

Date: March 9, 2020

To: Cath

From: John Stalvey, Interm Pro

Cc: Bill My
Chau Phan, Pr
Susan
Claudia Lammman, Vice Provost for Student Suc

Re: AY20 Exped

I have reviewed the program's request to the dean's fund and the Expedited Process

Recommendation

My Review will be included in the report

Decision

Re

Date: 2/28/20

To: John Stalvey, Interim Provost

From: Bill Myers, Professor of History and Chair of International Studies

Cc: Dean John Petraitis
Dr. Chad Farrell, Professor of Sociology, and NTL EPR committee member

Re: AY20 Expedited Program Review: Optional Program Response - f • i •

John Stalvey, Interim Provost

From: John Petraitis, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Cc: Bill Myers, Professor; Chair, International Studies Program

External demand

INTL students have gone on to successful lives and careers, both in the private sector and in academia. The INTL BA is in a
looking for in its college graduates (see AAC&U 2018 employer survey results) critical thinking skills, cross-cultural
awareness and respect; effective communications skills; analytical, collaborative and innovative problem-solving skills. See
Student Success section below, for individual examples.

3. Program Quality, Improvement and Student Success (1,476 words)

Specialized accreditation process/status INTL does not have specialized accreditation, although its faculty keep
abreast of national best practices in delivery of International Studies programs.

Currency of the curriculum As noted above, the International Studies program includes courses from
different Humanities and Social Science disciplines. An update of degree requirements was implemented in Fall
2016. All courses currently required for the degree have been offered regularly, and prerequisites for upper
division requirements are built into the degree plan as foundational courses. Academic petitions for INTL
students are reviewed by faculty with expertise in relevant content areas before the petitions are reviewed by
the chair of the INTL program. This service of INTL faculty ensures evaluation of disciplinary currency and
relevance of courses completed abroad, internships, and community projects.

Innovative program design As noted in section 1 of this EPR, INTL is designed to be an interdisciplinary degree
that utilizes the existing areas of faculty expertise and course offerings to build student skills in cross-cultural
communication, critical thinking, effective communication, and collaboration in an increasingly global context.

Availability and indications of quality of distance offerings

every semester to discuss assessment findings, and they remain committed to using assessment to monitor and improve student achievement.

Student Success:

Internships

- x Student (INTL and LANG) Language and Culture Assistantship in [Comunidad de Madrid], Embajada de España, Ministerio de Educación (Awarded May 2013).
- x Student (INTL) The Washington Center Internship and Leadership Program Summer Scholarship in the category of W š Z Ć μ μ o š μ Ć _ ~ Á Ć %o Ć]o î î î • X
- x Student (INTL and LANG) Language and Culture Assistantship Spain Embajada de España, Ministerio de Educación (Awarded May 2015).
- x Student (INTL): Taught English in France through the English Teaching Assistants Program (2016).
- x Student (International Studies) was selected for a Spring 2017 internship with the Economic and Social Affairs (ECOSOC) Section at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. ECOSOC represents the United States on the intergovernmental bodies which oversee the UN's economic, social and human rights issues.

Community Engagement

- x Student

- x Student (INTL and LANG) Export Council of Alaska Scholarship (Awarded May 2013); recipient of 2016 UAA Leadership Honors; currently a student in the Master of Arts program in European Studies at Flensburg University, Germany.
- x Student INTL and LANG graduate has been accepted to the Master Program in Translation and Interpretation (German) at the Middlebury Institute at Monterey. He received a partial scholarship \$30,000. will start in Fall 2020.
- x Student INLT graduate, is finishing their MA at the London School of Economics

4. Program Duplication / Distinctiveness (41 words)

There is no program duplication. UAA is the only university offering an International Studies BA. The entire UA system. UAF does offer a minor in Global Studies which can be fulfilled by taking 18 credits of designated courses from existing disciplinary offerings (ANTH, ENGL, GEOG, HIST, PS, and so on). Neither the present, nor the past INTL chair have noted much student cross-traffic from the different MAUs. Nonetheless, the INTL faculty remains receptive to easing any course transfer issues that might arise with current or future INTL students. We would, for example, accept courses taken through UAF or UAS by one of our UAA students, if it met the intent of our degree requirements. Obviously, there would have to be a credit maximum coming from outside UAA, but that is probably a discussion for the institution as a whole.

5. Summary Analysis (470 words)

Strengths:

- **Academic Rigor** The curriculum spans two CAS academic divisions: Humanities and Social Sciences. International Studies is the only degree program in CAS other than the BA in Languages that requires a two

leadership and coordination of the program. Given the current fiscal environment limiting new hires, in the least, continued support in the form of course/s release for their is highly advisable.

Challenges:

- **Sustaining and rewarding the volunteerism of the INTL faculty** offer their classes, their assessment, their advising, and their curriculum building expertise to the INTL program in addition to their many responsibilities in their home departments.
- **Budget** budget constraints have little direct impact on the INTL program since it is already efficient and low cost (see Strengths above). However, the budget constraints have order effects since faculty generally must answer first to the needs and priorities of their home departments, which in many cases are understaffed due to attrition. We have built flexibility into the INTL curriculum, but unanticipated changes to course offerings could leave holes in the program. This requires continuing coordination among the INTL director, INTL serving faculty, and CAS administration.

Conclusion:

To sum up the INTL BA draws some of the best and brightest students at UAA precisely because it offers studies, and interdisciplinary course work with some of the leading faculty at UAA. The INTL BA provides students an excellent gateway future success professionally, academically, and personally.