

International Committee Meeting – October 25, 2017

Begin: 2:10 pm

Attendees: Carol Motcyka, Sven Normann, Randell Doty, Hendrik Leusch, Stephan Schmidt, Maureen Keller-Wood, Adam Dzedzy

Minutes from the last meeting were approved by a quorum and order was called by Dr. Motycka.

Next meeting time

The next committee meeting was proposed for Wednesday, 11/29 from 1:00 – 2:00 pm.

Sven's Report

Recent global health trips

Dr. Normann discussed his involvement with the Federal Disaster Assistance team during the three major hurricanes to hit in the past few months. After Hurricane Maria, he and the Florida team were mobilized and spent two weeks in Puerto Rico providing medical assistance to residents. He compared the assistance to that given during the IHOT trips, although on a much bigger scale, and plans to discuss the experience in the disaster preparedness course.

IPSF update

There will be 3 programs each in the fall and spring semesters. Last week, the President of the Military and Emergency Pharmacy section of FIP and the National Practice Leader for Pharmacy for the Canadian Armed Forces visited to talk with students about humanitarian efforts and disaster relief.

In the spring, a new practitioner from Argentina will be visiting to discuss international pharmacy, and a second practitioner from abroad will be asked to visit in the near future.

IHOT update

Plenty of students have signed up and tentatively plan to join the trips in March.

There was discussion about the need to standardize the way that prescription medication is prepared for these trips, as shipping it requires a physician abroad to receive them. In addition, the expense of vials should be researched and discussed with medical teams as these should be used on the trips so that medicine is dispensed in the same way it is in the US (e.g., child-proof containers).

Randell's Report

Visit to Malta and Pamplona

The site visits at Malta and Pamplona both went very well. There is a new person in charge of the program at the University of Navarra and they have been very happy with the students who have visited, although none came during the past year. Dr. Doty will work with OEP to see if they can help fill these spots. They have expressed interest in other forms of collaboration, such as sending fourth-year students to our campus and research in genomics.

The site in Malta does not currently offer an exchange program, but they are interested in doing so in the future, as well as increasing the number of collaborative projects. A large percentage of their students go on to Ph.D. or Master's programs so an exchange program may entice more students to join UF's programs in the future.

SSA Applicants and process

The SSA applications have been reviewed and the area of most interest for travel is the newest proposed site, Japan. However, since this trip has not been done in the past, students may not be aware of the estimated costs associated with the trip, as it is likely to be more expensive than the other trips. The most likely trips to be taken this year (based on student interest) are Japan, Scandinavia and either Australia or the UK.

Because of a smaller pool of applicants than in previous years, only three trips may be taken instead of four. The site at Malta is interested in sending students an SSA, which would help fill spots for trips that are not full and could be very fruitful for all travelers as they will bring the perspective of pharmacists from three distinct areas. Students from Navarra will also be visiting London at the same time as the tentative dates for the PharmUK trip, which would provide a similar opportunity.

End: 3:00 pm