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MEMORANDUM

Date: April 10, 2014

To: Administrative Boards of the College of Arts and Sciences From: Abigail Panter, Chair, Study Abroad Advisory Board

RE: Review of Fall 2013 Proposals

Members of the Study Abroad Advisory Board for 2013-2014 are:

Janice Bardsley (Asian Studies)

Anthony Hackney (Exercise and Sports Science; Nutrition; Cell and Molecular Physiology)

Richard Langston (Germanic and Slavic Languages)

Abigail Panter, SAAB Chair (Psychology)

Milada Vachudova (Political Science, Adj. Global Studies)

Marcey Waters (Chemistry)

Jonathan Weiler (Global Studies)

Elaine Yeh (Biology)

Jonathan Hartlyn, *ex officio* Senior Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences) James Leloudis, *ex officio* (History and Honors) Robert Miles, *ex officio* (Study Abroad)

The Study Abroad Advisory Board reviewed four proposals this spring (March 31, 2014). We recommend the four proposals for your consideration and approval.

1. Burch Seminar in London and Florence: Musical Perspectives. The students in the Burch Seminar will spend the fall semester of 2015 in two major cultural centers, London, England and Florence, Italy. The 14-week course, led by Professors Donald Oehler and John Nádas (Department of Music), will begin in London with a travel break, after approximately seven weeks of classes, for the move to Florence. Significant to this program will be the opportunity to experience first-hand and take full advantage of the multi-cultural activities in these two important metropolitan centers, bringing enrichment, meaning and a sense of reality to their studies in music history, style and performance. Each course will take full advantage of all that the London and Florence scenes offer in music and will integrate the cities' personalities and appropriate artistic programming into all course offerings. The academic courses will cover the complete range of musical experiences, both for performers and students of music history, and the consumer of the serious art music. Small ensembles (chamber Music) in intimate settings, solo performances and recitals, larger orchestra repertoire heard live, and dramatic opera settings all will be available to augment and enhance the study and understanding of musical composition, history and performance. Students will be able to take advantage of the close proximity of adjunct faculty in performance through private lessons, visiting lectures, and coaching sessions in chamber music. Studying with instructors of diverse international training, expectations and style will allow the student to reflect on their own training, preparation and past musical experiences, an exercise in self-evaluation of which the value cannot be over emphasized. Additionally, the program will offer limited but important opportunities to present public performances in both London and Florence, fusing their performance skills, knowledge of repertoire and understanding of style from their academic studies.

- **2. Spanish for the Professions, Business Track, Summer Program in Sevilla, Spain.** This proposal, sponsored by the Office of Study Abroad and the Department of Romance Languages, offers a caculty-led summer program in Sevilla, Spain. The program, which would start in Summer 2015, will allow students to complete their minor in Spanish for the Professions Business track (10 weeks and 12 UNC credits). There is a very high demand for this minor in the ROML Department. A summer program for the Health track already exists in Costa Rica and is very successful. Many opportunities are available for lecturers, visits, and projects in Sevilla. There is already an excellent working partnership with our Center, which hosts other UNC semester and summer programs.
- 3. Exchange Agreement with Bocconi University, Milan, Italy. Bocconi University is primarily a school of Economics; there is already an exchange agreement in place with the Kenan Flagler Business School. This new agreement would allow the exchange of students with the Department of Economics in the School of Arts and Sciences. Exchanges would start Spring 2015. UNC-CH economic majors and minors with an average grade point average of 3.2 or higher will enroll in regular university courses, most offered in English. Students with fluency in Italian have access to the regular curriculum taught in Italian. Students without this fluency will be required to take an Italian language course (not for academic credit). Students will take a minimum of four university courses in economics and business for credit and will be enrolled in 12-15 credits per semester. The program is available for one semester or one academic year. The agreement allows for 2-3 semester students per year.
- 4. Course Correspondent Proposal. Faculty from UNC-CH language departments proposed an initiative in which students enrolled in UNC programs abroad collaborate with students in classes on the UNC campus. The UNC student abroad functions like a news correspondent, "filing periodic reports" on the sites, language, culture, or events particular to the country in which s/he is studying. These reports will be integrated into the curriculum of existing language courses at the intermediate and advanced levels. The course correspondent's activities and assignments are pre-arranged, supervised, and approved by a UNC-Chapel Hill faculty member, who will use the correspondent's reports to supplement and enrich instruction in the course s/he is teaching during that semester. The proposal builds on a successful three-semester pilot project undertaken by a group of UNC instructors in Fall 2011- Fall 2012, with the collaboration of students studying abroad with UNC in Seville, Spain. These instructors taught intermediate Spanish language, conversation and culture courses. The program, formalized through a P/F one-credit hour course, IDST 296, will broaden the cultural understanding and appreciation of students abroad by encouraging them to explore local culture more deeply through their roles as the "eyes and ears on the ground" of our students in Chapel Hill. Students in Chapel Hill will in turn have direct exposure to a tangible understanding of the foreign language and culture under study as well as increase their awareness of the benefits of study abroad. Beyond exposing students in Chapel Hill to a variety of authentic language samples, they will connect with the host community through the correspondents by asking questions about and making specific requests on topics of interest. The program will improve the language proficiency of all students involved and enrich and personalize course content so that "learning about" shifts to "experiencing."

The Study Abroad Advisory Board supports and recommends these four proposals for approval.

Abigail T. Panter, Chair Study Abroad Advisory Board Professor of Psychology