The subcommittee met on October 26, 2010 to review the course proposals and offerings for the 2011 Tufts-in-Talloires Summer Program. Ten course proposals were submitted in Fall, 2010 for the 2011 Tufts-in-Talloires program. All of the 10 proposals were accepted. The academic courses selected for the summer 2011 program were: CH99 Combating Obesity: Learning from the French Experience; MUS 97/150: Music, France and Revolution; EC 91: Globalization and Human Rights; ENVST 105: Flowers of the Alps; FR21/191: Readings on Alpine Nature in French Literature; Classics 197: History and Archeology of France under the Roman Empire; CD 62: Childhood Across Cultures; FR 21/22: Communication, culture et couleur locale; EC 30: Environmental Economics and Policy; and ENG 10: Non-Fiction Writing.

The committee discussed the low number of applications received this year, and discussed possible reasons for this decline in applications, including economic factors; timing of the summer session (faculty with children in school are not able to participate); and high costs of living expenses for faculty and their families in the Talloires region. The committee also discussed methods for eliciting faculty proposals and recommended that the stipend for faculty living expenses be reviewed for future years. While the director of the program, Gabriella Goldstein, makes every effort to find affordable housing for faculty, and the staff sponsors weekly “pot-luck” dinners at the Priory to reduce some of the costs for faculty, there may still be faculty who are not able to afford to participate in the program.

Members on the committee who have participated in the Talloires program agreed that the opportunity to teach in Talloires was a valuable experience, one in which a strong sense of community develops among faculty participants. The experience of living closely together in the Talloires community, participating in community events, and being present at the Priory on a regular basis, provided unique opportunities for intellectual and professional exchanges about teaching and research. Several faculty commented on the importance of the faculty scholars, who offered colloquia during the summer, which also provided opportunities for intellectual exchange.
A recommendation was made to provide a general information session for Faculty members in the Spring so that anyone who might be interested in proposing a course the following autumn could learn more about teaching in Talloires. An Information Session was scheduled for April 21, 2011. The session was announced via email by the Secretary of the faculty and was posted on the general Tufts event calendar (website). Despite best efforts, only 2 faculty attended: one specifically interested in teaching and the other specifically interested in holding a conference at the European Center.

The enrollments of students in the summer program remain very healthy. In both 2010 and 2011, 93 students enrolled each year in courses in the Tufts-in-Talloires program.