

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2011

Members present: Dr. Stephen Canfield, Dr. Marilyn Coles, Dr. Dejan Magoc, Dr. Ryan Hendrickson, Dr. Lania Knight, and Dr. David Boggs, Dr. Eric Bollinger

Members absent: Dr. Linda Simpson, and Dr. Dan Carter

Ex-Officio present: Dr. Robert Augustine, Caleb Sims came for Dr. Pam Collins, Ms. Sara Schmidt, and Ms. Wendy Williamson

Ex-Officio absent: Mr. Kevin Vicker

Invited Guests present: Mrs. Marilyn Thomas, and Ms. Kelly Holland

I. Welcome, Dr. Magoc

II. Approval of the Minutes

- a. We had a quorum of six voting members, a motion was made and Marilyn Coles second the minutes and they were approved by the Committee.

Items to be acted on

- a. International student fee increase and change in apartment contract was approved by all six voting members. Dean will take it to Student Government to adopt fees and talk to Vice President Nadler once those are back, on fee structure and approval.
- b. The apartment contract was approved. Dean Augustine described what the contract entails and that it is offered on the internet, who pays for travel, and who signs the contract. All contracts must be signed in advanced and we will use all current agreements and start with any new negotiations on the new contract.

IV. Reports

A. Office of Study Abroad, Ms. Williamson (Director, OSA).

Wendy spoke about the two searches for the open positions in study abroad that were conducted; coordinator search and senior coordination search. The search for the senior position was cancelled because it was not satisfied. The search will be conducted again in the spring for a second coordinator. Both positions will be coordinator positions and they will share responsibilities, we will be hiring Kelly on full-time in one of the positions.

Wendy presented at the NASFA conference, the presentation was complimented on how well the Department of Study Abroad has done. Two study abroad faculty grants are available from faculty, we have received two applications so far and expect more this spring after Wendy reminds the faculty about the information which is also presented in the newsletter. Wendy spoke about the program we have with Greece and she plans on visiting in December to promote the program. The two faculty members who were offered the grant refused them saying it wasn't enough. Dominica is taking five students to Italy. She will be looking at some of our partner sites so we can try to customize other programs. The intern in the office is revamping the newsletter and the two GA's in the office are also doing well. The subcommittee will be organizing a meeting soon about scholarships; they will be awarding ten to thirteen awards in the spring. There is \$10,000 a year to be awarded in scholarship funds. Wendy's next trips will be visiting Germany and Austria.

B. International Students and Scholars, Mr. Vicker (Interim Director, OISS) Reported by Dean Augustine on behalf of Mr. Vicker and Ms. Marilyn Holmes.

1. Ms. Holmes was in Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Dubai and other Middle-Eastern countries. She gathered information on 150 prospective students while on the trip. She was pleased with the turnout and also obtained information on interested parties with the dual degree program. The upcoming events are: 11/3-11/17 Teen Reach, 11/8 Dawood Art exhibit, and 12/3 International Festival.
2. Mr. Vicker was in Korea and China and met with another 2+2 potential partner-MBA program. He had a number of contacts from students. We are hiring part-time staff in the International office. He is still working with ELS possibilities. Dean Augustine said we are working really hard on the yield of international students.

C. Dean's Report, Dean Augustine

Harlaxton Study Abroad program is in a partnership with University of Evansville, IN. and a few Faculty have gone there were very enthusiastic about it from the History and English Departments. Harlaxton is promoted first like a program of choice-this hasn't been done before. He met with certain faculty involved with Harlaxton to see if they want to make this change. Once he hears from all fellow Deans, he will report on Harlaxton. Lania Knight asked the question if EIU would lose future ability to send teachers or spring and fall because we don't send enough students. Six to eight students need to attend per term, we currently have two-three students attending. Most of our programs are inflexible and is difficult for us to get student to go abroad. This is a costly program EIU pays professors to go and also pays for a substitute to take the professors place here on campus while they are away, so it costs EIU double. We may have to figure out how to achieve this goal if we aren't sending six-eight students and we encourage faculty to promote all study abroad options.

Winchester and West Minister are other institutions we are in agreements with. Dr. Canfield said out of visiting professors Harlaxton benefits from our professors going over to teach. Harlaxton's program is with arts and humanities and there are other courses at Harlaxton that would be appropriate for other fields, such as business etc. Harlaxton plans two years out so our departments here would have to have a vested interest.

Dean Augustine said we may follow Dr. Canfield's advice and ask arts and humanities advice and we have other types of study aboard programs to keep in mind. Dean Augustine reported that the faculty has criticized the department for having too many choices for students. We have worked with Harlaxton for more than a decade and they want to start an alumni association, it is a complicated program and we will keep everyone updated. Marilyn Coles made a point that staff had to be on sabbatical. Lania said when she was recruited she seen the Harlaxton opportunity and that was one of the key points that made her decision to come and work for EIU. Dean Augustine concluded by letting everyone know how important these programs are and we are working towards a solution. We are hosting a consultant to examine our international department to work on our strengths and weaknesses in November.

David Bollinger reported that there was an interesting article about Chinese student's studying here; they perform like U.S. Students, some perform well and others do not. Marilyn Thomas reported reasons why student do not come after applying; did not get a VISA, choose another University.

D. Scholarship Committee report, Marilyn Thomas

The committee met and reviewed applications for spring 2012 on academic excellence and financial needs which include a variety of countries and variety of disciplines. There were two undergraduate applications and both were awarded and there are still a couple of slots still open and may be filled because the coaches are trying to get a couple of more students. Graduate applications consisted of thirty six-thirty thirty-seven applicants. The committee ranked twenty awards. Sixteen were given out and one more slot is open to receive an award because a student received a GA position. Awards were given to students from six different countries and five different majors, we didn't have a lot of applications for the College of Education. Dean Augustine asked how many scholarships do we normally give out and Marilyn Thomas responded 12 for undergrad and 27 for graduate. Dean Augustine reminded the committee that the Undergraduate get the new in state rate if they have a 3.5 or higher GPA. Marilyn Coles asked if the in state tuition rate would ever apply for

the graduate side and the Dean said they have a cascading rate of 2.4 and we worked for 3 years to make international student tuition more competitive. It was passed for Graduate students so the tuition would cascade down 2.4 times the in state rate. Thanks to IEC and our hard work we made this possible and it has made a huge impact.

E. Projects Committee, reported by Dean Augustine

Dr. Coles is on the Search Committee to get applications for the Director of International Students and Scholars'. Dr. Coles will have an update soon. The goal is to have candidates ready to interview in the spring. Dean Augustine attended The Strategic Planning Committee Goals Conference to identify areas where we can be more effective. Dean Augustine asked IEC if they would be interested in a faculty community, faculty coming together to guide us to heighten the fact that we have a lot of International faculty for the number of domestic faculty and we could make it possible for them to get to know International faculty. We would arrange it if we could under the Special Projects Committee.

The Courtyard is making good progress on lead gifts. We have been asked if we could fly international flags on Commencement Day and on move in day along with EIU flags and U.S. flags. Dean Augustine wants IEC to think about it to heighten awareness of International students. Dean Augustine will check into the interest of the Boy Scouts putting up and taking down the flags.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 am

Recorder: Aimee Romack, International Student and Scholar Office