

Senate International Affairs Committee
Report to Senate
November 22, 2010

Overview:

The SIAC committee Working groups have continued with the initiatives outlined in the May 2010 Report to Senate.

SIAC meetings were held each month of the 2009/2010 Academic Year: October, November, December, January, February, April, and May.

New Initiative:

SIAC has recommended the development of an award for faculty to recognize excellence in Internationalization. The international award has been forwarded to Senate as a notice of motion.

Continuing Priorities:

Working Group 1 – Common Terminology and Key Concepts:

The focus of this working group was to develop a Common Terminology and Key Concepts document. SIAC presented a comprehensive document to Senate which was approved at the September 27, 2010 meeting.

Working Group 2 – Expand Support and Services Available to International Students:

The focus of this working group is to develop ways to expand support and services available to international students. This will continue to be a focus of Senate International Affairs Committee, as Institutional Planning and Analysis will enhance the data collection, and TRU World will continue to pro-actively encourage International Students to participate in future NSSE surveys.

Working Group 3a – Current Opportunities, Enablers and Detractors for Study Abroad:

The foci of working group 3a is in two parts: first, to conduct an audit of current international opportunities available to students. Second, to undertake a survey to identify interests, enabler and constraints regarding student participation in study abroad opportunities.

The group has conducted the audit and will be developing a comprehensive list to assist in encouraging participation in Study Abroad opportunities.

The Sheryl Bond report: "World of Learning; Canadian Post-Secondary Students and the Study Abroad Experience" has been published. This document will form the basis of future discussions. The working group will also invite the Dean of Students and the Internationalization Expert to join the discussions.

Working Group 3b Recognition for International Experience:

This group was focussed on gaining recognition for international experiences for students. The final outcome was the development and subsequent approval of the Global Competency Credential.