

**International Education Council  
Meeting Agenda  
November 4, 2016  
Blair Hall Third Floor Conference 3108**

**Members present:** Ms. Maja Dinger, Dr. Rose Gong, Dr. Nichole Hugo, Dr. Vanesa Landrus, Dr. Zhiwei Liu, Dr. Daniele Nardi, Dr. Robert Petersen, Dr. Catherine Polydore, and Dr. John Willems

**Members absent:** Mr. Beluchukwu Ebede and Dr. Chao Wen

**Ex-officio present:** Dr. Bill Elliott, Ms. Echarial Gaines, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson, and Dr. Kurt Olausen

**Ex-officio absent:** Dr. Newton Key and Ms. Sara Schmidt

**Guests present:** Ms. Brenda Cuellar, Ms. Rachel Lindhart, Mr. Tanmay Pant, and Ms. Lauren Schuberth

**I. Welcome**

- 1) Dr. Robert Petersen welcomed the committee.

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

- 1) The minutes for October 7, 2016 were approved with no revisions.

**III. Reports**

**1) International Students and Scholars: Mr. Bill Elliott**

**a) International Education Week**

- i) Ms. Cuellar distributed a flyer promoting the events for International Education Week. The flyer is attached.
- ii) Dr. Petersen shared that A Taste of India is taking place from 6 – 8 PM on Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at the Newman Center. It is \$5 person. This will include a variety of entrée options with salad and dessert. A poster will be sent out for this event when the details are finalized. More information to come on the exact prices.

**b) Admissions Update**

- i) For the Spring 2016 application cycle, there were 611 applications, from which the OISS issued 237 I-20s. Of this, there were about 122 students in attendance at the spring 2016 orientation. There are currently 806 applications in for the Spring 2017 semester. Thus far, the OISS has issued 207 I-20s. The remaining applications will be processed by the end of next week, sent to the graduate coordinators for grad school applications, and decisions will be made immediately after. The quick turnaround will give students time to apply for visas and be here in the spring.

Ms. Lauren Schuberth asked about the timeline for Fall 2017 applications. Mr. Elliott said that the OISS will start assessing Fall 2017 applications as soon as they complete Spring 2017.

**c) Ms. Brenda Cuellar: NAFSA Regional Conference Report**

- i) Ms. Cuellar recently attended the NAFSA Regional Conference in Wisconsin. Ms. Cuellar attended sessions on F-1 intermediate training for immigration policies; OPT; conversation partners; international ambassadors; and recruitment/marketing strategies. Ms. Cuellar reported that the price of OPT will increase from \$380 to \$410 after December 23. Ms. Cuellar will inform international students and encourage them to apply for OPT before December 23. The OISS is seeking to improve OPT seminars by collaborating with career services and graduate coordinators. The topic of OPT is covered during orientation and training is offered 1 semester before the students begin OPT. The OISS is looking into possibly implementing a paperless application process. Mr. Elliott expressed his appreciation for Dean Hendrickson's support in getting Ms. Cuellar to the NAFSA conference. Dr. Hendrickson was pleased to support this opportunity and knows the institution as a whole will all benefit. Dr.

Hendrickson also expressed President Glassman's support of international recruitment travel.

**d) Recruitment fair**

- i) Ms. Cuellar attended an international student recruitment fair in Chicago. There was a great turnout of 4 of 5 schools there of 30 high school, undergraduate, and community college students in attendance. One student has applied to EIU as a result of this fair. Another student has applied for FA17 semester. Ms. Cuellar has been in communication with both students.

**e) TLC update**

- i) Ms. Schuberth expressed that the EIU application process is confusing for students, especially those applying for Master's programs. Students are challenged by finding the program application and then applying to both the program and the OISS. Ms. Schuberth will keep assessing this process and begin working with Ms. Cuellar to make it easier for students.
- ii) There are 20 students from Mexico coming this weekend. TLC was able to arrange 20 homestays for the students. The students will be here until December 4. They were recruited through Proyecta 10,000. The Charleston community is working together to provide events for the students and instructors. Ms. Schuberth is working with Mr. Mark Hudson, Director of Housing and Dining Services, to implement a larger scholarship that allows TLC to host visiting students in the residence halls during their visit.
- iii) Recent visitors to TLC include Dr. Peter Liu and Dr. Austin Cheney from the Technology department as well as student athletes. Ms. Krishna Thomas will be visiting TLC next week to discuss the process to enter EIU. The AIS President will also visit and the English Club will be hosting another event with TLC. There will potentially be 12 TLC students entering EIU in the Spring 2017 upon completion of the program. If any departments would like to meet with the students, please e-mail Ms. Schuberth. Dr. Polydore suggested sending this opportunity out to faculty as well.

**2) Study Abroad: Dr. Kurt Olausen**

**a) Spring Programs Enrollment Update**

- i) Dr. Olausen reported that there are 25 spring semester applications. He expressed his thanks to the Study Abroad Committee for helping evaluate scholarship applications. Eleven students received scholarship awards for a total of \$9912.11 through need-based scholarships, merit scholarships, endowed scholarships and tuition waivers. All 11 students accepted their scholarships.

**b) Spring Applications and Scholarships**

- i) There are currently 12 applications in the system for the Guatemala spring break program. The OSA anticipates a successful spring break program for 2017.

**c) Passport Caravan Update**

- i) The Passport Caravan is Wednesday, November 9. All materials are here and ready. A CIEE representative as well as passport processors from the Coles Country Treasurer's Office will be present. The Passport Caravan is taking place in the Charleston/Mattoon Room in the MLK Jr. University Union from 10 AM – 3 PM. The event is booked to capacity, with seventy-five students committed as well as additional waitlisted students. Dr. Olausen thanked CIEE for selecting EIU as a Passport Caravan site, the Treasurer's Office for sending their staff to campus to process the applications, as well as the OSA staff for their hard work.

**d) Summer Programs**

- i) Numbers will fluctuate; There are currently 42 started applications for summer faculty-led programs. These numbers will fluctuate over the next couple of months, however this is a good start for November.

**3) Dean's Report: Dr. Ryan Hendrickson**

**a) Tuition Rate Partnership Proposal**

- i) Dr. Hendrickson presented a proposal which reads as follows: “International students may be admitted to the University through specific market-based partnerships, in which tuition rates may be determined by the President.” This proposal was advanced in an effort to make EIU more competitive in seeking to increase international student enrollment. Dr. Petersen introduced the move to vote on the principle of the proposal draft. Move was seconded by Dr. Willems. They voted to support the substance and principle of this initiative with the understanding that this language may be slightly amended by the university legal counsel for eventual presentation to the board of trustees. The council members approved this vote unanimously.

This proposal would allow the OISS, in collaboration with the EIU President, to create tuition rates for partnerships that exist with international institutions. These rates will be developed case-by-case and vary depending on institution and partnership. This was developed from a conversation that took place with the University of Dhaka earlier this semester. This proposal will move to the Board of Trustees, who makes policies regarding tuition. The intent is to give the President and OISS flexibility in finding creative ways to establish tuition rate variations with partner programs to increase international student population and reach different populations.

Dr. John Willems shared that he recently went to an Academic and Deans Conference at the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh where he met many students. The University of Dhaka has a strong academic reputation, as they only admit the top 2% of students who apply. For example, 51,000 students applied to their College of Business and 1,000 were admitted.

Dr. Petersen asked how this would affect EIU’s reputation. Dean Hendrickson responded that any time EIU increases its student population it is positively received. Mr. Elliott added that since the Illinois state funding has decreased from years past, the argument for out of state tuition is not as valid as it used to be. The current rate for out of state tuition is 2.4 times that of in-state tuition.

- ii) Dialogue continues between Dr. Hendrickson and potential Chinese partners, specifically the ECAUA, and articulation agreements are underway.

**b) External Transcript Evaluator**

- i) President Glassman has approved to move forward with employing an external transcript evaluator. This will assist the Graduate School, Registrar, and Ms. Thomas in the OISS. It will only impact a small number of international students and international MBA students. Dr. H is awaiting final approval.

**IV. Items Pending**

- a. None

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEXT MEETING  
December 2, 2016  
Blair Hall Conference Room 3108**