

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2012

Members present: Dr. Boggs, Dr. Stephen Canfield, Dr. Dan Carter, Dr. Marilyn Coles, Dr. Lania Knight, Dr. Dejan Magoc, Dr. Eric Bollinger, Dr. Jacquelyn Frank, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson, Ms. Sara Boro, Mr. Vaskar Nepal KC.

Members absent:

Ex-Officio present: Dean Augustine, Wendy Williamson, Ms. Beth Craig.

Ex-Officio absent: Mr. Kevin Vicker, Ms. Sara Schmidt

Invited Guests present: Ms. Marilyn Thomas, Ms. Marilyn Holmes, Kelly Holland, Ms. Nancy Meese.

I. Welcome, Dr. Magoc

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion for September Minutes approval was made by Dr. Canfield and second by Dr. Coles and approved.

III. Reports

a. Dean Augustine,

The Global Ambassador program was greatly received with 4 invited International alumni returning to Eastern. They were greeted by international flags in the Old Main foyer. A banquet was held on Saturday. Contributions were made by the Alumni. Thank you was extended to Dr. Magoc for his welcome at the banquet and to Dr. Coles and students for their performance of the national anthems. It was a very moving moment for the Ambassadors. The Global Ambassador program is being considered for next year possibly later in October. We would like to have 8-10 international alumni attending. Three alumni, who meet the criteria, have been identified.

ISS Director, Kevin, is developing an Assessment Initiative program to look and assess programs to honor excellence. He is developing and critiquing for evaluating programs such as curriculum and other international programs. Currently, he is not ready to reveal the details of his program. It is a great opportunity to put parameters to International education. Kevin will present the criteria later.

Congratulations to Ms. Holland and the Study Abroad Department for the great Study Abroad article in the Sunday paper.

An update on the UPI Contract concerning the Study Abroad clause for coordinator taking lower compensation was taken out and the rate is as it stands in the contract.

b. International Students and Scholars: Ms. Marilyn Thomas

The Language Company proposal being available at EIU, has been approved. Possibly, to begin Fall 2013 and to start recruiting students now. The Language Company has to go through the steps of SEVIS beginning Spring 13. Dr. Knight inquired about some of the Language Company courses overlapping the EIU courses. Those courses of the Intensive language, offer the skills and opportunity of interest and are not taken for credit reported Ms. Thomas. Dean Augustine added the Intensive language courses are strictly for passing levels for English language proficiency. After passing the Language Company, the students may enter EIU and earn a degree, but not before they work toward English proficiency criteria.

Dr. Knight stated, from her husband's experience, University of Illinois offers an undergraduate composition class which possibly would be an option for us. Another option might be having a required English composition course.

The next challenge is the Language Company coming and compensating EIU. The first floor of Lawson Hall will house the English Language Company. If it grows, the rooms will be enlarged, along with a fee change. Also accreditation will take approximately one year, possibly completed by Fall 2013 or Spring.

Ms. Thomas asked the IEC's approval to put the Language Company proposal on the CAA agenda to add at the undergraduate level. She stated the Language Company will not offer TOEFL. We will be accepting the completion of Language Company instead of TOEFL if students complete Level 9 and meet language proficiency. Students submitting TOEFL scores will also be accepted.

It was moved to accept the Language Company proposal by Ms. Williamson and second by Dr. Knight. The motion was approved. Dean Augustine will present the proposal to CAA.

c. Study Abroad: Ms. Wendy Williamson

Ms. Williamson stated the number of Study Abroad students was down. There were 24 students Fall, 49 student Spring . The Summer faculty programs usually had 190-200 student but was down to 138 students. There were 43 independent Study Abroad students. We have seen 21 students interested in Study Abroad this fall and have received 38 applications for 2013.

Ms. Williamson has been presenting the Study Abroad/Senior Seminar Proposal to Department Councils. It was suggested to present to all EIU department councils, in order to complete ruling at the Spring CAA meeting. She has been asked to clarify the quality of Study Abroad proposal. She also asked for better ideas for the proposal. Some suggestions were: not having the reflected paper and not submitted to electronic profile. Some did not want to give up the Senior Seminar.

A Slow Living Program in Italy is planned for May 2013 for two weeks. Names of interested people with recruiting skills are being taken for coordinating the Italy Study Abroad session.

Congratulations to Ms. Holland and the Study Abroad office for winning the Homecoming decoration contest for Small Offices.

The attendance at Study Abroad Fair was less this year. Approximately 300 attended the Fair. It was noticed that faculty were requiring students to attend.

The deadline for Scholarships was October 1. The Committee will be reading 26 applications.

Dean Augustine suggested when Ms. Williamson meets with CAA in November, some of the IEC member is present to promote the Study Abroad/Senior Seminar proposal and show support.

Meeting adjourned 9:35 a.m.

Recorder: Nancy Meese, International Student and Scholar Office.

Next meeting scheduled November 2, 2012 Blair Hall 3108.