

UNIVERSITY SENATE ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Name: International Education Council 2017-2018

Number of Meetings Held this Year: 4

Committee Chair: Diana Nicolae, Sharon An (Co-Chair)

Committee Members: (list here)

Diana Nicolae	Sharon An	Nina Krey
Allison Carter	Xiao Hu	Edward Smith
Carmelo Callueng	Harriet Benavidez	Qian Anne Sun
AiGuo Han	Bruce Whitham	Yupeng Li

Purpose of/Charge to Committee:

Improves the internationalization of Rowan University; plans and presents programs related to education in all countries; recommends practices and policies that will enhance the internationalization at Rowan; and assists in the development and establishment of such practices and policies.

Summary of Activities this Year:

The committee held four workshops this year, designed to build a foundational knowledge of current international resources at Rowan to drive research agenda and recommendations for future years.

Committee met with stakeholders from across the university, including representatives and leaders from the Education Abroad Office, International Center, International Studies Department, and Recruitment & Admissions. Extensive notes from each session were captured and disseminated on IEC shared drive for evaluation and follow-ups.

In addition, the council performed an audit of all the multicultural/global courses offered at the university, and looked for additional courses in the RTF, Advertising and PR (CCCA) that might have international content and posted in the Google folder shared with the Council.

One of the key insights from these sessions was the lack of visibility to international-themed events and opportunities. The IEC conducted outreach to each of the colleges, securing a contact list that could be utilized to cascade events to relevant students and faculty.

Began developing ways of working and protocol for partnering with the International Center and other departments.

SUGGESTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

SUGGESTIONS:

There is a clear lack of visibility towards achieving the stated goal of increased internationalization of Rowan, driven in large part by limited resources devoted to this endeavor, lack of communication between the internationally-focused offices and the various departments on campus, and a limited amount of current students (1% of current student population are F-1 students). Clear investment in resources and a formal communications protocol are key first steps to build this infrastructure for future growth.

Clarity on a realistic vision for internationalization will be key to developing tangible actions to achieve those milestones.

Cross-pollination of the various international committees will also help foster collaboration across the departments tasked with similar objectives.

However, much more information is needed to understand the true barriers to internationalization at Rowan, and what are the avenues that could be taken to overcome those barriers.

Further information available at:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/0B5IUMbg3zdKzV1BrUXZDZG4xTG8>

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Field a student survey in coordination with International Center to understand: ·

- Identify obstacles for students to participate in education abroad programs
 - Why is the participation rate so low?
- Measure student awareness of current scholarships offered in conjunction with education abroad programs

Field a survey of current international students to understand needs and concern; suggestions for improvement.

Field a faculty survey regarding education abroad opportunities:

- Perception of support offered to faculty members
- Interest of faculty members across different programs, countries, length, etc.
- What are obstacles that prevent faculty members to lead education programs?

Develop formal communications protocol for International Center and International Studies departments to advertise events that will promote international exposure.

Explore the development of resources, in coordination with International Center, to: (1) organize and promote internationally-focused events, including international fairs/showcases, culinary exchanges, speakers, concerts/films, etc. (2) provide faculty incentives and student scholarships to encourage more international abroad trips.