

**International Education Committee
Report to the Senate for 2017-2018**

Submitted by Paul Resetarits, Chair
April 30, 2018

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP 2017-18

AMMON COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (1): Fumi Showers
(Sociology) 18

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (1): Sinead Ruane (Management and Organization) 19

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (1): Catherine Kurkjian (Literacy,
Elementary, and Early Childhood Education) 19

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY (1): Paul Resetarits
(Manufacturing and Construction Management) 18

AT LARGE FACULTY (4):

Matthew Ciscel (English) 19

Ghassan El-Eid (Political Science) 18

Shelly Jones (Mathematical Sciences) 19

Renata Vickrey (Library) 18

GRADUATE STUDENT:

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT:

DIRECTOR, IS (or designee): Mathew Foust

DIRECTOR, CIE (or designee, non-voting): Momar Ndiaye

The committee worked on a number of issues in the 2017-2018 academic year

1. AAC&S&U Consultant

The committee was invited to meet with the consultant from AAC&S&U, Arlene Jackson. Available IEC members met with her on Friday, September 15, 2017. The consultant's report was made available to the committee in late December 2017 and reviewed at the February 2018 meeting. A discussion of the details of the report from last semester's visit to campus by a consultant on international education and the functioning of the CIE was had. Some discussion followed with the general consensus that the report was overly broad and vague. It was also mentioned that the new Provost will likely be the one to implement any changes based partially on this report. To that end, we discussed communicating to the new Provost that we the IEC already exists to address the role mentioned in the report of an advisory committee on Internationalization at CCSU.

2. Strategic Plan

The committee met three times in April 2018 to provide input and suggestions for improvements of a draft CIE Strategic plan developed by the CIE director. The Director will share this plan next with the Provost to illicit his feedback on the plan prior to implementation.

3. Partner Institutions, Linkages, Dual Degree programs Review

The Committee was updated by the Director of the CIE on a Review of Linkage Agreements

- a. The chair discussed the importance of linkages with international universities and how important it is for faculty to collaborate with the CIE on these initiatives
- b. The Director of the CIE, Momar Ndiaye, presented several handouts to clarify the types of linkage agreements and steps in setting them up. The primary types are exchange, one-way, and degree completion linkages. Most existing linkages are of the first two types, but a degree completion linkage is almost ready with a Japanese university. All types can be complex and must be tailored to fit the involved programs and students. There was some discussion of this complexity and of the recent simplification of the process to develop a letter of intent (formerly MOU).
- c. Another handout was distributed showing critical steps in developing a linkage, from proposal and letter of intent to finalization, implementation, and ongoing support. Dr. Ndiaye asked the committee to help with evaluating the viability of potential linkages as part of initial contact. Whether to form a sub-committee or to take it on in regular committee meetings was discussed. Consensus settled on the latter, with the suggestion that a rubric or checklist be developed by CIE to provide the committee with appropriate structure in helping to determine viability. Ndiaye agreed to do this.
- d. Finally, a list of current, pending, and terminated linkages was distributed and discussed. All of the current linkages are either to Western Europe or East Asia, while three of the five pending linkages are in Africa (Ghana), South America (Brazil), and the Caribbean (Cuba). There was some discussion of the importance of maintaining representation from as full a range of world regions as possible.

4. Increasing Faculty participation in study/courses abroad

The Committee presented an orientation workshop on March 8, 2018 to help faculty members better understand how to design courses abroad. The workshop presented the value of offering courses abroad for both students and faculty. It highlighted using the international competencies as a framework for the development of the course. Experienced Course Abroad faculty discussed best practices and shared ideas, in an attempt to help attract other faculty to participate in offering courses abroad and to attract more students to these courses.

5. Increasing CCSU Student participation in study/courses abroad

The Committee discussed the decline in students at CCSU participating in study abroad programing. The CIE reported on fairly low enrollment numbers for courses abroad in winter and spring, but programs in summer are better enrolled. This led to further discussion of concerns about the increased costs for students and a question about asking students to purchase their own airline tickets, which was dismissed as problematic at many levels. Concerns about costs for courses abroad and the impact on their frequency and effectiveness were raised.

A research paper done by Ben Tyson's students provides excellent insights into ways to increase student participation in courses aboard. The paper provided many suggestions and actionable items for the CIE and faculty to consider implementing.