



**Finance Committee Minutes
Student Center, PDR, Room SC 203, November 4, 2015**

Attendees: R. Correia-Branco, T. Gorczyca, E. Hayes-Johnson, S. Lancaster, P. Machado, A. Morse, L. Nadeau, R. Silva, W. Zannini, J. Zubrow, L. Buckley

Guests: M. Yeager, B. Stachniewicz

Chair Andy Morse called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. The Oct. 21th and Nov. 4th minutes will be reviewed.

Study Year Abroad

Marcy Yeager and Barbara Stachniewicz answered many questions regarding Study Year Abroad, including the following:

- Given how much the department budgets have been reduced, and the lack of funding for professional development, is the college allocating special funding for international studies?
- Are the students being charged a fee for the faculty to accompany them on these studies?

International studies used to be just study abroad, but, as of last year, Marcy's role, as administrator for international programs, is to also find opportunities for faculty and staff to travel internationally and to develop an international program on campus that can serve all students, faculty, and staff. One way they are attempting to do this is by working with Achieving the Dream and building from core academic skills.

Achieving the Dream coaches have in the past suggested the use of "One Book, One Campus"; however NECC is focusing on the Development of a "One Book/One Geographic Region" to be broader in many disciplines. This poses the questions of how does this impact every division and how can we serve the engineering and health professions.

It was noted that we need to collectively pool resources, bring in better speakers, foster academic skills, and provide an opportunity for every discipline to use "A Place in the World" in the faculty's course of study. That is the purpose of employing a graduate student in the international studies office this year.

There has been a significant increase in students studying abroad. The growth of the program is proportional to the growth of the budget. The college has applied, and will again, in hope of receiving a Title VI grant that will provide \$250,000.

The International studies program runs on 2 budgets – the state budget and the Enterprise Account. The Enterprise Account is a rolling account not state funded. All student travel operates from the enterprise account. Students were charged a fee in the past, but now we are not comfortable doing this. Students are paying only for the total travel costs for the trips. We have a travel insurance policy for all students, which comes out of the Enterprise Account. This account is primarily for emergencies and to use when faculty has to design a new program.

Topics for Bill Heineman at the next meeting:

- Overall plan for classroom assignment in Lawrence (Riverwalk and Amesbury St.)
- How to attract international students
- In-state travel reimbursement for faculty traveling between Lawrence and Haverhill
- Shrinking department budgets
- Partnerships with other schools - how are decisions made regarding who teaches these courses
- Status of college programs in prisons
- Full-time faculty positions; replacement of lost positions; status of Dean of Students position