

3: #14.
Accept.
Study Abroad
Students?

To Eckard Wimmer

From Jim McKenna

Subj Konstanz Exchange

Your memo of April 25 reflects a number of misunderstandings regarding the support guidelines for international exchange, and, in the final analysis, seems out of proportion to the immediate specific issue: one tuition waiver.

Established in Fall 1990, the Konstanz Agreement-as you know-grew directly out of your contacts with that campus. Since that time, Microbiology at Stony Brook has been virtually the sole beneficiary of the agreement. Over the past four years, Microbiology has been able to bring in twelve Konstanz graduate students without your having to use any of your tuition waiver resources, a great savings compared to the years prior to the agreement when the entire cost of your program was carried by you or the students themselves. Two waivers have been authorized for 1994-95. Microbiology has been asked to come up with one tuition waiver for 94-95 for Konstanz students.

The request that Microbiology support one tuition waiver is due to the fact that Konstanz has asked Stony Brook to take six students next year, double the number they have ever sent: three to Microbiology, two to Physics, and one to Economics. In the spirit of equitable distribution, each of the three departments was authorized one waiver. Perhaps my most recent memo to you has crossed yours in the mail. In the memo, which you do not appear to have yet received, Microbiology was awarded an additional waiver (double the number given to the other departments). Thus Microbiology is asked to fund one of three students, and Physics one of two.

A central component of a viable international agreement is reciprocity. Konstanz has been more than willing to receive Stony Brook students, but Stony Brook has not been able to generate much traffic in their direction, perhaps as you suggest, because of a mismatch in programs, but also because more of our many local students Americans speak French or Spanish and prefer those programs. There has never been any sense that Microbiology students would be obliged to go to Konstanz, but only that International Program's responsibility for Konstanz students would be limited by the number of Stony Brook students going there.

I do have a a very clear recollection of meeting with you in Fall 1990 and inviting you to join an informal Stony Brook 'country team' that would work on stimulating campus interest in Germany. I recall a very clear message from you to the effect that you had no time, and I respected those limitations. Others, however, have been working quite diligently. Perhaps at this time you might like to join the effort to find and encourage our Stony Brook students to go to Konstanz. Perhaps you could arrange a six weeks summer