Internationalization Lab Committee Meeting  Tuesday, March 27, 2012, Noon, Cobleigh 608

Present: Robert Marley, Norm Peterson, Paul Stoy, Elizabeth Kenyon, Yvonne Rudman, John Paxton, Patricia Ingraham, David Singel, Janelle Rasmussen, Debra Debode, Mylene Leary, Marty Frick, Deidre Combs, Greg Young, Jo Packham. Guest: Craig XXX of Educators Abroad

- Meeting called to order by Marley and Peterson. Introductions were made between committee and guest from Educators Abroad. Minutes from last meeting will be posted to IL website.

- Marley and Peterson reported on the IL meeting held at ACE Headquarters in Washington DC, February 2, 2012. MSU stood out among the participating universities for creating the most exposure for the IL process on its campus. MSU also differentiate itself for how it has structured its IL process. The other institutions chose to structure the IL process around the traditional international silos of study abroad, international students, etc. MSU has organized the process around ACE’s IL structure and outcomes. Peterson expressed concern that ‘big areas of the international silos could be missed’ by using this approach. He will re-assess the process to make sure there are not oversights. Marley added that all IL participants are struggling with the process; MSU is neither behind nor ahead.

- Young reported on behalf of the Goals and Learning Outcomes Task Force and shared a handout that listed (1) six goals that emerged from the Open Space exercise led by Combs on February 7, 2012 and (2) eight learning outcomes based on FIPSE guidelines. Frick suggested altering the wording somewhat so the outcomes become measurable. Singel advised that the learning outcomes be stated in language that meets faculty senate criteria, can be vetted by the MUS system, and is transferrable among disciplines.

- Packham reported on behalf of the Activity and Budget Review Task Force. Two curriculum review surveys have been developed; one will be sent to all department heads and the other to 1500 randomly selected students. The department heads will be asked to report on all courses that have significant international content and to list their international partners and activities. The student survey will ask what international activity students participated in and where, what they think the benefits are, if it improved their cultural sensitivity, and what other activities they would like to have available to them. Financial data has been difficult to collect but the goal is to collect five years of data from OIP indexes. The data will be used to conduct a cost/benefit analysis.

- Marley commented on the well-done IL presentation Debode gave to the College of Engineering External Advisory Board. The Board’s enthusiastic reaction to the presentation re-enforced Marley’s belief in the value of the international dimension of an engineering education.

- Packham commented that after 2009, Senior Surveys demonstrate a major shift in the value students associate with the international dimension of their education. Before 2009 students reported that the international dimension was not so important; post 2009, students report that the international dimension is very important.

- Because of the enthusiastic response to the Monday Morning Memo beyond the MSU-Bozeman campus, Marley suggested to the President that he, Peterson and Combs visit the other MSU campuses to share information with their administration, faculty and staff about how to conduct an IL process tailored to their campus. University Council Executives will also be informed of the process when they attend the next monthly meeting in Bozeman.

- Peterson shared the IL Communication Matrix as a model for who should be kept informed of the process. The IL website is now linked to the OIP website. This document and others will be posted there. Peterson suggested that the committee prepare for a fall semester P.R. push. Combs suggested that in the meantime Open Space participants and Monday Morning Memo respondents could be updated via a listserv.

Next meeting:  April 24, Noon, Cobleigh Hall 608.
Minutes submitted by Rudman, March 27, 2012.