A meeting of the International Studies Advisory Council was held on Tuesday August 26, 2009 at 3:30 in Copeland Hall 103. Present: Amy German, Barbara Amundson, Ann Marie Park, Steve Amundson, Susan Honeyman, Will Aviles, Suzanne Maughan, Frank Tenkorang, Glenn Powell, Tone Mendoza. Absent: Sonja Kropp, Diana Jones.

Faculty Assistant to Vice Chancellor Bicak, Deb Bridges, attended the meeting in order to discuss with the Council preparations for the upcoming search for the position of the Director of International Studies Program. She requested that the Advisory Council serve as the Search committee with Tami Moore serving as Chair. Anyone on the council wishing to apply for the position should let her know by Friday Aug. 28 so they can be removed from search committee mailings. It is hoped that the search can be completed by the end of October with the new Director taking over in Summer 2010.

Lilly began by informing the Council that she had had to cancel the INTS 100 class scheduled for Fall 2009 due to low enrollments (only 3 students). This occurred b/c we had tried to offer it too soon after the first one w/18 students. In order to get it on the fall pattern as we wish, however, we will not be able to offer it again now until Fall 2010. This should not cause any trouble for current majors and will in some ways be good since by then our new curriculum should be in effect (along w/a new assessment plan we hope!)

Lilly then informed the Council about progress on the curriculum over the summer. She met with a number of chairs (though not all). Among the Dept chairs still to be met are those of Art/Art History, Modern Langs, Psych, Sociology, Criminal Justice, Social Work, and Family Studies/Interior Design. Still it seemed unlikely that meetings w/those chairs will substantially alter the basic framework. The Council may, however, choose to do so. Accordingly, Lilly passed out a sample of the revised curriculum and asked that all members consider it and esp. the core courses carefully since it is important that we get this right the first time.

Then the Council discussed plans for revising the Minor curriculum. Among issues discussed were reducing the language requirement a bit. The Council agreed in principle to change the language requirement to read “students must fulfill the requirements necessary to take a 300 level course in their non-national language.” Beyond that students would take INTS 100, Geog 104, 6 hours from the other core course options, and 12 hours from at least two different departments among the other INTS upper division electives. Lilly agreed to create a draft of the Minor program to send around for more discussion.

The Council then discussed various options for a Capstone Course. There was much agreement that we MUST put together a Capstone course in time to work with the new GS program and be prepared to offer it the first time in Spring 2011. The council seemed to agree that we should propose multiple options for the Capstone and that at least one of the options should include a study abroad segment. Lilly agreed to discuss the latter with IE Director, Dallas Kenney.

On that topic, Lilly noted that Dallas had asked if the ISAC might do double duty as an advisory committee also for International Education. Despite some concern about the amount of work involved THIS semester, committee members were generally very positive about the ideas and welcomed Dallas to join the committee, feeling that his input would be helpful on many issues.
The meeting adjourned at 4:40. The next meeting of the ISAC will be Sept 22 at 3:30. Location to be determined.