



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
CENTER FOR SLAVIC, EURASIAN & EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES

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MEMORANDUM

To: Administrative Boards of the College of Arts and Sciences
From: Robert M. Jenkins, Chair, Study Abroad Advisory Board
RE: Report on Review of Fall 2014 Proposals
Date: November 20, 2014

The Study Abroad Advisory Board (hereafter, Advisory Board) met twice during the 2014 fall semester to review several proposed study abroad and Burch Seminar programs. Additional discussion on several programs was continued through an online bulletin board reserved for Advisory Board members and email. The Advisory Board ultimately approved the six proposals detailed below and sought significant revisions from one additional proposal; the latter proposal was not revised and is not presented in this document.

Participating in these discussions were the following members of the Advisory Board:

Anthony Hackney (Exercise and Sport Science)
Jonathan Hartlyn (Political Science and Senior Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences)
Richard Langston (Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures)
Susan Pennybacker (History)
Milada Vachudova (Political Science and Curriculum in Global Studies)
Marcey Waters (Chemistry)
Elaine Yeh (Biology)
Gang Yue (Asian Studies)
Robert Jenkins, Chair (Political Science and Center for Slavic, Eurasian, & East European Studies)
James Leloudis, *ex officio* (History and Honors)
Robert Miles, *ex officio* (Study Abroad)

A summary of each proposal and the Advisory Board's opinion is given below.

1. Math in Moscow, Russia, Semester Program

This proposal reflects an on-going commitment to expand study abroad opportunities for math and science (STEM) majors. The program is based at the Independent University of Moscow (IUM), with support from the Higher School of Economics and the Moscow Center for Continuous Mathematical Education. Faculty

members in the UNC Math Department have vouched for the academic distinction of the program and its faculty, which also reflects the outstanding reputation of mathematics training and practice in Russia. In addition to math courses, students will be able to take Russian history and Russian language courses; the latter will enable them to continue Russian language study at UNC. Upon additional investigation, the Study Abroad Office learned that there are many American students studying in the program. Concerns were raised by the Advisory Board about risks associated with urban life in Moscow, particularly for minority students; the Study Abroad Office will note the nature of these challenges in advising potential students. The Advisory Board voted unanimously to support the program.

2. Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland, Student Exchange Program

This Exchange Program extends existing relationships between Queen's University, Belfast (QUB), and the UNC Departments of Dramatic Arts and History. QUB is a top university in the United Kingdom and a member of the Russell Group of leading UK research intensive institutions. The quality of the academic programs at QUB is clearly attractive. Discussion among members of the Advisory Board noted that Duke University also has connections with QUB. The Advisory Board unanimously approved the proposal.

3. National University of Singapore (NUS)-UNC Joint Bachelor of Science

This joint degree program between NUS and UNC is an outgrowth of the existing joint degree program for arts, humanities, and social sciences disciplines. The proposed Joint Bachelor of Science Degree Program will have a major in Biology. The UNC Department of Biology has worked with the Faculty of Science at NUS to develop this joint degree and has approved the proposal. While the information mapping course details between the two institutions is somewhat difficult to follow in the proposal, the Advisory Board was enthusiastic in its unanimous approval of the proposal.

4. Korea University-Seoul, Korea

The proposal to add an exchange program with Korea University, Seoul, is a response to increasing demand for study abroad opportunities in Korea. Enrollments in Korean language courses at UNC are very strong and the interest in semester study abroad is growing. The Advisory Board unanimously approved the proposed exchange program.

5. Jewish Studies Summer Program in Buenos Aires, Argentina

The proposal for the Jewish Studies Summer Program is a focused proposal on the study of Jewish culture in Buenos Aires. The program will be co-directed by two UNC faculty members with research interests and personal experience in Buenos Aires, offering courses already approved in the Department of Romance Languages.

The Carolina Center for Jewish Studies also had endorsed the proposal. UNC already has an existing relationship with the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, which will be the host institution for the summer program. The Advisory Board approved the program proposal.

6. Burch Field Research Seminar in Germany and Spain

This proposed program builds upon a similar Burch Field Research Seminar run in summer 2013 in Germany, Sweden, and Denmark. The proposed program combines an analysis of renewable energy policy in Germany and Spain with participant engagement through journalistic practices (interviews, story writing) to highlight both policy processes and local issues in the two countries. The Advisory Board sought additional clarification on several issues, including how the directors plan to highlight contrasts between countries, develop student interviewing techniques, and provide contact hours. The program directors provided additional information to answer these questions and revised the proposal appropriately. The Advisory Board unanimously approves the proposal.