

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
Faculty Senate Action
Presented for Administrative Approval

Senate Action 1-13/14

Academic Year 2013/2014

Subject of Action: Senate Action to Establish a Permanent Study Abroad Advisory Committee (SAAC)

Adopted by Senate: Approved by Faculty Senate in its May 9, 2013, Senate meeting

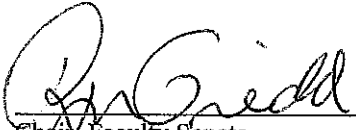
Twenty-day challenge period began on May 17, 2013, and ended on June 7, 2013.

Challenged

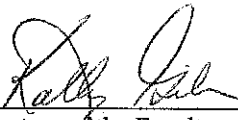
If challenged, results of challenge:

For Challenge (to rescind action) (# of votes)


Against Challenge (to sustain action) (# of votes)



Chair, Faculty Senate



Secretary of the Faculty



Provost

Approved Disapproved

6/11/13
Date

Comments:

This material should be forwarded to the University's President by:

June 20, 2013



President, Missouri State University

Approved Disapproved

6/17/13
Date

Comments:

This material should be returned to the Senate Office no later than:

July 11, 2013

unless an extension of 60 days is requested. The final decision on this action should be communicated to the Faculty Senate Chair within ten (10) calendar days after the time extension has expired.

Senate Action to Establish a Permanent Study Abroad Advisory Committee (SAAC)

Whereas the responsibility for dealing with curricular matters is assigned to the faculty by the Board of Governors (ART VI SEC 1); and

Whereas the Study Abroad office and the University in general currently lacks a formal avenue to solicit and receive faculty advice on issues ranging from study away curriculum to the quality of existing study away programs or proposed study away programs; and

Whereas the University has dedicated funds for both exploratory study away travel and awards for excellence in study away programs but lacks an enduring process for determining who should be awarded these funds; and

Whereas fellow faculty members, especially those who have run study away programs in the past, are best placed to evaluate the academic quality of both existing and proposed study away programs; and

Whereas the University has projected an increase in study away participation, establishing a long-range goal of 450 Study Away students by 2016.

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate resolves to establish a standing Senate committee, the *Study Away Advisory Committee*, structured as follows:

(I) Study Away Advisory Committee

(A) Purpose

- (1) Shall meet on a regular basis (as determined necessary by committee members and the Study Abroad office) to award exploratory travel away funds to faculty who have completed all application requirements for such.
- (2) Shall meet on a regular basis (as determined necessary by committee members and the Study Abroad office) to determine the winners of the annual Award for Excellence in Study Away Programming.
- (3) Shall serve as an advisory committee to the director of the Study Abroad Office.
- (4) Shall serve as an advisory resource for faculty, department heads and deans who wish to consult the committee regarding their own study abroad programs.

(B) Membership

(1) The Study Abroad Advisory Committee shall be composed of seven (7) full-time faculty members from different colleges of the University, appointed by the chairperson of the Faculty Senate (or their designee), and the Director of the Study Abroad Office, who will serve as *ex officio* member without vote. A majority of the faculty members on the committee will have had experience leading a study away trip in the past. Members will serve for a term of three (3) years and may be reappointed for one succeeding term. Members will serve staggered three-year terms, so that one-third of the membership shall be replaced each year. The chairperson of the Faculty Senate shall appoint the chairperson of the committee.

Rationale

1. Seven committee members from different colleges of the University strikes a balance between representing the university community as a whole, ensuring a diversity of expertise and opinion, and keeping the committee small enough to function more efficiently.
2. Appointment of members is consistent with how membership is determined on several other standing committees (e.g. rules, academic relations).
3. The relationship between the committee and the Study Abroad Director as established here is most similar to the relationship that exists between the Committee on Citizenship and Service Learning and the Director of the CASL program, as well as the Honors Committee and the Dean of the Honors College; both committees provide advice and council when needed and represent different colleges of the university.
4. The structure proposed allows the relationship between the committee, the Study Abroad Program Director and other members of the university to evolve naturally as unforeseen needs arise, without adding another layer of bureaucracy to impede the growth of study abroad programs.
5. Exploratory travel funds and merit awards for faculty leading study abroad programs will be judged and determined by their peers.