

**International Education Committee**  
**Thursday, April 9, 2026**  
**Minutes**  
**3:00 - 5:00 PM**  
**ZOOM**

Welcome and Introductions

Review/Approval of Past Minutes - [February 12, 2026 Minutes](#)

Updates: District Study Abroad

- District Study Abroad Updates
- Adam provided updates on study abroad programs, noting that faculty applications for Spring 2028 to Kyoto were out and that enrollment for the fall program was lower than usual but manageable. Frank announced that the District Senate had passed a resolution supporting Los Rios' participation in the Pan-African Virtual College. The conversation ended with plans to schedule an update from President Bush on the Pan-African Virtual College project if time allowed.

Updates: College Study Abroad

- ARC
  - Leah shared updates on the Ireland program, reporting 21 participants as of the meeting, with 11 fully paid, and discussed addressing parent concerns about the political climate.
- CRC
  - Diana reported having 20 students ready for her CRC program and discussed fee payment tracking in the portal.
- FLC
  - Richard shared updates about FLC's programs, including Diana's approved ESL study abroad program in London with 15 students, Debbie's full group heading to Kyoto, and his own Paris program experiencing some student withdrawals due to international tensions.
- SCC
  - Riad from SCC reported their program's progress with 16 students for their fully paid program to Ghana, noting they had to adjust flight bookings due to rising prices. The conversation ended with plans to discuss a potential new study abroad program to India, with Holly set to share her recent experience there.

## **India Study Abroad Opportunities**

Holly presented potential study abroad opportunities in India that she explored during a January trip funded by the State Department. She described visiting universities and heritage sites, including contacts at IIT and other institutions focused on sustainability and urban architecture. Holly sought guidance from the group on whether to pursue developing a formal proposal for these study abroad opportunities.

The group discussed expanding study abroad opportunities beyond Europe, with particular interest in India. Adam explained that while consortium partners are interested in expansion, they are currently limited by their existing agreements with AIFS. Holly mentioned an alternative option, the American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS), though she noted it is facing budget constraints. Riad suggested considering a faculty-led trip as an alternative to a semester-long program, which would require working with an approved provider and meeting insurance requirements.

The group discussed potential student programs in India, with Holly expressing interest in pursuing the initiative and noting that insurance would likely be the primary financial concern. Adam suggested following a faculty-led summer program model similar to previous roadmaps, while highlighting the challenges of insurance and workers' compensation issues. Holly proposed an alternative approach of front-loading coursework before a shorter period in India, potentially during winter to avoid summer heat, though Riad noted legal restrictions around online classes outside California for their Ghana program.

The group discussed the challenges and considerations of developing an international study program in India. Adam explained the legal and liability implications of offering courses abroad, while Frank and Richard emphasized the significant workload involved, noting that while AIFS provides a turnkey solution, creating a custom program would require much more effort. Richard expressed strong support for the initiative, particularly if Holly were committed to running it multiple years, comparing it to his own experience setting up a Paris program. The discussion concluded with encouragement for Holly to pursue the program if she was committed to making it a long-term initiative.

The group discussed the transferability of summer programs between faculty members. Diana shared her experience taking over the Florence Summer Program from Bill, describing the seamless transition process and highlighting the importance of similar disciplines and established program infrastructure. Diana also suggested that winter sessions could be a viable alternative to summer programs, as students might be more flexible with their scheduling commitments.

## **Global Education Program Transition Challenges**

Riad discussed the challenges of transitioning a faculty-led study abroad program to Ghana to new leadership, particularly due to district processes and understaffing issues. He recommended approaching future international programs as team efforts and suggested considering AIFS as a potential partner for new initiatives. Riad also raised concerns about the

future of global education efforts at the college level, highlighting the need for dedicated positions and resources to support globalization across the curriculum. The committee agreed to prioritize global education as an equal focus area alongside study abroad, with plans to continue the discussion in future meetings.

Future Meetings:

- Meeting Schedule: 2nd Thursday (every other month October through May)
  - May 14, 2026 (Zoom)