

Study Abroad Committee
September 11, 2025
4:00 - 5:00 PM
In-Person – Building 800, Room 822

Members Present: Dani Wilson, Michael Mangan, Cynthia Guardado, Naveen Kanal, Jaime Perez, Leonor Cadena, Carina Valencia, Citlally Santana, Stephanie Tran, Pamela Dunsmore

Student Representative: Hannah Pham

I. Study Abroad Committee Membership

- a. Angela Henderson transitioned to a dean position.
- b. Michael Mangan was elected by faculty senate on 09/04/2025.

II. Program Snapshots – 2026 Programs

- a. Michael Mangan, Study Abroad Coordinator
 - i. **Paris, France (Winter 2026):** Info sessions were held in early September. The program needs a minimum of 15 students. Interviews have been scheduled for September and early October. There are 14 accepted and 2 provisional students. Additional applications received since Sept. 2025.
 - ii. **Seville, Spain (Spring 2026):** Info sessions are scheduled for September 23 and 24. There are 19 accepted and 4 provisional students. Additional applications received since Sept. 2025.
 - iii. **Berlin, Germany (Summer 2026):** Info sessions scheduled for late September, October, and November. This program has only received a small number of applications.
 - iv. **Kyoto, Japan (Summer 2026):** This program has high demand and are no longer accepting new applications. 50 students overall have applied. Additional applicants will be redirected to apply to other summer programs.
 - v. **Panama (Summer 2026):** This is an UMOJA & Career Development 10-day program in Panama. We are working with a new vendor, Study Abroad Association (SAA), since AIFS does not offer Panama as a program location. Info sessions are scheduled for October. We are asking Justin Campbell and Annette Letcher for promotion support at Cypress College.
 - vi. **Grenoble, France (Summer 2026):** This 10-day CTE program in Grenoble, France is a niche program. Info sessions are scheduled for October. Grenoble is unfamiliar location for younger students. Michael asked the committee to continue supporting the promotion of this program.
 - vii. **Rome, Italy (Fall 2026):** This program has received several applications since late spring and early summer 2025. The program will be led by Marcus Wilson & Megan Debin. Info sessions have been scheduled for October.

- viii. **Student Eligibility & Interview Observations:** Faculty have final discretion in which students to accept. During student interviews, red flags often involve mental health concerns. Michael reviewed the study abroad requirements with the committee. Students need to take 12 units, which shows that students can handle full-time course load. Students can't drop while participating in a program. The 2.5 GPA requirement is considered case by case, depending on faculty evaluation of student.
- III. **Community Program (Spring Break 2026):** The community program will focus on James Baldwin's life when he lived in Paris, France. Justin Campbell will help led by providing insight into James Baldwin and his literary work. The community program is open to NOCCCD employees only.
- IV. **Faculty Planning & Training**
 - a. **2027 Faculty Preparation:** Michael is meeting individually with 2027 faculty. The purpose of these meetings is to clarify program expectations for faculty that include recruitment and promotion to launch a successful program. Faculty accountability emphasized, especially in program promotion. Faculty have more recruitment influence when talking to students one-on-one.
- V. **2027 Program Lineup**
 - a. **Buenos Aires, Argentina (Winter 2027):**
 - i. Arlette Letcher, Cypress College faculty will teach English.
 - b. **Rome, Italy (Winter 2027):**
 - i. Miguel Powers, Fullerton College faculty will teach English.
 - c. **Sydney, Australia (Winter 2027):**
 - i. Jay Siedel, Fullerton College faculty will teach Drone Technology.
 - d. **Cannes, France (Spring 2027):**
 - i. Samantha Krag and Catherine Reindart, Fullerton College faculty will teach English and French.
 - e. **Seoul, South Korea (Summer 2027):**
 - i. Eric Bladh, Cypress College faculty will teach geography.
 - f. **Paris, France (Summer 2027):**
 - i. Olivia Barajas, Fullerton College CTE counselor, will teach counseling development.
 - g. **London, England (Fall 2027):**
 - i. Blythe Tellefson and Jodi Balma, Fullerton College faculty will teach English and Political Science.
- VI. **2028 Faculty Application Process:**
 - a. Michael plans to host an in-person meet & greet for faculty interested in submitting a 2028 study abroad proposal. This event would provide an opportunity for faculty to connect with colleagues, including those interested in co-leading a program during a spring or fall semester.
 - b. The committee also suggested:
 - i. Hosting a Flex Day breakout session focused on the study abroad proposal process.
 - ii. offering follow-up workshops to clarify requirements.
 - iii. Ensuring that proposal forms include clear guidelines and responsibilities.

VII. Summer 2025 Program Reports:

a. Dublin, Ireland

- i.** Program held in Maynooth, Ireland about 30-45 minutes from Dublin, Ireland (historic university town).
- ii.** The students had a positive experience; and were reluctant to leave.
- iii.** Maynooth offered a more affordable study abroad opportunity than hosting the program at Trinity College.
- iv.** Michael described AIFS staff support as excellent and helpful.

b. San José, Costa Rica

- i. There were challenges with city transportation, cash-only for certain** Challenges: transportation, cash-only environment, long travel time.
- ii.** Program adapted by rerouting program funds (\$100/student) for public transportation.
- iii.** Despite logistical issues, overall experience was positive.

VIII. Promotions & Recruitment

- a.** Michael shared that classroom presentations and on-campus event participation are currently ongoing.
- b.** Mike will continue sending invitations to faculty/committee for events.
- c.** Jaime Perez suggested expanding the committee to strengthen recruitment.
- d.** Stephanie Tran will connect with CC Faculty Senate to initiate a call.
- e.** The committee discussed strategies for student retention which included meet & greets, WhatsApp group to provide program updates to students, and consistent outreach as early as possible.

IX. Study Abroad Fundraiser Event

- a.** Scheduled for **November 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** (on campus).
- b.** Catering: Alegro (meal), margaritas, beer, and wine (pending BoT approval).
- c.** The event will include a raffle (pending BoT approval).
- d.** Silent auction donations requested from community businesses.

X. Additional Note

- a.** Paulette Chaffee hosted a June 2025 send-off dinner for participants and is planning to do another reunion dinner for students on September 25, 2025.

XI. Meeting Adjourned at 4:57 p.m.