

BFC-INTL: Meeting minutes, October 11, 2023

Attending: Mahasweta Baxipatra, Emma Dederick, Israel Herrera (co-chair), Patricia Kubow, Francesco Marchionne, Jose Luis Antinao-Rojas, Ron Sela (co-chair), David Taylor, Johannes Türk (guest), Seth Walker, Attia Youseif.

Following the approval of minutes, introductions, and a brief update from the co-chairs (e.g., BFC-EC agreeing to expand the committee's purview – see Sept. 27 minutes), the committee discussed recent changes to funding patterns, duration, and selection of graduate student exchange programs.

Our guest, Johannes Türk (Chair, Department of Germanic Studies), explained how recent changes to such exchange programs, focusing on Freie Universität Berlin, affect his department's mission. A conversation ensued in which Seth Walker (OVPIA) explained the budgetary and equity considerations that seemed to drive the decision to espouse a grant-like model for IU's exchange programs, shortening duration while increasing the number of eligible programs.

The committee raised questions about the decision-making process (esp. consultation with stakeholders – e.g., faculty), the scope of available funds, how the *raison d'être* of such programs (e.g., the academic mission) is taken under consideration, etc., and agreed to revisit these issues with IU's new Associate Vice President for International Affairs to whom we extend an invitation.

The idea to examine a policy of adding a 'mandatory faculty advisory board' to administrative bodies was floated, and the committee co-chairs agreed to pass this idea to the BFC-EC for further consideration.

In addition, the committee also will extend an invitation to John Wilkerson, Associate Vice President for International Services.