August 11, 2003

Foreign Programs Subcommittee of the EPC

The Foreign Programs Subcommittee met often during 2002-2003. The Committee reviewed petitions of students who wished to attend non-Tufts programs abroad not previously approved by the Subcommittee, and made the following decisions to improve study abroad application procedures and underscore existing instructions:

- As in the past, students must petition if they plan to attend non-Tufts programs that are not listed in the Guidelines for Study Abroad.
- Students petitioning to attend non-Tufts study abroad programs for the Spring Semester of any year must petition the Subcommittee before October 1.
- Students hoping to enter such unlisted programs in the fall semester must petition by February 28.
- In both cases, the petition must include a letter of support from a faculty member in the department of the student’s intended major.
- Engineering students who apply to colleges in Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and Ireland will be advised during the application process to take the number of courses considered to be a full load at the respective host colleges and universities.

Increasing numbers of Tufts students are participating in Tufts and non-Tufts foreign programs. Tufts University operates ten Tufts Programs Abroad at the following sites: Chile; China; Ghana; Hong Kong; Japan; London; Madrid; Oxford; Paris; Tübingen. The Committee is pleased to report that the re-established Tufts-in-Ghana program ran successfully in Fall 2002 and Spring 2003. The other nine Tufts Foreign Programs continued to do well during this year despite concerns surrounding students’ safety occasioned by the conflict in Iraq and the health scare over SARS.

In all, 479 Tufts students studied abroad in 2002-2003. Of these, 174 students participated in Tufts programs: 99 for the full year and 75 for one semester only. The number of students on non-Tufts programs in 2002-2003 was 305: 38 for the full year and 267 for the semester only. The Subcommittee approved twenty-four (24) students to travel abroad on programs not previously approved. The Subcommittee turned down six student applications to take part in such programs.

Director of Tufts Programs Abroad, Sheila Bayne, Foreign Study Advisor, Sally O’Leary and their staffs, have collaborated well with Tufts faculty and with administrators located at the various Foreign Program centers. Together they have made Tufts Programs Abroad very attractive to Tufts University students. The Foreign Programs Subcommittee intends to ensure that students have study abroad experiences that are personally fulfilling and educationally sound.

Sincerely,
Paula Aymer
Chair Foreign Programs Subcommittee of EPC