

## COBA International Business Committee Minutes

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Present: Kurt Jesswein, Steve Johnson, Kunpeng Li, Fidel Gonzalez, and Ulyses Balderas

1. Study Abroad Programs. Given that the study abroad program in Puebla, Mexico is in solid shape, and that we are starting another study abroad program in Japan, we discussed the possibility to expand to three more countries: Germany, Korea and China. Dr. Jeswein, Dr. Johnson, and Dr. Li have contacts in each of these countries so they will work in a proposal for each country.

We did discuss the possibility of making a survey to Business student majors (Agricultural Business students too) asking them what places would be more appealing for them to study abroad. We will coordinate with the Office of International Programs in this endeavor.

2. Invited Speakers and Seminars. We did discuss the need of an International Seminar Series but more importantly the diffusion and promotion of these events among faculty and students. In the past, Dr. Ahmed has successfully organized several events as part of the COBA Global Business Lecture Series. Dr. Nath also organized a successful Conference on Regional Trade Agreements, Migration, and Remittances with Special focus on CAFTA and Latin America. We discussed the need to continue with these events.
3. Student organizations. Encourage students to join existent organizations such as the International Business Society (IBS), or encourage them to create new organizations. We discussed the importance of supporting these organizations with advising and networking. For instance, the Economics Department paid IBS students the membership for the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (HHCC).
4. Next Meeting. We agreed to have our next meeting next spring 2010 (early in the semester).