A meeting of the International Studies Advisory Council was held on Tuesday December 9, 2008 at 3:00 in the Founders Hall 2740.
Present: Amy German, Barbara Amundson, Ann Marie Park, Steve Amundson, Satoshi Machida, Diana Jones, Sonja Kropp, Glenn Powell
Absent: John Damon, Frank Tenkorang, Suzanne Maughan

The committee discussed the various models of governance documents provided by Faculty Assistant to the SVCAASL. Using the Ethnic Studies document as a model, they made various minor changes and then voted unanimously to accept it. Lilly will send out a typed version to confirm these changes before sending it on to Deb Bridges for final approval.

The ISAC then discussed the draft of existing classes divided into various thematic and regional categories. After agreeing that Lilly had not provided them with the right information for their task, the committee generally also agreed that given the quantity of existing courses, it would probably be best to require students to choose BOTH a thematic and regional specialization. In that way, they would both broaden their knowledge and have enough courses to choose from. Next semester, we can continue working on this list—now understanding that no courses (even those currently required) are off limits. Once we have a working draft, we will need to take that draft to each involved department and solicit their advice and feedback. It is an excellent draft to work from and tells us a great deal already about the reality of our situation. Many thanks as always to the subcommittee that prepared it (German, Jones, Machida, B. Amundson, Park, Maughan, and Damon)!!

S. Amundson presented a report from the subcommittee on Learning Objectives. He explained that they had run into a bit of a roadblock because 1)the mission statement still seemed to be a bit in flux (due to issues over the word “globalization” and 2)questions about which College we belong to and to what extent we need to harmonize our objectives with those of that college. After much discussion (and hilarity) it was confirmed that despite some evidence to the contrary, INTS is still in the College of FAH. However, Lilly was unconvinced about the need to harmonize the Learning Objectives of INTS with those of the College since there is no evidence that any other interdisciplinary program is doing that; nor for that matter, is it entirely clear that any department is concerned with that issue. She will, however, ask and again, this project will continue next semester. Thanks also to this subcommittee (S. Amundson, Maughan, Tenkorang, Kropp, and Powell) for its work and penetrating questions!

Finally Lilly expressed (though the sentiment was likely unheard in the noise!) her extreme gratitude to this committee for its Heroism and Extraordinary Devotion to the Cause of International Studies this semester. It really should get the Award as Komitet Geroj!! (Hero Committee) I only wish I had thought to pass out little Red Stars . . . the good ideas always come to me just a little too late!
Next semester, the ISAC will meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 3:00 pm. Accordingly, the next meeting will be held on Tuesday January 27 at 3:00 hopefully again in the Academic Affairs Conference Room (to be confirmed).

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.