

**Provost's Advisory Council
Summary of April 30, 2015 Meeting**

Can Erbil (Chair)	Judith Tracy	Thomas Wall
Min Song	Lillie Albert	John Rakestraw
Anthony Annunziato	Laura O'Dwyer	Siobhan Kelly
Susan Michalczyk	Catherine Mooney	Dean Rockwell
James Gips	Theresa O'Keefe	David Quigley
Samuel Graves	Daniel Chambers	Patricia DeLeeuw
Devin Pendas	Joseph Jiang, S.J.	Joseph Carroll
Marie Boltz	Rev. James Burns	J. Joseph Burns
Danny Willis	Vincent Rougeau	Jessica Pesce
Betty Blythe	Gregory Kalscheur, S.J.	

1. The summary of the March 26, 2015 meeting was approved. It will be sent to the President's Office. All summaries are posted on the Provost's Office website; members are encouraged to share them with colleagues.
2. Update on the Office of International Programs—Nick Gozik, Director

Nick joined the group to give an update on OIP. Now 50% of students go abroad for service, internships, and study abroad periods. Nick joined the office three years ago, and he sees many opportunities for moving these programs forward. He first spoke about the office's mission statement and the perception on campus that OIP only runs study abroad trips. However, they facilitate many more programs, such as faculty seminars in other countries.

Each year, OIP sends 1,100 students abroad, and 2,000 students come through their office for advising. OIP also collaborates with departments and schools on International Education Week. They also work with the McGillicuddy-Logue Center for Undergraduate Global Studies, which was founded in 2008, to run a global service and justice program and to disseminate over 100 grants per year for international study.

Nick is working on strategic initiatives for OIP. The focus for his first few years in the office has been emphasizing quality over quantity; other universities are under pressure to send more students abroad, but BC has always sent a large percentage of students abroad. He was also focused on sending abroad more students from underserved areas (first generation, AHANA, science majors, etc.). To ensure quality, OIP has an assessment working group that helps examine the programs and what students are getting out of them. Nick is also working to develop a deeper reflective component to study abroad. Over the past few years, OIP has developed Outpost, a midyear retreat for students studying abroad in Europe. He has also used a grant to develop a program for students to gain 2 credits if they are abroad but suffering from credit deficiencies.

Overall, OIP is working more with faculty and summer programs than ever before. This February they plan a mini-conference for faculty about intercultural competence. Nick's next

initiative is to develop new and innovative programming, especially by reaching out to the natural sciences, computer sciences, and professional schools. In his first years at BC, OIP created working groups to focus on populations like athletes and AHANA students; as result, they redeveloped programs in Turkey and India based on the feedback they heard. Next, Nick wants to expand practical learning opportunities through summer internship programs in Dublin, Paris, and Madrid, and then in Singapore, Hong Kong, and Latin America. Finally, he wants OIP to be a resource on campus and contribute to international discussions by hosting publications, conferences, Boston area study abroad advisors meetings, etc.

Participation in academic year programs has grown to 900+ students in 2015, up from 200+ students in 1993. The most growth has come in the summer programs; this year 309 students will take part in 28 programs.

Nick has now restructured the OIP staff into 2 teams: operations & finance, and education abroad. A new electronic application system has been a challenge.

A Council member noted that the credit issue is difficult, especially for Nursing students, who cannot afford to go abroad during the school year because they will miss important classes. The summer programs help give the CSON students opportunities to go abroad, but many of them have to stay home working for the summer and cannot get funding. She wishes the funding of the McGillicuddy-Logue Center and other grants could be expanded. Another Council member said that the GPA minimum was hard for some students to meet due to varied levels of academic preparation in high school. Some students have a difficult first year at BC, which can make their GPA too low to be admitted to study abroad programs during their sophomore years. Nick said OIP is looking at changing the minimum GPA from 3.2 to 3.0. Some students were receiving special permission to go abroad if they had low GPAs, but only a few students knew that was an option, and this was not fair to all students.

OIP has combined the processes for the McGillicuddy-Logue and AHANA grants so that decisions are released at the same time. Students may still need to apply for multiple sources of funding, but this way they will have a full picture of their funding at once. Nick is also looking to give fewer students more money, instead of a little money to many.

There were some questions about which courses are pre-approved. Nick agreed that the system could be better, as now some courses are approved on a case-by-case basis, which is detrimental to students' planning. Ideally, there would be a course approval database that would contain all pre-approved courses. CSOM faculty noted that they receive specific questions about what courses count for their majors as well as BC-wide.

A Council member asked about non-European destinations, since currently most students go to Europe. Nick said Ecuador is a popular program at BC because it has a service component. South Africa is also growing in popularity. Summer programs are more varied; recently programs in Turkey and Kuwait were very popular. OIP is aiming to add programs in strategically important places like India, China, the Middle East, and Hong Kong.

A student Council member added that it would be helpful to find out what courses students will be taking while abroad sooner rather than later, as that could help in getting approval. Some students do not know the courses they will be enrolled in until right before they leave, and they receive the syllabus after they arrive. This makes it too difficult for them to get the courses approved by BC in advance. Nick agreed that this was a source of anxiety for students. Instead of using provider programs, OIP uses a direct immersion model where students are sent directly to the host university. Many of these universities do not post courses and syllabi in advance. However, most of the universities teach the same courses each spring and fall, so OIP can help students predict what courses and credits to expect.

David Quigley asked Nick about his future plans for faculty seminars abroad. OIP has been working more with faculty to design programs. The first faculty seminar will take place in June; 8 faculty members will spend 10 days in Turkey with speakers and meetings at a host institution. The expectation is that these faculty will integrate something from this trip into their courses or research interests. In the future, Nick hopes to hold similar programs in Chile and the Gulf region in order to talk about politics and environmental concerns. He'd like to target mid-career faculty who would be energized to continue working with study abroad programs.

3. Update on the Office of Event Management—Jason McClellan, Director

Jason provided an overview of the operational efficiency study several years ago that led to the consolidation of various groups across campus with responsibility for conference and event planning. The goal was to create an office to be a one-stop-shop for anyone planning an event on campus, to coordinate space, parking, police, A/V, facilities, etc. In the next academic year, a new fee will be levied for administrative costs, which will be 20% of an invoice's subtotal. There will also be room rental fees for spaces his office books. Groups external to BC will have to pay room and outdoor rental fees, which will help cover the cost of maintaining these spaces. For internal groups, the event rental fee will be discounted by 75%. The Budget Office has put additional funds into each area's budget at the VP level to help cover these fees. All student groups will be waived from the room rental and administrative fees.

Council members from CSOM asked about what happens when recruiters come to campus. Jason said that the administrative fee will apply, but he hopes to waive room fees for any employment recruiting groups. There will be no fee if the meeting is in a classroom or if they are not ordering catering or another BC service. Other departments asked about small events or small conferences that they have typically managed at the department level. Jason said if the event is being covered by a departmental budget, then it would be considered an internal event, so the only requirement would be to let his office know that it is happening to coordinate parking, facilities, etc.

Most of the impact of these new charges will be on the Career Center and Alumni Association, who both host numerous events on campus. Another Council member asked about Higgins, where many events are held; he said it would be helpful to have ground rules for people holding events there, especially in the summer, since there are areas like labs that

people should not be wandering into. Jason said that they are trying to work on this for external groups.

Another Council member said it would be helpful to have definitions of internal versus external event. Jason said this is determined by how the event is funded. It is internal if it is a BC department budget. If it is funded with external money, it is an external event. For external organizations, the office will also look at whether it is a tax exempt group. A Council member said that there are many events with mixed funding; some cross offices or universities, and other events have participants paying registration fees. Jason said that there will also be an “affiliate” category for non-BC Jesuit institutions who will receive an automatic discount. Additionally, if an event is funded by an external grant, the chart string would be internal, and it would therefore count as an internal event. David Quigley noted that a primary target for this change in fee structure is summer events that help bring in revenue.

4. Provost’s Report

John Rakestraw introduced Excellence in Teaching Day, formerly e-Teaching Day which will be May 13. It will be a full-day event with a morning plenary session featuring two well-known scholars, Michael Wesch and Sylvia Bunge. After lunch, there will be a set of concurrent workshops from which to choose. It will be an all-day event, or people can stop in for part of the day. It will end with a reception at 3 pm. In the past year, John has worked with several groups on campus to offer events in the new CTE. They continued running the Apprenticeship in College Teaching program, which enrolled 130 graduate students this year.

David Quigley reported that the Quality of Student Life Committee asked for clocks to be installed in all classrooms. Most students do not wear watches, and in many classes they are not allowed to have phones out. It will be important to keep the clocks current and to place them discreetly in each room. Please let David know if you have any suggestions/objections.

David Quigley also reported that there will be a record number of new faculty hires for AY 2015-16, approximately 60 new faculty. We should be sure to welcome these people to campus, not just in the fall, but over the next few years.

Commencement will take place on May 17 and 18. The Provost’s Office urges faculty to attend. Please encourage your colleagues to join us. On the 18th there will be a celebration for all faculty starting at 1 pm on the Connolly House lawn.

A major effort for the next 3 semesters will be our NEASC re-accreditation, culminating in spring 2017.

Reminder: classes at BC begin before Labor Day this fall. Most classes begin Monday, August 31.

David Quigley said it has been a pleasure working with Can Erbil as PAC chair this year. Pat DeLeeuw said that the tradition is to elect a new faculty chair by email every spring. Faculty can nominate themselves or someone else from the list she will send. Then an election will be

conducted by email at the end of May. David said we will continue to meet in the same space in Fulton for next year, but please let him know if you would prefer to change the time of the meetings.

David Quigley and Pat DeLeeuw thanked those faculty whose terms on the PAC are expiring: Cy Opeil, Tony Annunziato, Jim Bretzke, Theresa O'Keefe, Danny Willis, Jim Gips, and Betty Blythe. Joining the PAC for next year will be: Judy Clair, Bill Kane, Bill Fehder, and Marcie Pitt-Catsoupes. Rejoining the PAC for another term will be: Tony Annunziato, Marie Boltz, Jim Bretzke, Theresa O'Keefe.