

## **INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**November 2, 2012**

**Members present:** Dr. David Boggs, Dr. Lania Knight, Dr. Dejan Magoc, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson, Ms. Sara Boro, Mr. Vaskar Nepal KC.

**Members absent:** Dr. Eric Bollinger, Dr. Dan Carter, Dr. Marilyn Coles, Dr. Stephen Canfield, Dr. Jacquelyn Frank,

**Ex-Officio present:** Mr. Kevin Vicker, Ms. Wendy Williamson, Ms. Beth Craig.

**Ex-Officio absent:** Dean Augustine, Ms. Sara Schmidt

**Invited Guests present:** Ms. Kelly Holland, Ms. Nancy Meese.

**I. Welcome, Dr. Magoc**

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Motion for October Minutes approval was made by Dr. Lania Knight and second by Ms. Sara Boro and approved.

**III. Reports**

**a. Dean's Report: Ms. Wendy Williamson**

The Global Ambassador program was such a success Dean Augustine was approached to include the program every year.

A Visiting Scholar with the Accounting Department of School of Business, Dr. Thu Phuong Truong from New Zealand will arrive Fall 2013.

**b. International Students and Scholars: Mr. Kevin Vicker**

Kevin traveled in September recruiting in Dubai, Nepal, and Bangalore, India to recruit and attend recruiting fairs. Best part of his travel was visiting our current students' parents and homes. Mr. Vaskar Nepal KC's help was very much appreciated. Nepal students' primary goal is to come to the United States. They have financial weaknesses to overcome.

Chennai and Bangalore were exploratory markets for us. Chennai students are mostly graduate level for approximately 50% of their high school students study

abroad. Northern India is very heavily undergraduate students. In the spring Marilyn Holmes will travel to China and Korea.

Dr. Knight asked what EIU strengths are presented in recruiting. EIU academics, friendly environment and having International faculty on campus and their support off campus are stressed. China parents send their children to the post prestigious schools in the U.S while India stress scholarships.

Dr. Knight inquired about which programs International students are most interested. Technology, Business and the Sciences such as mechanical and industrial engineering are the programs with largest International student population at EIU.

Dr. Boggs asked the duties of the agents for the students at the universities Kevin visited. The consultants are not full time and assist processing documents for the students. Mr. Nepal KC stated the students definitely go to an agent or consultant who usually reviews the student's scores such as their TOEFL as well as other required documents for studying abroad. When the student applies for I-20 and Visa, they went to the agent for advice of their education or financial need. If the student is undecided, the consultant advises. The student applies to 2 or 3 universities and receives TOEFL and I-20s from schools. The consultant and student decide which is best for the student. Then the consultant or agent reviews the documents. The Ambassador also reviews the legality of documents when the student applies for a Visa.

Kevin stated the agents charge basic fees to the students, approximately \$200 and referral fee. At Nepal, the offices were similar to our International office. IEP has offices in 20 countries to assist students.

Dr. Magoc was interested in the common questions the students asked about EIU during Kevin's trip. Scholarships are questioned most frequently as well as the length of time for processing their applications. The students were concerned about the direct communication with the school, the accreditation, and the academic programs.

Project Committee: Kevin

Kevin will be meeting with Dean Augustine on creating an award for the department which focuses on International students and puts forth effort for students not just numbers. Next week he will meet with the Audit Committee. Presenting the award is planned for the Spring program.

The Language Company is in negotiation with the Provost and housing. Housing wants to charge \$150 per student for each 4 week session. This is \$50 higher

than the Language Company charges at their other sites, \$100 per student for each 4 week session. Dr. Nadler suggested having a direct recreation center and library services fee. Dr. Weber from a Business point suggested having some incentive for students to continue at EIU. This is in progress and hope to have by the end of Semester.

c. Study Abroad: Ms. Wendy Williamson

Ms. Williamson has finished meeting with each of the college committee for the Study Abroad/Senior Seminar Proposal. Please mark November 8 at 2 p.m. to attend the CAA meeting at Booth Conference Room to show your support. Changes to the Proposal have been minor such as the reflector paper will be optional to do electronic paper.

Honors Council shows the most opposition. The Dean of Honor College continues to include Honor students. The Proposal creates the following: a Senior Seminar and a Study Abroad. The argument is interdisciplinary and creating a new requirement. Study abroad is more integrated than any other program. The strong supporters are the Business Department and Student Senate as well as the College of Arts and Humanity and Honors Council.

Dr. Knight states the concerns she has heard from the English department is the Study Abroad/Senior Seminar would be taught by the director of Study Abroad or a person of that department that does not have a PHD. Courses 2000 and up are taught by faculty with a PHD. Since the Senior Seminar classes are 1 hour courses, it is difficult to find faculty to teach an extra course.

Ms. Williamson replied she was not aware of that requirement since the past-president of EIU with a MA had taught courses. The Study Abroad/Senior Seminar will benefit our student so we want someone to teach the course.

Dr. Hendrickson asked if there was any way to wait for the support for the proposal. We are ready now responded Ms. Williamson. The majority see the value of the Study Abroad Proposal as well as the long-term values. Integrating Learning is all over campus. It takes Integrating Learning, forces defining it and using it. After the proposal has passed, it will have a budget.

The Study Abroad has 235 students this year and 338 last years. There was a decrease in faculty programs and increase in independent programs. Kevin reports a decrease in Study Abroad students.

Ms. Holland reported 26 applications were received for scholarships: 10 for Winter Break (2 trips), 16 for spring semester, 11 applicants pursuing a freight language, 20 applied for endowed funds, 10 students identified themselves as a

minority candidate, 2 males, 24 females and 12 countries were represented. The average GPA was 3.43, average essay 16/20 points, average program cost are \$9,000 and the average financial need is \$4,500. There 5 merit awards at \$300 each for a total of \$1,500. These students had a 3.92 GPA average. The William Weber scholar will spend a semester in Brazil. The Strandberg scholar will spend a semester in Spain. Ms. Holland reported 7 financial need based awards valued at ~\$7,700 and 2 exchange wards valued at \$4,228 each (one Korea, one Cyprus). Two awards were declined. One program was canceled and another student dropped. The value was \$1037.

A very good Study Abroad presentation at Madison, Wisconsin was given by Ms. Sara Boro.

Dr. Magoc reminded the members to show their support and interest of the Study Abroad/Senior Seminar at the CAA on November 8.

Meeting adjourned 10:00 a.m.

Recorder: Nancy Meese, International Student and Scholar Office.

**Next meeting scheduled December 7, 2012 Blair Hall 3108.**