

**International Education Council  
Meeting Agenda  
February 3, 2017  
Blair Hall Third Floor Conference 3108**

**Members present:** Dr. Nichole Hugo, Dr. Vanesa Landrus, Dr. Zhiwei Liu, Dr. Daniele Nardi, Dr. Robert Petersen, Dr. Catherine Polydore, Dr. Chao Wen, and Dr. John Willems

**Members absent:** Ms. Maja Dinger, Dr. Rose Gong, and Mr. Tanmay Pant

**Ex-officio present:** Dr. Austin Cheney, Ms. Echarial Gaines, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson, Dr. Kurt Olausen, and Ms. Sara Schmidt

**Ex-officio absent:** Dr. Newton Key

**Guests present:** Mr. Akshit Chopra, Ms. Rachel Lindhart, Ms. Lauren Schuberth, and Ms. Krishna Thomas

**I. Welcome**

- a. Dr. Robert Petersen welcomed the committee.

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

- a. The minutes of January 13, 2017 were approved with no revisions.

**III. Reports**

**1) International Students and Scholars: Dr. Austin Cheney**

**a) Spring 2017 Enrollment Update**

Dr. Cheney distributed a document outlining the Spring 2017 Enrollment update. Please see this table and supplemental information included within the minutes below.

**b) New Initiatives**

The OISS is in the process of collecting data as a component of the development of their strategic plan for the office. Dr. Cheney has reached out to department chairs and intends to do the same with academic advisors. The OISS is currently working on the following initiatives: reaching out to three local grocery stores regarding stocking additional international grocery items; aiming to strengthen the collaboration between the student organizations and clubs representing various geographical regions on campus; and updating the OISS website. Dr. Cheney requested suggestions from IEC of ideas that could be implemented into the new OISS website design. It was discussed that an interactive world map would be created to connect international faculty, staff, and peer representatives from with prospective students from around the world.

**c) Projects Committee Update**

The Special Projects Committee met to generate ideas for the 2017 International Education Week (IEW). Dr. Cheney invited Dr. Kurt Olausen to be a part of the Special Projects Committee as well. The committee seeks to involve community members in the IEW programming this year. Dr. Cheney posed having EIU's IEW during the week before the official IEW, as it falls right before the Thanksgiving break.

**d) AIS Update**

Akshit Chopra, the Vice President of AIS, provided IEC with the AIS update on behalf of Mr. Tanmay Pant. AIS is hosting an event entitled "Step in the Name of Love" from 7:00 – 9:00 PM on Friday, February 10. This event is a paper dance event in celebration of Valentine's Day. Thai food will be catered from a local restaurant.

**e) Current Events**

Dr. Cheney met with Dean Hendrickson in response to President Trump's executive order on immigration. The OISS reached out to the international

student population via e-mail following this declaration. There is currently one student at EIU who is from one of the seven declared banned countries. Dr. Cheney has met with this student and Dr. Hendrickson reached out to him as well. Dr. Hendrickson thanked the OISS staff for responding quickly to the executive order and for supporting all of EIU's international students. Provost Lord sent an e-mail to the campus community and reached out to department chairs to connect with international faculty in response to the order.

**f) Scholarship Committee Update**

Ms. Krishna Thomas provided IEC with an update from the OISS Scholarship Committee. The committee is working to make the international student scholarship process more concise. The most recent scholarship cycle received over 600 applications. In addition to the overwhelming amount of applications, there were also concerns with the content of the application itself. The scholarship has three goals: to recruit and retain exceptional international students; to provide them with financial resources; and to promote cultural diversity. The committee has created a separate application process for undergraduate and graduate students and has added two new essay questions that have a word count limit. These essays will be run through turnitin.com to test for plagiarism. The application deadline is in March. Ms. Thomas has e-mailed graduate coordinators and department chairs to inform them of the changes in the scholarship application process. EIU offers six scholarships for international students. There are 44 graduate student recipients and 19 undergraduate student recipients.

**g) TLC Update**

TLC is offering a shuttle twice monthly to transport TLC and EIU international students to Champaign to shop. TLC is working with Campus Pointe Apartments to negotiate month-to-month rent for TLC students at an adjusted cost. TLC aims to get more of their students living on campus, so they are going to focus their accommodation advertisement primarily on residence halls. Ms. Lauren Schuberth has met with Mr. Mark Hudson, Director of EIU Housing and Dining Services, to develop these advertisements. Dr. Liu suggested considering university apartments as well.

Ms. Lauren Schuberth would like to work with Ms. Brenda Cuellar and EIU department chairs to discuss recruiting and distributing EIU materials to schools while traveling abroad.

Rather than taking a placement test, incoming students who have a TOEFL score will be able to use that score to be placed in a course level upon their arrival at TLC. Ms. Schuberth distributed the TOEFL test and placement equivalency chart. This will allow incoming students to better plan their timeline for entering the university.

There are currently 13 students enrolled in TLC-Charleston. TLC U.S.A. received a 96% customer satisfaction rate, and TLC-Charleston received a 100% satisfaction from surveys distributed. Surveys go to agents, students, and all who work with TLC.

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

**a) Summer Faculty-Led Programs Update**

Dr. Olausen shared that today is the deadline for the summer faculty-led programs. There are 145 applications in the system split between 14 faculty-led programs. The Archaeology in Belgium program was canceled late last month due to the Belgium hosts' inability to accommodate a group this summer. Dr. Olausen will assess the applications Monday morning and move forward with the faculty leaders. Many students have applied for scholarships. These will be divided among the Study Abroad Committee for review.

**b) New Program Proposals**

A call was published in the university newsletter for program proposals for the 2018 calendar year. The application submission is open now through March 31.

**c) Spring Break Update**

There are 16 students participating in the spring break faculty-led program to Guatemala. Six of these students received scholarships. The spring break scholarship awards totaled \$2,350. The spring break pre-departure orientation is being held on Tuesday.

**d) Study abroad Committee**

The Study Abroad Committee will begin reviewing scholarship applications next week for students participating in summer faculty-led programs.

**e) OISS Director Search Update**

The OISS Director Search Committee completed phone interviews this week. They are now working on reference checks and HR paperwork for those candidates who they would like to invite campus. There will be an opportunity for IEC to meet with the candidates during on-campus interviews. Dr. Hendrickson thanked the OISS Director Search Committee for their work. He added that IEC's presence at the open interview sessions is vital, demonstrating commitment to and support of the search. IEC can expect to receive requests to participate in the campus visits when they are scheduled.

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

**a) Board of Trustees Vote**

The Board of Trustees voted to approve and pass the International Partnership Tuition Rate Proposal which states that the president has flexibility in negotiating tuition rates with international partners. Dr. Hendrickson has sent a proposal to Dr. Glassman that is currently under consideration.

**b) International Partnerships**

The OISS is working on several large partnerships. A partnership with the University of Dhaka is contingent upon the solidification of a tuition agreement, which is under review by President Glassman before being passed to the University of Dhaka.

The OISS continues to work with the Education and Culture Association for SINO and US Exchange. An MOU was recently signed with this group. Dr. Cheney and Dean Shelton will be visiting China to visit with various universities. The OISS continues to engage with the representative from Ivy Goal.

**c) Visiting Scholars on Campus**

Dr. Hendrickson shared that EIU is hosting several visiting scholars this semester. Yan Emma Yu is currently on campus in the English Department. Richard Wang, with the MBA program, from Victoria University in New Zealand just departed. Two scholars from University of Zaragoza in Spain will be arriving March 1 to conduct research with EIU business professors. Dr. Liu from Jishou University is scheduled to arrive on March 1 as well.

**IV. Items Pending**

- a. None

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**March 3, 2017**

**Blair Hall Conference Room 2116**

Spring 2017 Enrollment Figures

Spring 2016 – 381 International Students

Fall 2016 – 431 International Students

Spring 2017

Total IS Headcount (2/1/17)	438
IS Undergraduates	112
IS Graduates	326
IS Spring Enrollments	100
# Countries	43