



Davis Division Academic Senate

Request for Consultation Responses

Korea University Exchange Agreement

April 30, 2012

It has come to the attention of the Davis Division of the Academic Senate that the campus has signed an exchange agreement with Korea University. One of the key agreement features is "exchange students ability to earn degree credit while abroad. While students may take courses at Korea University and attempt to transfer them back to UCD, going through the same review process as any student completing an "independent" study abroad program, the exchange agreement requires that students receive UCD course credit (and grade points) in much the same way as approved Education Abroad Program courses." The committees are asked to review the issues associated with fulfilling the requirements outlined in the agreement.

Administrative Partners (DANN TRASK)

May 14, 2012 4:06 PM

No response at this time.

College Committee: College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

May 3, 2012 10:27 AM

No response at this time.

Council of School & College Faculty Chairs (AGRICULTURE)

May 3, 2012 10:23 AM

No response at this time.

Elections, Rules & Jurisdiction

April 11, 2012 11:35 AM

No response at this time.

International Education

June 7, 2012 4:18 PM

On behalf of Committee on International Education Chair Jeannette Money, I submit the following response.

The Committee on International Education discussed the Memorandum of Understanding between the University of California, Davis and Korea University at its meeting on March 19. The committee members were briefed by Zachary Frieders, Associate Director of the UC Davis Education Abroad Center. The MOU proposes an undergraduate student exchange, limited initially to 2 students per year from each institution.

Although there is substantial support on the Committee for developing ties between partner institutions abroad, the committee noted that most undergraduate student exchanges are handled through the University-wide Education Abroad Program. This office has the expertise to organize undergraduate and graduate student exchanges, including the ability to handle personal and local/national emergencies, including repatriating students when appropriate. Even in wealthy democracies, such emergencies can arise, as witnessed by the tsunami and nuclear meltdown in Japan last year. At the very least, this MOU should be noticed to the UCEAP office. The students participating in this plan must be incorporated into either UC Davis or UCEAP programs for monitoring these students when they are abroad.

In terms of accepting credits from Korea University, it appears that students will be required to follow procedures similar to UCEAP students but there is no oversight mechanism (as there is with UCEAP) to ensure that the course material is evaluated by the faculty senate, given that the exchange is a bilateral one between Korea University and UC Davis. At present, the MOU calls for Departments to vet the courses that students take. This vetting generally is limited to whether the courses can apply to the major or minor of study. We recommend that the Committee on Courses of Instruction or other appropriate Faculty Senate committee be designated to review the courses of student prior to the students' departure to ensure that there is adequate academic oversight.

Planning & Budget

April 11, 2012 11:35 AM

CPB has reviewed the MOU between UC Davis and the Korea University, Korea. As written, there is an imbalance between how Korean students will be treated by UC Davis, compared to how UC Davis students will be dealt with in Korea. Although this is a pilot program, if the campus wishes to attract foreign students, treating them fairly is an important factor. These students should have the same opportunities as UC Davis students have. For example, the opportunity to take classes, which is set by the time the student is allowed to register, should not be biased against these students. Similarly, other student services, such as housing, advising etc., should also be equally available to these students. In addition, CPB is somewhat concerned that UC Davis students might not be allowed credit for their work abroad. The allocation of credit should be done up-front, as part of the admission process to the program.

Research

April 11, 2012 11:36 AM

No response at this time.

Undergraduate Council

April 27, 2012 1:04 PM

The UGC reviewed the Korea University exchange agreement and noted that it seemed like a worthwhile program and was sufficiently small in scale and provisional so as to be manageable. However, because the agreement was signed with an individual campus rather than the system, it falls out of the jurisdiction of the Education Abroad Program. Because of this, there is a fundamental question about where administration and oversight of the program will be located. And, furthermore, there are concerns to make sure that students in the program receive sufficient advising support, both here and abroad. One possible solution is to make use of the campus resources for quarter/summer study abroad, but the reality is that those courses operate in a different model than an exchange. Thus, this program either needs to be given some kind of exception on a one-time basis (since it is, in the end, a potentially valuable program), or more likely, we need to create an umbrella structure to house and administer all campus exchange programs, and perhaps the Committee on International Education might have suggestions for a model that parallels EAP program structures even when there is only a campus and not a systemwide agreement.