

Minutes of the UWC-USA Education Committee

May 29, 2019

Present on the video conference: Marisa Leon, Victoria Mora, Alexis Mamaux, Melanie Weston, Tyler Tingley

The meeting began at 8:00 AM Mountain Time with an update on the IB and ISAS evaluations. The deadline for uploading the IB self study and associated documents is June 1, 2019, and Dean Mamaux reported that the school would make that deadline. The report is complete and going through final editorial touch up. Likewise, the ISAS documents are almost completed, and the school is positioned to make those deadlines as well.

The committee discussed the residential life program and the fact that the school struggles with how to get faculty to take as much responsibility for life in the residences as is needed. Cesar Cervantes will not be returning next year as Director of Residential Life and Experiential Education. The Dean of Residential Life and Experiential Ed will be replaced with a new appointment and there will be an added layer of a Director of Residential Life plus the full team of Residential Life coordinators for each residence. There will also be at least one assistant for each dorm so that on weekends, every dorm will have continuous adult supervision.

Experiential Education, as a part of the overall UWC USA experience, still needs considerable attention. President Mora reported that Cesar Cervantes had devoted most of his attention to the residential life program this year, but discussions of the four conceptual arcs of the Experiential program (wilderness, arts and culture, conflict resolution, and sustainability) had made progress.

The meeting continued with a discussion of open administrative positions and the distributed leadership model. A new Director of Admissions and two new college counselors have been appointed. The two college counselors will work with both the first and second year students and thus improve the counseling services provided. Members of the committee noted that moving from having one person responsible for both admissions and all college counseling to having two college counselors without admissions responsibility was an important upgrade in this key area.

The meeting concluded at 9:00 AM Mountain Time. Minutes prepared by Tyler Tingley.