

Meeting Summary for IEC Monthly Meeting

March 11, 2025, 12pm

Attendees: Jan Haldipur, Hema Ramachandran, Jeet Joshee, Sharon Olson, Eugenia Kim, Caitlin Fouratt, Alessandro Russo, Min Gu, Marine Aghekyan, Laura Gonzalez, Fangyuan Tian, Amr Morsy, Susan Shanley, Ashley Carter, Elaine Haglund.

Reports from Jeet and Eugenia:

- Jeet discussed the ongoing changes and uncertainties in the university system, particularly regarding immigration and funding. He highlighted the potential inquiries from the State Department and the need to monitor these developments closely. DHS officers may come without notice.
- Eugenia and Jeet discussed the increasing enforcement of immigration rules, focusing on compliance and potential travel restrictions. They mentioned a shift in the role of the DHS liaison from supportive to more enforcement-oriented, and the potential for stricter rules on international students' classes, including questions about the number of courses taken, the proportion of online classes, and whether they had graduated.
- They also discussed the possibility of a travel ban affecting students from certain countries.

Report from Sharon:

Summer Programs Enrollment and Faculty Participation:

- Sharon reports that the review of applications for fall and year-long study abroad programs is concluding, with healthy numbers for exchange programs and a high volume of applications for CSUIP programs. She notes a strong interest in programs in Asia, particularly those at Hongik Design School, but mentions that some popular destinations, such as Spain, are reaching capacity due to imbalances in student exchanges. Sharon explains that they are redirecting students to other partners where balance can be maintained. Regarding summer programs, she indicates that while three have been canceled due to low enrollment, many others have received

numerous applications. However, actual participation will depend on students paying deposits in the coming weeks. Overall, Sharon expresses optimism about the summer programs, with over thirty faculty members planning to go abroad.

- Sharon reported on the review of applications for fall and year-long study abroad programs, the need for additional volunteers to read ASI scholarship applications, and the timeline for student decisions.
- Amr, Laura G., Min, Christian, Ashley, and Hema volunteered to read ASI scholarships. Sharon will organize and distribute ASI scholarship applications for review to volunteers by April 7th. Currently, there are ninety-two completed applications.
- Sharon will distribute the proposal for a new partnership with the Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology in Dublin to the Education Abroad Subcommittee for review, which will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Student Decision Timeline and Exchange Issues: Sharon discussed the timeline for student decisions, aiming for the first Monday after spring break, which would be around April 7th. She also mentioned an increase in students choosing destinations with fewer previous participants, which has affected their calculations.
- Scholarship Funding Crisis: In February, an executive order froze funding for Fulbright, Gilman, and Boren scholarships. This affected long-term assignments and families, with no checks received since January. Some funds had been partially released, potentially with more to come. The Institute for International Education, which administers many of these programs, has laid off staff due to the lack of federal funding. The impact on specific programs and students is still unclear.

The meeting also covered upcoming events:

- The Global Studies Institute is hosting “Opportunities to Serve for World Peace and Development” with Duane Phan (CSULB Peace Corps recruiter), on March 26, 10:00 am, Anatol Center Patio Room, light breakfast, and coffee <https://www.csulb.edu/college-of-liberal-arts/event/opportunities-to-serve-for-world-peace-and-development>
- Caitlin to finalize RSVP link and flyer for the Curris lecture <https://www.csulb.edu/college-of-liberal-arts/event/2025-curris-lecture>
- Laura G. and Malcolm Finney (AVP Faculty Affairs) will organize a faculty “meet and greet” before the lecture to exchange information on COIL.
- We need a centralized system for the COIL program.
- Caitlin, Laura G., and Amr will continue participating in the COIL Connect Institutional Startup series throughout the spring semester.

The meeting concluded with the approval of the February 11 meeting minutes and notes.