

**Council on International Studies and Programs**  
**Minutes of the Meeting, November 13, 2019**

**I. Welcome, Introductions, and Approval of the Minutes of the October 2019 Meeting—Peter Biehl, Chair**

Professor Biehl greeted Council members and asked for approval of the minutes. There were no corrections or comments for the October 2019 meeting minutes. He reminded everyone of the upcoming CISP Award Luncheon next week honoring Kristin Stapleton and Filomena Critelli.

Professor Biehl thanked Barbara Ricotta for her presentation last month and asked that she share her slides with the Council. He introduced Katie Darling, associate dean for academic services in the Graduate School, who was invited to speak on dual and joint degrees. Professor Despina Stratigakos, Vice Provost for Inclusive Excellence, was originally scheduled to present but unfortunately could not attend. She will present at a meeting in the spring semester.

**II. Presentation on International Dual and Joint Degrees – Katie Darling, Associate Dean for Academic Services, the Graduate School**

Ms. Darling explained different forms of collaborative degree arrangements. She described the cotutelle form of collaborative doctoral degree—a joint degree rather than a double Ph.D. where a person has Ph.D.s in two separate and distinct disciplines. A cotutelle is an agreement of faculty from two higher education institutions in two different countries. It involves the student and the student's dissertation advisors from the two institutions and results in the doctoral degree from each university based on one doctoral thesis/dissertation. The cotutelle model was developed and popularized in France in an effort to create strong research bonds between participating institutions. The obstacle to such agreements has been the perception that it would compromise the rigor and quality of the education and research in addition to the appearance of “double counting.” The solution to these obstacles is transparency, explaining the process, transcript notations on each diploma/transcript and other supplemental documentation. UB has developed a system for this. The Graduate School sometimes needs to have supplemental documentation for overseas partners since they do not always have transcripts comparable to UB's. There are two types of agreements, Individual Student Agreements and Institutional Agreements. Most individual student agreements originate from Europe. These individual agreements have a high likelihood of completion but it also comes with low visibility and are very labor intensive. Institutional Agreements are more common in China and India. They are more generic, less labor intensive and easier to execute but are less likely to be implemented.

Normally a PhD dissertation committee at UB comprises three graduate faculty members, but only two are needed for a cotutelle, the partner institution faculty advisor and the UB faculty advisor. Transfer credit is bidirectional and UB will accept half the doctoral requirement, or the equivalent of 36 credits from the partner. This is a UB institutional rule, not a department rule. Participating students could be overseas for up to 2 years. We encourage more formal arrangements. Transfer credit coming back from partner institution can vary. The English language requirement cannot be compromised. The dissertation defense must be in English, and UB must receive an English version of the defended dissertation even if it is translated into other languages.

Cotutelle agreements regulate enrollment flows back and forth. Institutional agreements categorize the type/rank of faculty who can oversee the work and individual student agreements name the

specific faulty/student involved. These are faculty driven, not student driven, although students can facilitate faculty introductions.

Prof. Hakala asked if there are domestic cotutelles. Ms. Darling said they are usually international. There are no problems working with other institutions within the United States. Professor Critelli asked if agreements could be between individual faculty. The agreements start with faculty and then go to the institution for vetting and approval. Dr. Wood stated that individual agreements usually end up working, but departments do not necessarily get more students with institutional agreements. Institutional agreements have been signed only recently, and we are not sure that they are working. Concerns about rigor/quality of the education are unfounded. Student mobility results in expanded opportunities for collaborative research.

Dr. Wood asked if Ms. Darling could comment briefly on dual master's degree programs. She said that such programs have been more successful in terms of numbers. Both the CANSYS Cancer Biology program and INVOGE Volcanology program that had US and European funding to support student and faculty mobility. Although they had very complicated curriculum structures, they were successful due to the strong support from faculty. These programs won't work without funding. Professor Biehl stated that his current student with a cotutelle agreement with the University of Leuven Belgium gets funding for living expenses.

Professor Hakala asked if Fulbright funding would work. Ms. Darling thought this would work well. In Europe doctoral funding is a given. How do we correlate the different lengths of programs? First the student would do the coursework, then become a candidate and then do the cotutelle. In the UK and India students do an MPhil first, so the PhD has no coursework. They then concentrate on the thesis. It takes 5 years for M Phil-Ph.D. They are somewhat parallel in a way. There is much planning and preparation required for a cotutelle and that's why not many people do it. Professor Fertig asked if it needs to be set up at the beginning of the student's program. It would help but does not necessarily happen very often. It is very individualized to the student, discipline, etc. Ms. Darling encouraged the committee to disseminate the information.

### **III. Global Health: The View from the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences – Gina Prescott, Global Health Outreach Coordinator**

Ms. Prescott presented on Global Health in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Global Health is one of our UB 2020 research themes. Pharmacy is presently working to develop the undergraduate curriculum to help the student gain experiences that complement the curriculum. The School offers some 6-week rotations in research/teaching. The clinical research track can be extended to undergraduates in the second year. The program is designed to make graduates more successful. Students are paired with a mentor for 2 years. There are many areas they can integrate with global health. They also tried to expand bench work research. Many faculty now do research with patients, not so much in the lab. Their ongoing relationship with the University of Zimbabwe around HIV/AIDS has a direct tie to SUNY global health initiatives. Professor Prescott mentioned that they also have a very active student group, International Pharmaceutical Students Federation (IFSP), which facilitates international experiences.

Professor Prescott reviewed some of the established and developing partnerships the School has in Zimbabwe, Taiwan, India, the West Indies and Australia. They also have some short-term clinical experiences in Belize, Ghana, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Students usually visit low-income countries to gain experience with diseases they would not normally see here. In Zimbabwe they do a lot of patient information groups relating to HIV. Students can go pretty much wherever they like

since our faculty have many connections. The short-term clinical experiences usually occur during the semester breaks. Students usually go to low-income countries such as Belize, the Dominican Republic or Ghana to take care of patients. Students also have the opportunity to go on short-term programs to the West Indies to learn how their healthcare system functions.

The School is only allowed to send students on rotation for 12 week periods. They usually have approximately 5-8 students go to Taiwan. They have two affiliations in Taipei—one with the Taipei Veterans General Hospital and another with the Wanfang Hospital. Originally, they had hospital/college partnership but are moving more to universities. Professor Prescott mentioned it is very difficult for us to take students from Taipei here in Buffalo.

This coming year will be first year involving the exchange with Amrita University. The program research deals with Diabetes and traditional medicine. This could be a valuable experience for students. Traditional Chinese medicine exchanges have not worked well in the past. Pharmacy is going to see how it works with Amrita. Anyone can apply for the 3-week section of the exchange but they need at least five students. They will market the program to undergraduates and pre-pharmacy majors. They already have affiliation with the University of the West Indies established by Professor Gene Morse, researching global infectious disease. Although we have not been successful in bringing UWI students to UB due to the cost, UB has sent some of our students there. There will also be a last year research elective available at the University of Toronto. The UB program has many Canadian students, so it makes sense to partner with them. They are also on the horizon to formalize research programs with a university in Italy and with Monash University in Australia.

Professor Prescott spoke about her program working with refugees locally. In conjunction with the International Institute of Buffalo and the School of Social Work, she coordinates a program to address medication-related concerns with refugees. The program helps teach recently arrived refugees about medication use and safety. It is very basic since the participants are recent arrivals. The program allows them to pay for interpreters. Professor Critelli asked if they collaborate with the Buffalo Urban League. Presently they do not, but Professor Prescott will look into this.

Professor Biehl asked how the programs are financed. She said some programs are financed through Professor Morse's NIH grant, and the Refugee Medication program gets some funding through the President's Circle but predominantly they are student funded. Occasionally they have extra funds to help send faculty. They have tried some crowd funding but it was not popular. They find that students start to plan where they want to travel when they begin the program, and pick and choose where they will go. There is always an ongoing discussion on how to fund them. Professor Hakala asked if there is a language component to the program. Not directly, though students have an elective, Spanish for Healthcare Professionals. Most programs have interpreters with them for short-term trips and most places are predominantly English speaking. The one issue they have in Taipei is going on rounds with physicians. Otherwise, the students can get by. Professor Prescott stated that they have gotten good alumni participation.

Professor Hakala asked about students needing visas. Professor Prescott said they are not responsible for that part of the travel. She is not sure if students always need visas. Professor Hakala stated students need to be aware they need a visa if they are doing research. They can get into trouble if they are working on a tourist visa. Professor Prescott stated they are not always doing research. How do we handle the liability aspects of students coming here? Professor Prescott said the School has agreements with all of their partner sites. Do they train all students who plan to take an international trip? They take a course so when they go overseas so they are aware of what work the partner is

dealing with. Professor Prescott mentioned they have a great relationship with Roswell Park and the cultural groups they work with.

Professor Biehl mentioned he was impressed by how impactful their programs are. These are good experiences for students when they go on interviews; it gives them an edge when they go into the job market.

#### **IV. Report from the Chair – Peter Biehl**

Professor Biehl just returned from an Asia recruitment tour, which included Korea, China, and Taiwan. He thanked Mr. Wei Loon Leong who organized alumni meetings during the trip. Professor Biehl recruited for six schools and spoke with prospective graduate students, but when prospective students are able to actually talk to the alumni they get a better view of UB. He thanked Mr. Leong for all his work. He visited Capital Normal University to discuss 3+2 program and was able to see the work that they've done. He is presently working on the Kazakhstan program. He would like to work with the Confucius Institute and get a group of people together and call a meeting in February. It is more difficult to get our students there. They are beginning to teach in English but not enough yet. The Dean of Arts and Science from Nazerbayev was here and they now have two active projects going on in sustainability and looking into transportation. They want to send more students to UB this summer than last year.

#### **V. Report from the Interim Vice Provost – John J. Wood**

Dr. Wood said there is an article on the ongoing protests in Hong Kong in the meeting packet. UB has worked with a number of the affected universities in Hong Kong and is monitoring what is happening there.

- **International Education Week – Katie Tudini**

Ms. Tudini distributed International Education Week (IEW) fliers and magnets. International Education Week begins next Monday, November 18 and runs through Friday, November 22. It will begin in the Student Union Lobby at 9:30 am with a Coffee Kick off in the Student Union on Monday followed by the GloBull Gallery Photo Exhibition. The GloBull Gallery is a presentation of study abroad and international student photographs along with a short narrative of their experience. Council members were encouraged to pass on the information to their deans, departments and students. Ms. Tudini stated that International Education Week is for everyone—students, faculty and staff. Most events are on North Campus but a few are on South Campus. This year the focus is on student programming. Ms. Tudini explained that the model is to ask units what they would like to do for IEW. International Student Services central role is to provide funding and marketing for the events. The IEW committee does not know the best programs to put on for faculty so faculty would need to take the initiative. It was suggested we bring in a distinguished scholar to speak during IEW. Dr. Wood stated that in past years we have done this but it was not well attended. We want to get more students involved. Would it be possible to incorporate the Distinguished Speaker Series event with IEW? Caitlin Rioux spoke with the organizers of the Distinguished Speakers Series, but the Department of State does not announce the date for IEW until the spring—after the Distinguished Speaker Series has already been scheduled. Professor Biehl suggested that perhaps next year the CISP could showcase something.

- **DACA at the Supreme Court – Oscar Budde**

Mr. Budde updated the committee on the DACA issue now before the Supreme Court. DACA is a renewable two-year deferment which allows individuals brought illegally to the US as children to remain in US with authorization to work and/or to study. President Trump is not interested in renewing the program and claimed it was illegal. Yesterday, there was a 4-4 split, with Justice John Roberts asking questions. Justice Roberts touched on the issue of DACA recipients having come to depend on the existence of DACA. They have pursued careers, education, etc. and he was wondering if they need to take into account the reliance interest of these persons. Two others court justices also wondered about reliance interest. Mr. Budde also mentioned that no one made an argument yesterday to indicate that we must take into account our interest in reaching a final decision. This was a missed opportunity. The Dept. Of Homeland Security should have to address this. Dr. Wood asked if DACA fails would the Senate do something to help the DACA recipients. Mr. Budde stated that President Trump has stated that he would be willing to work out a deal for a legislative fix. We will see how this progresses over the next few months.

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**Attendance at the Meeting, November 13, 2019**

Present:	<p>Tilman Baumstark  Peter Biehl, Chair  Oscar Budde (ex officio)  Filomena Critelli  Kathy L. Curtis  David Fertig  Walter Hakala  Christopher Hollister  Maria S. Horne  Christine Human  Wei Loon Leong  Donald McGuire  Mary Odrzywolski (ex officio)  Gina Prescott  Barbara Ricotta  Laurel Root  Steven L. Shaw (ex officio)  Dorothy Siaw-Asamoah  John H. Stone  Katie Tudini (ex officio)  Claude E. Welch, Jr.  Lillian S. Williams  John J. Wood (ex officio)</p>	<p>Faculty Affairs  Anthropology/College of Arts and Sciences  UB Immigration Services  Social Work  English Language Institute  Linguistics  Asian Studies  University Libraries  Theatre and Dance  Engineering and Applied Sciences  Alumni Engagement  Classics  Study Abroad Programs  Pharmacy  Student Life  Law  International Admissions  Management  Public Health and Health Professions  International Student Services  Political Science  Transnational Studies  International Education</p>
Guest:	<p>Katie Darling</p>	<p>Graduate School</p>
Excused:	<p>Katharina Azim  Janina Brutt-Griffler  Yu-Ping Chang  Colleen Culleton  Stephen C. Dunnett  Christian Flaugh  Graham Hammill  Daniel Hess  Joseph J. Hindrawan (ex officio)  Junhao Hong  Mara Huber  Shaun Irlam  Meredith Kolsky Lewis  Zhiqiang Liu  Lorraine Oak  Muchand Patel  Jessie P.H. Poon  Othman Shibly  Lisa Vahapoglu</p>	<p>Psychology  Graduate School of Education  Nursing  Romance Languages and Literatures  International Education  Romance Languages and Literature  Graduate School  Architecture and Planning  International Enrollment Management  Communication  Undergraduate Education  Comparative Literature  Law  Economics, Confucius Institute  College of Arts and Sciences  Biochemistry  Geography  Dental Medicine  Community for Global Health Equity</p>