To be received and placed on file:

The committee has met twice up to the present; a third meeting is planned before the end of the academic year.

The committee’s work has been largely devoted to consultation and discussion concerning the Education Abroad Program. Discussions have included issues in relation to both universitywide EAP program development and academic standards, and the local administration of the program at UCR, including such issues as student recruitment, academic preparation, orientation, and behavioral issues while abroad.

More specifically, the committee has discussed the problems presented by articulation of coursework completed abroad with major requirements in various disciplines at UCR; this discussion will be continued during the committee’s final meeting. In relation to current expansion of EAP in response to Tidal Wave II, which includes the development of short-term programs meant to attract younger students who might complete graduation requirement coursework abroad, the committee has taken a strong position in opposition to lowering current minimum GPA requirements in order to attract more students. The EAP should continue to be a rigorous, UC-quality, program of study which attracts students with high academic achievement.

In its annual meeting with Vice Chancellor Azzaretto, the committee discussed UCR’s current and prospective partnerships with universities abroad. Several subjects were discussed, concerning faculty and student exchanges between UCR and our partner institutions; University Extension’s development of an international village, and the possibilities for intermingling UCR and visiting foreign students in that environment to promote language learning and cultural understanding; and the projected development of cooperative graduate degrees between UCR and partner institutions. Considerable discussion was devoted to the importance of developing funding sources if student exchanges are to be maintained and developed with UCR’s partner institutions.

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