

Global Education Task Force
Wednesday, September 10, 2008
2:00 – 4:00 pm
QA Room, Upper Gwinn Commons

Les welcomes all and introduces the President.

President Eaton focuses on the agenda for the year to come. We will grapple with structural and program questions.

Do we focus on certain geographical places?

How will we deal with languages?

Move towards clarity about what we should do concretely.

Resources: let's start with a vision and work at asking about what resources are necessary to make it happen.

Introductions of the Global Education Task Force members led by Les.

Student representative, Jason Williams, shares his summer experience.

Went abroad to China with Dr. Downing after his sophomore year and became very interested in study abroad.

Visited Haiti and Dominic Republic through work this summer with a micro-finance company.

SPU students are seeking out service projects on their own, and yearn to be involved and help with global issues.

Lynette Bikos proposes to invite David King to the Global Education Taskforce.

Lynette took the taskforce's mission statement to her research team for feedback, and David is part of that research team.

David voiced interest in being a part of the taskforce. He was an SPU undergrad and was invited to the doctoral program.

Les will send an official invitation to David King to join the group.

The study abroad update is in process, and Cindy Price has been working on the accreditation side of things.

Policy and procedure issues.

Letting students know what is available.

Welcome to the new Study Abroad Coordinator, Gail DeBell.

Gail worked in the SPU Humanities department before leaving to work for Rick Steves.

Gail brings a great wealth of information, and has a passion to work with students.

Gail is very excited to be here and is excited about the new office.

Please give Gail space and time to settle.

For questions that arise now, we will keep with the old processes.

Cindy reports on finishing up the accreditation report and the accreditation visit on October 17.

An update on the website:

Providing content

Blogs—testing the blog idea with Jeff Keuss’ upcoming trip.

How much content is going to be enough?

Please help populate content if you are someone that needs to.

Hope for the website to be live by October 17, which is when the accreditation visit takes place, as study abroad is one of the focused recommendations.

How are we going to organize and where are we going to go?

Revisit how we proceed for this year.

Proposal to produce a document.

Report of the global education taskforce to be completed by the end of the year and submitted to the President.

A document that will direct us over the next few years.

Establish quarterly goals?

Organize around critical questions.

Meetings/discussions. Assigned questions out to a group who will research and bring their findings back to the group.

How often and when will we meet?

There is also a General Education Taskforce, so how will we take relevant assessment data from the taskforce to this group?

Questions pertaining to the Global Education Questions compiled by Les (see blue sheet).

Do programs achieve the learning outcomes?

How many international free Methodists programs are there?

What languages and how will we do those programs?

Do we want a Dean of Global Education?

Do we include study abroad or SPRINT trips?

Right now, study abroad is mostly organized for majors, but can be populated by non majors if there is room. Continue down this route?

Refine/revise/go over these questions and then we write recommendations on what we find. Thoughts?

What about resources and money—what if we come up with great ideas and there is no resources?

We need to be realistic. What if we have a vision and then cannot come through?

Would like intermediate feedback from the President if things are do-able.

There will be no surprises on either side; we will keep in close contact.

What about exchange faculty who are not Christian and do not match our faith statement?

We need to work on the details on this specific situation.

Cost structure to students?

To the university? To travel?

Questions about specific questions, but do we need to be more general—given our learning outcomes, are there gaps that might meet the learning outcomes?

Ideas how to make global studies more robust.

What we're already doing... how do we connect everyone?

Possibility of a form for students who individually went abroad on their own to evaluate and share their experiences.

What are other institutions doing? How do they do it?

Mission statement and outcomes the nature of our programs

Extent to which SPRINT is involved, if at all.

Small groups visiting other colleges/to see what answers they've come up with and sharing those.

How can we make this possible financially for students?

Focus on grooming students for scholarships and fellowships?

We will lay the process out, add/modify questions, and send further suggestions.

What are the priorities—which questions first?

Where would you personally like to do some work?

Thank you for being here.

Adjourned 3:45pm.