The International Programs Committee of CBA met on Thursday, October 09, 2011 at 1615. Kamal Haddad, Fred Raafat, John Francis and Massoud Saghafi were present members of the Committee. James Gerber, Director of the International Business Program (CAL) was invited to attend the meeting.

The main agenda item was to discuss the proposal for a new required IB course titled “Introduction to International Business” - IB 300 - to be first taught by the College of Arts and Letters faculty with the goal of better preparing IB majors for upper division business courses. The course was developed in response to the IB’s program review last spring that highlighted some of the perceived weaknesses of graduating IB students. James Gerber positioned the course as a new “bridge” between the two colleges and suggested that in future, it could be taught by faculty of CBA as well as CAL with FTEs assigned to the college that covers the instructional costs.

The consensus in the Committee was positive however, the Finance Department had reservations regarding the amount of overlap between IB 300 and existing finance courses.

The Committee believes that the course will provide basic business background to IB majors and will enhance their capacity to capture upper division business knowledge more effectively. The International Programs Committee recommends that the Undergraduate Committee consider discussing the merits of IB 300. A specific set of comments will be directly sent to the Undergraduate Committee for discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 1745.