opportunity for TCNJ students to participate in her field research on the island of Stromboli. Dr. Levi has been working on Stromboli since 2009. The ongoing archeological field site is a joint project among agencies in Italy to study interaction between Bronze Age humans and the volcano they lived on. Additionally, trade was underway among settlements within the region during the Bronze Age, and this regional history informs that local experience on Stromboli.

TCNJ students would be engaged in a methodologically-focused training experience, in a museum context, that includes field work (excavation [4 days/wk]), lab work (artefact processing [1 day/wk]), and weekly seminars. The project has hosted students from a variety of countries other than Italy (Spain, France, and the US [Boston U.]). Students start with no prior experience but are able to participate in all steps of the study process in one season.

The committee, Dr. Levi, and Dr. Wright discussed the program for several minutes, yielding the following information:

Dr. Levi has written a formal short-course proposal.

Activities that resemble traditional coursework include data analysis, report-writing, and attendance at seminars. Students have access to a large database that they can access and analyze as part of a capstone project. Students could write reports of their work at different stages.

Prior experience with Italian is not necessary; the professional team and the site manager speak English. The site is in a tourist area so there are many rental houses available. Students (4-5) from a mix of countries share houses. Students provide their own food.

Dr. Levi and Dr. Wright left and the GEPC discussed the program and the possibility of being able to vote on approving the program in time for students to go this summer. Jon Stauff noted that about one TCNJ student does something like this somewhere each summer. Cynthia Paces noted that classes in archaeology fill regularly, suggesting there is interest in the subject matter; this would also be an opportunity for Italian language students since no experience in archaeology is necessary.

4. Discussion of Ramapo program to India. The semester consists of four sequential courses, each meeting daily. Examples of student's final papers were impressive, and showed the kind of feedback students receive from the professors.

**VOTE: Motion to approve the Ramapo program in India; seconded; approved.**

5. Report from Jon Stauff. A record number of students will be participating in study abroad programs in spring 2014 (110+). The London winter program is sold out (18 students) and the Greece/Turkey program will likely sell out (currently 15 students). Students are currently enrolled in several other programs: New Orleans (5), Barcelona (6), Harlaxton (10), Cornwall (4), and Madrid (4). Maymester in Israel is getting some interest.

6. Announcements: 7 Oct, musical performance, The Voice of Rumi in Poetry and Music, by Peter Rogan (Persian poetry scholar); 14 October, 530p, French Senegalese film showing; 6 Nov, Dr. Sara Levi will present her archeological work on Stromboli, 300p Ed 115.

Meeting adjourned at 240.