

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2010

Members present: Dr. Ronan Bernas, Dr. David Boggs, Dr. Stephen Canfield, Dr. Marilyn Coles, Dr. Dejan Magoc, Dr. Ralph Marshall, Dr. Linda Simpson, Mr. Shaukat Sheikh

Members absent: Mr. Orkhan Abdullayev, Ms. Stacey Jakska, Dr. Tesa Leonce, Dr. Richard Sylvia

Ex-Officio present: Ms. Pam Collins, Mr. Bill Elliott (for Dr. Robert Augustine), Ms. Sara Schmidt, Ms. Wendy Williamson

Ex-Officio absent: Ms. Marilyn Holmes (for Ms. Sue Songer)

Invited Guests present: Ms. Lisa Brown, Ms. Marilyn Thomas

I. Welcome, Dr. Coles

II. Approval of the November 5, 2010, minutes, Dr. Coles

Motion was made by Dr. Canfield to accept the minutes; seconded by Dr. Simpson; accepted by acclamation.

III. Reports

A. International Students and Scholars, Ms. Thomas (Admissions Specialist, OISS). Ms. Thomas reviewed the admissions statistics for the upcoming Spring 2011 semester, as compared to this time last year: 307 applications vs. 162; 167 admitted vs. 68; and 139 I-20s issued vs. 55. She gave detail on both graduate and undergraduate admissions. Ms. Thomas also reported that the international students were planning to participate in the university tree-trimming activity in Old Main in lieu of setting up a Holiday Banquet. Upon inquiry, it was stated that there had been no plans made for the international students to attend the Holiday Concert.

B. Study Abroad, Ms. Williamson (Director, OSA). Ms. Williamson responded to the Financial Aid concerns expressed at the previous IEC meeting. She and Mr. Aziz had met over the summer with Financial Aid regarding how we might improve information and services provided to students who study abroad. Ms. Brown also met with Financial Aid to design an FAQ Sheet. The aid process is very complex and is different for every student which necessitates individual consultation at the F.A. office. Basic information is on the website (www.eiu.edu » study abroad » faculty led proposals » financial aid for students). At EIU, 12 hours is considered full-time for the fall, spring, or summer terms; 6 hours dispersed over all summer sessions would be considered half-time. During the summer, student financial aid is dispersed: Stafford and PLUS Loans –federal regulations require a student be enrolled at least half-time to receive assistance; FWS and Perkins Loans – due to EIU's limited dollars, F.A. only awards students who are enrolled at least half-time; Federal Pell Grant – awarded regardless of the number of hours; MAP – no state summer MAP award due to funding (for faculty-led study abroad, F.A. can bill MAP for tuition and fees because the students have an EIU schedule file, specific EIU classes, and receive EIU course credit); EIU and Private Scholarships – depends on each scholarship and its stipulations. Financial aid does not cover tuition and fees for faculty-led study abroad courses. Scholarships, waivers, and discounts also cannot be used to cover tuition and fees for these courses. Tips for faculty were given. Faculty should plan program dates so students can take advantage of on-campus courses, too: plan the international portion of your trip either between the first on-campus session's start/end dates or the third session's start/end dates to allow students the opportunity to take additional courses if they would like. All courses offered in the summer range from 1 to 4 credits, with 3 credits being the most common. To estimate the number of credits that would be

appropriate for your program, simply look at the number of weeks you wish to teach. More specific information is outlined in the credit policy.

Ms. Williamson reported that she and Farhan had successful presentations at the NAFSA Region V meeting in Detroit. Her presentation at the Florens 2010 Conference was a success and was covered in the *La Nazione*, the Florence, Italy, newspaper. Her presentation was written up in article format and will be coming out in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* soon. She also visited current Study Abroad students in Florence, as well as visited Florence University of the Arts, Apicius Culinary Institute, Lorenzo de' Medici's many campuses around the city, the European School of Economics, and had some contact with Siena Italian Studies Institute. Ms. Brown had a successful visit to the MCTS meeting in Middelburg and Universität Würzburg in central-southern Germany; OSA is pursuing an exchange agreement. Open Doors Data was released in November; fifteen of the top 25 destinations were outside Western Europe. EIU is still the number one master's institution but has climbed to #7 among all institutions in Illinois. Scholarships awarded for Spring 2011 totaled \$11,392.50 in tuition waivers and \$15,390.37 in 10 cash awards. Next round of scholarships deadline is today. Spring enrollment numbers are still in flux as applications are still coming in. Ms. Williamson has 2 presentations at the AIEA conference and 1 at the Forum on Education Abroad. She wrote up – with the help of some of the IEC members and the deans and department chairs – a nomination for EIU in the 2011 Senator Paul Simon Award for Comprehensive Internationalization and the 2011 Senator Paul Simon Spotlight Award, prestigious awards from the Association of International Educators. It has been submitted for consideration. If anyone would like to see the nomination application and essay, she would be happy to them a copy via email. The next study abroad fair is January 19, 2011, in the University Ballroom.

C. Graduate School, Mr. Elliott (Assistant Dean, Graduate School). Mr. Elliott reported that Dr. Augustine will be sending a memo out on a potential solution for Sue Songer's replacement to the IEC members in the near future.

IV. Items to be Acted On

A. IEC Liaisons: selection of members. Dr. Coles reported that the deans of the various colleges would be attending the IEC meetings in February and March of 2011. Therefore, IEC liaisons were being invited to attend the January and April IEC meetings. IEC members suggested additions to Ms. Holmes' slate of liaisons, resulting in the following list: Housing & Dining – Kelly Miller, Jody Horn; Health Service – Dr. Sheila Baker; Counseling Center – Sandy Cox; Financial Aid – Jenny Stout (aid processing/advising) and Lennie Heddins (insurance); Accounting & Purchasing - Jo Gentry (tax treaties) and Monty Bennett (travel/purchasing); Judicial Affairs – Dr. Heather Webb; Interdisciplinary Center for Global Diversity – Dr. James Ochwa-Echel; University Marketing and Communications – Stacia Lynch; and the Writing Center – Dr. Tim Taylor. Dr. Webb would be invited to attend with Financial Aid to the January meeting.

B. International Reception Planning, Fall 2011. Members discussed planning a reception that would include international members of the faculty, current and potential study abroad faculty who led international programs; and Visiting Scholars. Dr. Marshall suggested considering holding the reception during the New Faculty Orientation. Planning will continue throughout the year.

Dr. Canfield moved to adjourn; Dr. Marchall seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Next IEC meeting: Friday, January 14, 2011, 8:30 a.m., **3108 Blair Hall Conference Room**

Next IEC Executive Committee meeting: Friday, December 10, 2010, 8:30 a.m., Dr. Augustine's office

Recorder: Marcus Ricci, OISS