Minutes--Fourth Fall Work Group meeting October 30, 2008--HSS 301

Attending: Sonali Bridges, Daniel Cano, Guido Davis Del Piccolo, Gordon Dossett, Judith Douglas, Teresa Garcia, Karen Gunn, Janet Harclerode, Peggy Kravitz, Georgia Lorenz, Laurie McQuay-Penninger, Pete Morris, Eric Oifer, Toni Trives and Nati Vazquez. Guests: Carol McAllister (CSUN) and Gary Rhodes (LMU)

Announcements:

- Georgia sent out requests to over 30 faculty members for model assignments.
- The Global Initiative Fund subcommittee sent recommendations to Dr. Tsang.
- Gordon and Frank Dawson will attend the AS Directors meeting on Monday, November 3 to present the proposal for 50 scholarships.
- Don Girard’s office has finished and paid for a flyer to publicize study abroad programs for winter and spring. The flyer, originally proposed by Brandon Lewis for the Latin American program, included the South program. In the future, each program should have its own flyers for publicity.
- Emre Akkas, a Turkish student who excelled on his national high school exit exam, will be joining the Work Group. We hope to have other students participating in future meetings.
- On November 6 Georgia and Amber Katherine will hold a workshop on ways to satisfy the AA requirement on global citizenship.
- Bruce Smith’s play *Butterfly Wings* will be performed on October 30-November 2. The play, featuring an intercultural theme, received funding from last years Global Initiative Fund.

Peer Mentoring—Carol McAllister (CSUN)

Carol gave an overview of CSUN’s successful peer mentoring program. Approximately 70 mentees (equally divided among women and men) are matched with mentors. The mentors come from graduate students (about 20%) and junior and senior international students (about 20%) with the rest from American undergraduates. A director in the international office is responsible for social activities of the international students. He oversees the peer mentoring program, which includes an orientation. Activities include inviting consulate officials to speak on campus, presenting panel discussions for classes, and going on excursions in Los Angeles. These excursions are open to all students free of charge, which draws both international and American students together—in addition to mentors and mentees. One of the most popular events is an outing to the Laugh Factory. Even though the international students don’t understand all the jokes, they laugh and have a good time.
Orientation on line—for study abroad students--Gary Rhodes (LMU)

Gary Rhodes directs the Center for Global Education, formerly based at USC and now at LMU. The Center, funded largely by grants, offers resources free of charge for other colleges and for students. A list of various projects focusing on many aspects of international education is available at http://www.globaled.us/projects.asp

Gary gave an overview of some of the projects, but focused mostly on The Project for Learning Abroad, Training and Outreach (PLATO), an “integrated study abroad training, certification, and diversity outreach program.” Faculty from SMC, for example could require or recommend that students complete PLATO’s online orientation before going on a study abroad program. Further, students can do exercises while on the program and complete other work as re-retry education. The project, part of the Global Scholar online program, is available at http://globalscholar.us/. Students can receive a certificate for completing the program, recognizing their accomplishment.

Gary mentioned that the University of Minnesota has good resources available in a project entitled Maximizing Study Abroad. The website is http://www.carla.umn.edu/maxsa/