

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2013

Members present: Dr. David Boggs, Dr. Dejan Magoc, Dr. Jacquelyn Frank, Dr. Stephen Canfield, Dr. Marilyn Coles, and Ms. Sara Boro.

Members absent: Dr. Lania Knight, Dr. Dan Carter, Dr. Eric Bollinger, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson, Vaskar Nepal KC

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

Ex-Officio absent: Ms. Sara Schmidt.

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

I. Welcome, Dr. Magoc

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion for January Minutes approval was made by Ms. Kelly Holland and second by Dr. Marilyn Coles and approved.

III. Reports

a. Dean's Report: Dean Augustine

Dean Augustine announced Ms. Wendy Williamson, Director of Study Abroad, will be leaving EIU in June. He thanked her for all she has done for our Study Abroad program. Ms. Williamson developed an excellent model for our university and is well recognized by other universities.

The search for a Director of Study Abroad will begin after July 1. We will asking the colleges what do they look at, such as skills and credentials, when evaluating applicants as well as input from Ms. Williamson.

Ms. Kelly Holland was recognized for her good work with the Study Abroad lab as well as the fine work with the current searches.

Ms. Williamson, we wish you well in the next chapter of your career.

b. International Students and Scholars: Mr. Kevin Vicker

The official papers for the English Language Center have been signed. Dean Augustine added under the present president and other presidents coming to the completion of the very complex process of the Language Center is a turning

point for us and EIU. It will take a year for approval by accreditation body. It will be possibly a year from June or July for the center to open at EIU. The Language Company opens 2 centers per year, with the accreditation taking approximately a year, Summer 2014 is the projected date of opening. Kevin thanked everyone for their support on the Language Center.

International Award Dinner is scheduled for April 16 at 5:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom at the Union. Kevin is asking IEC members to present Awards. Four of the deans, the provost, and department chairs have agreed to present awards. This year plans are to social time, 30 minutes for dinner and the awards presentations. There will be a person speaking and another person to give the awards. There will be scripts for award presentations.

Ms. Holland stated the Study Abroad will have two awards, one to a student from Education who has traveled to the Bahamas and a faculty member, Jon Oliver who accompanied students to the UK. The Excellence Award had one entry, the School of Technology. This is the first time for the award; hopefully there will be more apply in the future. The Eulalee Anderson Awards will be presented to Hoyoung Kim and Tim and Laura Boyce . Shahmir Haq will be awarded the Student Ambassador of the Year. A list of the awards and recipients will be sent to the IEC members.

Kevin continues work with China on a joint agreement, Shenyang Jianzhu University in Northern China in the Sister City of Chicago. Dr. Peter Liu speaks highly of this university. Kevin will be visiting China this March in place of Ms. Holmes. Dean Augustine stated Bill Elliot will be handling Ms. Holmes's duties while Kevin is in China.

Kevin invited all to the Taste of the World, Saturday night, at the Central Broadway Christian Church in Mattoon. Food will be prepared by International students. Fill free to bring a dish and enjoy the evening. Transportation for the students will be provided.

We have approval for Student Fees to be raised to \$105 this year, \$110 the next year and \$115 the following year. This fee is built in with the fees for trips and activities for the International Students. This fee has not increased since it was started.

Dr. Marilyn Coles stated the Music Department has a large number of International Students and asked if an exit survey was given to the students graduating. It could be a path to EIU for future students for the graduates to recommend EIU to their friends. Kevin replied we do not a survey as such but will look into it. Also, the survey may include when students arrived at EIU, and

how they learned about our university. Dr. Coles also suggested including what schools the International students attended for contacting them.

c. Study Abroad: Ms. Wendy Williamson

Ms. Wendy Williamson reported the Study Abroad Coordinator search is progressing well. Candidates will be on campus the week of March 18. Study Abroad enrollment is declining. We hope the Study Abroad/Senior Seminar will increase the enrollment.

Ms. Kelly Holland stated 121 students have applied for Study Abroad for Summer 2013 which the deadline (for independent summer) is one week out. The Summer 2012 had 12 faculty-led programs and 2 customized programs which 4 did not make it. We are offering 10 faculty-led programs and 3 customized which 2 have canceled and a third is likely to cancel. As of February 22, for Year 2012-2013, 24 students have dropped their study abroad program. Money is major reason given for dropping their study abroad program. Other reasons given are: Family/personal issues, other opportunity/Internship, will study abroad another time, will take a different program and the need to take more credits to graduate on time. A suggestion was made to move the faculty –led deadline from January 11 to January 22 which would be easier for some students who likely would study abroad are not with the professors until Spring semester.

Ms Holland stated approximately 98% of students do not have any federal financial aid for the summer which is a problem for students.

For 2012-2013, with one deadline remaining, we have collected 110 scholarship applications out 182 applications for 60%. Sixty-five scholarship awards have been made for a total of approximately \$53,400. In 2011-2012 scholarship application totaled 146 students, 57% of total program applicants, with 81 awards given, and 57% of the group, for a total of approximately \$76,000. Scholarships, substantial amounts, have been returned as students decide to drop the program.

Suggestions for improving scholarship and study abroad programs included rescheduling deadlines, offering larger amounts, working with departments for assistance, and a fee for dropping the program.

A large percentage of interested students for Study Abroad are juniors or seniors and few freshmen and sophomores. Transfer students mostly likely wait until their senior year to study abroad.

Dean Augustine stated how to finance an education is difficult for students thus studying abroad adds to their education costs.

Meeting adjourned 10:15 a.m.

Recorder: Nancy Meese, International Students and Scholars Office.

Next meeting scheduled April 5, 2013 Blair Hall 3108.