



**Study Abroad Advisory Committee Meeting  
April 21, 2016**

**Present:** E. Berman, M. Ebner, X. Herrera

**Absent:** L. Alamillo, J. Troesh (excused)

**Guest:** N. Currey

**Meeting began at:** 1:00 p.m.

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**Italy Update**

N. Currey reported that she and Mike Stallings interviewed and approved 42 students for the Florence summer 2016 program. Of those forty-two, thirty-five students paid in full by the deadline. Nancy noted the amount of time they invested in recruitment which generally is the most challenging aspect of the study abroad experience.

G. Miranda pointed out that the ACCENT contract originally listed one instructor and once this was rectified they agreed to keeping the same price for students but asked if ECC could pay for the second faculty member's airfare. G. Miranda agreed but with the increase in students from twenty to thirty-five was reached, ACCENT agreed to cover both instructors' airfare.

Two students have been selected to receive scholarships totaling \$250 for each one. The Foundation director has acknowledged the need to find donors who are willing to donate to future study abroad scholarships. The one scholarship available is limited to dance majors which preclude the majority of students on this program.

Details on classroom hours needed by both instructors in Italy still needs to be finalized but all other requirements are in place. Both Mike and Nancy have taken the Title IX straining survey and will have campus police give students an orientation about safety and security abroad. Chief Trevis is having Officer Jan Caldwell present on his behalf.

**Future Study Abroad Locations**

The committee members inquired if we could offer two summer programs in 2017 to which G. Miranda indicated it was possible. She has requested the restoration of a salary account for future programs through the planning process. This account was eliminated after the program was placed in hiatus in 2011.

Discussed were two possible diverse regions—Europe and Latin America. J. Troesh's suggestions via email were also presented. The committee wants to identify locations that will also provide good excursions in proximity to other countries.

G. Miranda will contact a number of established contractors to explore the tentative cost of a program for summer 2017. Among possible locations identified were Ireland, Austria and Eastern Europe. For Latin America, Costa Rica, Guatemala or Belize and Mexico were named for preliminary follow-up.

G. Miranda will report back before the end of the semester so that the committee can decide on final locations. She hopes to then send out a notice soliciting faculty proposals.

**Meeting adjourned at:** 1:50 p.m.