Committee on International Education  
Annual Report to the Riverside Division  
May 23, 2002

To be received and placed on file:

The committee has been meeting once each quarter with additional communication via email.

The committee’s work for 2001-02 was dramatically refocused following the terrorist attacks of 11th September. The committee ensured that appropriate support and guidance was available to UCR’s community of international students and scholars. The committee has also been informed of measures taken by UCEAP to protect UC students enrolled in EAP. The committee is very much aware of the University of California’s high profile in international education both as a host and as a provider of opportunities for study abroad. It has received regular updates on developing legislation governing international exchange; committee members have discussed the emerging student tracking system (SEVIS), federal agency investigations, and the Patriot Act, along with other executive and legislative initiatives.

UCR’s International Services Center has been actively involved in drafting systemwide and national responses favorable to the maintenance of academic freedom, along with the responsible maintenance of UCR’s ability to host ‘J’ visa scholars and to enroll ‘F’ and ‘J’ visa students. The International Services Center, led by Diane Elton, has addressed with astuteness and sensitivity the potential vulnerability and anxiety of UC students as well as of international students and scholars. The committee wishes to commend Director Elton and her staff for their exemplary response to the situation.

Mirroring national and systemwide trends, UCR has experienced neither a dramatic departure of international scholars and degree seeking students nor a downturn of interest in the Education Abroad Program. Such enrollments will be watched closely for the next academic year.

The committee’s work has otherwise been focused for the most part on issues relating to the ongoing growth and evolution of the Education Abroad Program. The committee has been working with departments throughout the campus to update departmental catalog copy describing and endorsing EAP. The committee is now approaching departments that have not in the past included material on EAP to discuss the possibility of adding such material on EAP to discuss the possibility of adding such material to their catalog copy. In some departments the designated tracks for majors leave little room for participation in a yearlong program abroad, but the committee hopes that it may be more practicable for students in such majors to consider EAP as an option now that there are so many summer programs available.

The committee is also addressing the ongoing challenges posed by articulation of coursework completed abroad with requirements at UCR. As systemwide enrollment in EAP increases steadily, UOEAP has become increasingly eager to facilitate articulation and is developing a website designed to assist both students and faculty involved in that process. With growing enrollment, the argument for pre-approving courses becomes stronger and stronger. The committee is working with the International Services Center, colleagues across the campus, and UOEAP to develop strategies for pre-approval.

The committee is investigating the possibility of establishing college and departmental liaisons to work with UCR’s EAP Director.

The committee plans to meet later this quarter with Vice Chancellor Azzaretto to discuss International Education programs at UCR distinct from EAP.

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