

IUPUI-Moi U. Strategic Partnership Minutes 1/16/09 and other updates

In attendance: Bill Schneider, Bill Plater, Nan Bohan, Angela Joseph, Marina Hadjioannou Waters, Darrell Bailey, Oner Yurtseven, Stephanie Leslie, Ian McIntosh, Susan Sutton, Dawn Whitehead, Catherine Bonser-Neal, Chris Leland, Sara Horton-Deutsch, Naomi Mutea, Julie Hatcher, Rick Bein, David Lewis, Rachel Okware, Nick Kellum, Nicole Keith, Jeanette Dickerson-Putman, Pascal Olame, Valma Graves, Sara Hook, Felisa Tennant, Eunice Kamaara.

Minutes

1. Susan Sutton gave an overview of the history, structure and purpose of the IUPUI-Moi U. Steering Committee. In brief, the IUPUI-MU Coordinating Committee's mission is to coordinate IUPUI relationships with MU (beyond those already in place with the IU SOM), encourage the development of the IUPUI-MU relationship as an IUPUI Strategic or 'Core' Partnership, provide advice to faculty and units considering new projects, share ideas and information, and seek cross-campus synergies in working with colleagues at MU.
2. It was agreed that we would distribute the minutes of each meeting to all members following each meeting. These minutes will be available on our IUPUI-Moi U. website, which is currently under repair.
3. Our meeting times would be fixed for 1pm on the first Friday of each month in ES2132. (The next meeting is Friday February 6 at 1pm).
4. By videoconference, Riall Nolan, Dean of International Programs at Purdue University, outlined Purdue's plan to effectively develop an integrated water management strategic plan for western Kenya in collaboration with IU and IUPUI. A team of Purdue faculty from all participating schools will visit Kenya in February 09 to meet their colleagues and counterparts at Moi U. in assessing the technological and personnel needs for constructing the elements of the strategic plan. (This project is the subject of an HED application by Purdue, but even if unsuccessful, they are committed to a long term partnership with Moi U. and working hand-in-hand with IU and IUPUI)
5. IUPUI has been awarded the Heiskell Award for innovation in international education for our strategic international partnerships in Kenya, China, and Mexico. The award ceremony will be at the United Nations (New York) in March 2009.
6. Prof. Rick Bein reported on his semester at Moi University teaching geography, and acting as IUPUI's very first strategic partner liaison officer. The committee discussed the importance of a permanent presence of an IUPUI faculty member on the main campus of Moi University in order to facilitate existing collaborations (and also identify new potential ones), assist students to prepare for IUPUI programs, promote various collaborative events such as symposiums, attend Moi University Senate and Deans' meetings, and so on.
7. The call for papers for the May 13-15 2009 symposium in the Moi University School of Law has been released. For more information, please contact Ian McIntosh at imcintos@iupui.edu (Note: All are welcome to the fortnight symposium planning sessions. The next is on Friday January 23 at 12 noon in the ES2129 Conference Room).
8. Sara Hook of the School of Informatics shared details about the proposed internship of student Pascal Olame at Eldoret's Rivatex textile company in Summer 09. The project involves creating an accessible database for the 20,000+ fabric designs currently stored on large rolls of film. We seek a further intern either from informatics or in the field of photography and design to assist in conceptualizing the database categories for easy retrieval of designs.

9. The steering committee endorsed IUPUI's Fulbright Hays proposal. The application deadline (for faculty and staff) for the July 09 Kenya study abroad experience is January 30. (However, we will not officially know if we have been successful in our grant application until March 09)
10. For details about the first teleconference for 2009 of the IUPUI-Moi U. SSRN (Social Science Research Network) contact Jeanette Dickerson-Putman on 274 2995 or jdickere@iupui.edu
11. Three senior financial officers from Moi University, including Finance Director Milcah Mutwol, will be visiting IUPUI from February 7-17 to undertake training to establish an RSPO (Research and Sponsored Program Office) on the main campus of Moi University.
12. Julie Hatcher and Rick Bein agreed to begin a process of collecting information on best practice pertaining to all aspects of our IUPUI-Moi U. partnership to date, including symposium organization, research collaboration, liaison work, 2+ 2 programs, etc. So expect a call!

Other items

The IUPUI library is making progress on a container to Moi U. through two partners outside the university, Better World Books and Books for Africa. David Lewis reports: "Better World Books will provide a contribution toward the container cost and will be moving some books for us and some computers from IUPUI to Minneapolis. In Minneapolis, the home of Books for Africa, our materials will be combined with other books provided by Books for Africa and the container will be shipped. Better World Books is picking up our materials next week, so the process is starting."

IUPUI's Purdue School of Engineering and Technology has received funding of \$3,578 from an IU International Exchange Development Grant. Dean Kirimi Kiriamiti of the Moi U. Engineering School will be invited to discuss the establishment of 2+2 program in electrical and mechanical engineering. Dean Kiriamiti will also meet with number of our chairs and faculty, visit laboratories and research centers. The purpose of the visit is to:

- Promote collaboration in research and student exchange through face-to-face discussions between the dean of engineering of Moi University and faculty members at the IUPUI School of Engineering and Technology.
- Explore opportunities for engineering and technology related service-learning projects in Kenya; provide the framework for IUPUI engineering and technology students to earn degree applicable service-learning credits by participating in joint projects with Moi University students.
- Provide a path for Moi University students to meet a portion of their engineering degree requirements by studying for one or more semesters at the IUPUI School of Engineering and Technology.
- Establish credit equivalencies so that Moi University engineering students have the option to transfer to IUPUI and earn Purdue University degrees with only one or two years of additional course work.
- Identify areas of common research interest.

Karen Yoder of the IU School of Dentistry has been awarded a \$3000 grant from IU to expand their partnership with Moi University.