

University of North Alabama
International Programs Committee

Thursday, November 4, 2021
4 pm on Zoom

Minutes

Present: Cain, C. Vance, C. Vance, Hall, Harris, Coker, Richards, Zhang, Johnson

Dr. Johnson and Dr. Cain welcomed the members and thanked everyone for attending.

Dr. Cain discussed Study Abroad Scholarships for outbound exchange students and for faculty-led groups. Dr. Coker and Dr. Vance have potential trips planned overseas this summer. Dr. Cain asked if our committee should ask the Provost to open Study Abroad scholarship funding now as some groups do have plans in place to begin traveling. Dr. Vance suggested that this should be done thoughtfully as some groups are not yet prepared to travel and have not yet held interest meetings inviting students to participate, which may put some students at a disadvantage if funding is depleted before they plan to apply.

Dr. Cain said we can ask the Provost to consider opening funding opportunities now for those ready to proceed with travel plans but understand that there are still potential trips that may happen, as well.

Dr. Zhang said the Covid-19 Task Force is still considering whether to open travel again for faculty-led teams but he feels confident it will resume in the fall. Auburn has resumed Study Abroad for Spring 2022 and Alabama and JSU have already announced travel can resume Fall 2022.

Dr. Cain discussed the Study Abroad Handbook and said he will provide the committee with copies before our next meeting. The Handbook has already been approved by Shared Governance.

Dr. Cain suggested this is a resource we can provide students after a trip has been decided upon, not necessarily in an interest meeting.

Dr. Cain is in the process of updating the International Programs website and is adding minutes from this committee to the website. Minutes have not been posted since 2014.

Dr. Hall provided an update on a new faculty collaboration program. She said it is very informative and she encouraged others to take advantage of this program. The Office of International Affairs has partnered with the nonprofit organization Gazelle International to connect UNA faculty with faculty from the University of Lorraine in France. This is a COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) partnership, but Gazelle International uses the term CLICK (Collaborative Learning for International Capabilities and Knowledge).

Announcements:

International Education Week is November 15-19, 2021

Passport to the World

Thursday, Nov. 18

5 – 7 p.m.

An Education Abroad Lunch & Learn

Wednesday, Nov. 17

12 – 1 pm

GUC Loft

Attendees are encouraged to bring lunch and learn from experienced panelists who will share best practices, strategies, and encouragement for creating meaningful education abroad programs. Staff members are particularly encouraged to attend as UNA's Education Abroad program seeks to expand participation to all members of UNA's campus community.

4:27 pm Adjourned

