Brief History of Issue - why the issue is being considered:

Students are requesting more access to short-term study abroad programs – especially programs offered over winterim and summer session. The University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, Center of International Education (CIE) already sends students to study abroad through the University Study Abroad Consortium (USAC) and this consortium has winterim and summer programs offered in Cuba that CIE feels cold be rather popular with our students. CIE is proposing that we add the Cuba study abroad program to the existing study abroad programs already offered through our participation in USAC.

Points Discussed by Committee:

1. Study abroad programs in Cuba have become increasingly popular and USAC is offering short-term study abroad programs that our students should find appealing.
2. Participants will be housed in community based Bed and Breakfast type lodging that is close to campus and not in the primary tourist parts of Havana. It is hoped that this might provide students a more authentic foreign study experience.
3. This program will not fill the immersion experience requirement for the LAS major because instruction is primarily from foreign non-Spanish speakers (instruction is primarily in English).
4. CIE can use the existing USAC application process so additional work of offering this program is minimal.
5. This program does provide our students an additional choice for short-term study abroad during winterim and summer sessions.
6. CIE will be meeting with USAC staff this summer and they will be exploring the opportunity for UWEC faculty to participate in offering USAC programs in the future.
7. The cost of the program is similar to the cost for students studying in Europe for the same length of time.
8. If approved UWEC will have to find transfer course equivalencies for the courses offered in Cuba.

Pros of Recommendation:

This program offers UWEC students additional opportunities for short-term study abroad with a well-respected partner in international education.

Cons of Recommendation:

None

Technology/Human Resource Impact:

Since CIE can use existing application procedures already in place for other USAC programs the extra workload is manageable.
Committee Recommendation:
The Center for International Education will start offering short-term winterim and summer session programs in coordination with the University Study Abroad Consortium in Havana, Cuba starting in summer, 2018.

MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

by a vote of ___7___ for to ___0___ against on May 2, 2017 (Date)

Recommends that:

The Center for International Education will start offering short-term winterim and summer session programs in coordination with the University Study Abroad Consortium in Havana, Cuba starting in summer, 2018.

Implementation Date: 18/19 catalog

Signed: ______________________________________
Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office