

Date: May 7, 2008

To: Cal Poly Academic Senate

From: John Battenburg  
Faculty Representative to the ACIP

Topic: 2007-08 Year-End Report of the Academic Council on International Programs

The CSU Faculty Representative to the Academic Council on International Programs (ACIP) is responsible for assisting the Office of International Programs in developing policies for international education, selecting and advising students applying to study abroad, and acting as a liaison between faculty, students, and administrators. As in previous years, I have been involved in the following activities: conducting interviews (with faculty, staff, and alumni committee members) and writing evaluations for students who have applied to International Programs, serving on international scholarship award committees, establishing policies for creating new programs or suspending existing programs, advising resident director applicants, and meeting with Cal Poly International Education and Programs staff about selection and orientation for students and faculty.

Various issues dealing with the ACIP are reported on below:

#### CSU IP Enrollment

- A total of 550 CSU students were selected out of 727 applicants to study in CSU IP for 2008-09.
- A total of 66 Cal Poly students were selected out of 80 applicants to study in CSU IP for 2008-09. Only one additional student is applying to study in Australia which is on the southern hemisphere calendar.

A reduction in enrollment in CSU IP has been required due to budget limitations. The most significant change for Cal Poly is that the Denmark Program has been reduced from 42 students in 2007-08 to 31 students in 2008-09. Most enrolled in the Denmark Program are Architecture students from Cal Poly. The reduction in enrollment in Denmark is accompanied by an increase in enrollment for Architecture students from Cal Poly to the Italy Program. Additional enrollment reductions were required with the Australia, Mexico, New Zealand, and United Kingdom Programs.

#### Budget

The decline of the U.S. dollar, increased costs of study abroad programs, and proposed budget cuts in the CSU continue to put IP in an untenable financial situation. Although a projected deficit of approximately \$1.5 million would have resulted if the same level of funding and enrollment were continued into 2008-09, IP was able to balance the budget with additional funding and a reduction in enrollment numbers.

The Student Fee Committee of the Academic Council on International Education voted in the fall 2007 meeting to establish a new \$500 study abroad fee for all IP participants and a new \$45 technology fee for all Florence, Italy participants. In addition, in spring 2008 the Office of the

Chancellor allocated \$1 million to offset costs for 2008-09. This funding from the Chancellor is not guaranteed in the future.

#### Wang Scholarship Recipients and Italy Resident Directorship

Although Cal Poly had one faculty member apply to be a Resident Director, this individual was not selected. No applicants for the Wang Scholarship were from Cal Poly this year. In past years, various Cal Poly faculty have been awarded CSU IP Resident Directorships and Wang Scholarships. The new ACIP representative will be requested to continue to work on promoting these international education opportunities.

#### Status of CSU International Programs

Considerable attention has been paid to international education within the CSU during the 2007-08 academic year. The International Planning Group Report, submitted to Vice Chancellor Reichard, made recommendations concerning internationalization in five areas: curriculum, international students, study abroad, faculty, and international partnerships. The section on study abroad affirmed the work of IP and argued for additional resources and attention paid to international education throughout the CSU. The Access to Excellent Strategic Planning Process also prominently considered international education and made “enhancing opportunities for global awareness” one of eight areas necessary for CSU commitment.

Cal Poly continues to play a very important role in CSU IP with one of the highest enrollments of the 23 CSU campuses. With budget constraints facing IP, it is essential that Cal Poly continue to have an effective advocate on the ACIP. I have been honored to serve on the ACIP for the past six years and remain confident that study abroad through CSU IP is one of the most effective ways for Cal Poly students to pursue international education.