

Task Force on Global Education
Faculty Subcommittee
March 11th, 2008

Present: Karen Plager, Harvey Charles, Pete Fulé, Tom DeStefano, David Schlosberg, Sara Sullivan

Absent: Eck Doerry

Harvey Charles began the meeting by stating that the committee's first order of business is to choose a chair of the committee. Karen Plager volunteered. Harvey then passed out agenda items that originated from the power point presentation he gave at the first task force meeting. He added that the objective of the faculty subcommittee is to make recommendations to the task force. These recommendations come from looking at transforming NAU into a global campus from a faculty point of view. He then asked for additional thoughts or ideas. The first issue the group addressed was international research and teaching activities. Harvey said that if faculty are expected to infuse global perspectives into their courses then they should have global experiences themselves. On March 7th, Harvey gave a workshop on the opportunities for faculty within the Fulbright program. In addition, the Center for International Education (CIE) works with the Universities Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) program and they have teaching abroad opportunities. USAC provides a small stipend with this opportunity. Also, there are lecturing opportunities in China through the CIE.

David Schlosberg said that these opportunities are great but the issue is getting the word out that these opportunities exist. There is currently not enough support for international research. He suggested creating financial resources for faculty doing international research. In addition, he mentioned that international conferences are expensive. Perhaps there could be financial resources devoted to helping faculty go to international conferences. Harvey said that suggestions with a price tag are appropriate. The Infrastructure and Advancement Subcommittee is working on finding resources (\$). Harvey also mentioned that the CIE is currently working on establishing alumni chapters in Malaysia. These chapters could possibly help with funding.

Tom DeStefano asked if the USAC opportunity can be used in a non-sabbatical year and if faculty could still be paid their salary. Harvey said he would look into it, and he thought that this opportunity would work best in a sabbatical year. He did not think that there would be more compensation other than the USAC stipend. Tom then asked about faculty exchanges. Harvey said that faculty exchanges work differently than student exchanges. With faculty exchanges, the exchange depends on the initiative of the NAU faculty. However, he also mentioned that some of the structure of faculty exchanges is built into the Memos of Understanding (MOU) that we have with other universities abroad. David mentioned that most faculty do not know about this structure. Faculty are under the impression that they have to do all the work themselves to be able to teach or do research abroad. Karen suggested that we find a way to educate faculty about these opportunities. Harvey said that as the CIE continues to reorganize, we hopefully will be

able to improve our website to make these opportunities better known. In addition, the CIE is putting out a newsletter and that will add to the exposure of these opportunities. Karen also mentioned that there are opportunities in the School for Field Studies. There is a professor in Kenya that is interested in coming to NAU to look into comparing the use of healing plants in Navajo and African cultures.

Tom also mentioned that other universities have overseas campuses. He asked if NAU had had any discussions about this idea. Harvey said that there was not anything explicitly discussed. There are various models of overseas campuses, but these invariably require a great deal of resources.

David said that another way to get faculty involved is through summer programs. Faculty could teach classes during the summer including field trips and guest lecturing. Karen also mentioned that the University of Virginia has a floating campus. Students take classes aboard a ship and the ship stops in various places. He spoke of faculty led short term programs. The CIE is working to increase the number of faculty led programs. Harvey also mentioned that faculty could get some funding for exploratory work when starting a faculty led program. Tom mentioned that sometimes the cost for these programs is high because students have to pay NAU tuition in addition to program fees. Harvey said that the tuition is an institutional requirement and we cannot get around this requirement. However the Infrastructure/Advancement Subcommittee is working towards trying to find a funding mechanism. He asked the group if they recommend having a development officer within the CIE. Karen said that it did make sense to have such a position within the CIE. As international programs grow and we have alumni from these programs, we might be able to tap into these resources. She said that W.A. Franke is a good example. He is an alumnus of the business school and he decided to give money to support this school. Harvey said that Shelley Silbet is going to work on setting up a database of Study Abroad alumni to try to tap these resources. For many people, studying abroad is a transformative experience, and alumni might be more likely to give because of these experiences. David suggested we put some information on our website on the process of setting up a faculty led program. Harvey agreed and also said the CIE will also continue to do workshops.

Harvey said that it takes a lot of time for faculty to participate in international activities and there is currently no reward structure for these efforts. Sometimes chairs of departments will discourage these efforts because they see them as an obstacle to tenure for junior faculty. It was noted that there is nothing stated in the Conditions of Faculty Service (COFS) about international work. If global education is one of the university's strategic goals, then perhaps this idea can be incorporated into faculty member's annual review. For this to happen, this initiative will need to go to the Faculty Senate.

David suggested that we put interested faculty in touch with other faculty members with international expertise. Harvey said that once we are done with the departmental audit, we will organize the information and display the information on the CIE website. David also suggested a brown bag lunch series to get the word out. Pete then asked if the group knew if there was a state wide commitment to these initiatives. Harvey said that currently

there is no statewide commitment. He also mentioned that NAU is in a good position to transition into a global campus. Other schools that are more research focused don't always have the resources to pull something like this off. Harvey also mentioned that in terms of faculty hiring, it would be great to hire faculty already committed to global education. Tom also mentioned that if globalization is written into the strategic plans of the department, it might be easier to accomplish more of these goals.

The group decided to reconvene the second week in April.