

**MINUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**April 3, 2009**

The International Programs Advisory Committee met at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 3, 2009, in 3108 Blair Hall.

**Members Present:** Dr. Stephen Canfield, Dr. Marilyn Coles, Dr. Roann Kopel, Dr. Tesa Leonce, Dr. Richard Sylvia, Dr. Deborah Woodley

**Members Absent:** Dr. Ronan Bernas, Olivier David, Dr. Regina Nganga, Angie Norris

**Ex-Officio present:** Dean Augustine, Ms. Pam Collins, Dr. Bonnie Irwin, Ms. Sue Songer

**Ex-Officio absent:** Mr. Bill Elliott, Ms. Wendy Williamson

**Invited Guests present:** Mr. Farhan Aziz, Ms. Marilyn Thomas

**Invited Guests absent:** Dr. James Ochwa-Echel

**I. Approval of February 6, 2009, Minutes:**

It was noted for item 2.b.2. that the Spring Break Program in Ecuador that was cancelled will be offered on “an independent basis” and not as “an Independent Study.” After this correction, Dr. Coles moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kopel and approved unanimously.

**II. Additional Business Items to be added to the Agenda:** none

**III. Reports**

**1. International Programs (IP) – Ms. Sue Songer**

- Wendy Williamson, Bill Elliott and Marilyn Holmes are attending the International Educators of Illinois conference in Bloomington, IL. Bill Elliott will be attending the Agency-based International Recruitment Conference in Lexington, KY, over April 5-7, and a joint AACRAO/StudyIllinois meeting in Chicago over April 15-17. He will be presenting on “Think Education, USA” which is a nationwide student recruitment effort that is trying to adopt the StudyIllinois model on a national level
- A major event had recently occurred: the March 21, 2009, automobile accident that claimed the lives of three Indian graduate students in the School of Technology: Anusha Anumolu, Anitha Veerapaneni and Priya Muppavarapu; also killed in the accident was Anitha’s cousin; and critically injured was Anitha’s fiancé. The university was meeting the needs of the university community to this point, working with the Counseling Center to provide counselors at the University Apartments that same day; setting up procedures in the office to accept memorial donation. A memorial service is being planned with the Indian Association and the Counseling Center for the end of April. Student Services had also helped organize transportation for approximately thirty EIU

- Ms. Songer and Dean Augustine gave an update on the status of the Accidental Death Insurance Policy for international students. International Programs (IP) staff members had been working with Jone Zieren and Lennie Heddins of the Student Financial Aid Office to finalize the insurance policy that Mr. Elliott had researched after a previous incident involving an international student which resulted in a coma and repatriation cost around \$100,000. This policy would cover evacuation costs and repatriation costs and would be funded through a \$5 per year fee which would be paid from the IP International Fee account and would not be an additional charge to the student; it was planned to cover all IP students – full-time, part-time or continuing education.
- Upcoming events: 4/3 – AIS Late-night Dance from 9 p.m. to midnight at the MLK, Jr., Union; 4/20 – Poster display at Booth Library on “International Dis-factoids”; 4/28 – IP Spring Awards Banquet at 5:30 p.m. at MLK, Jr., Union

## **2. Study Abroad (SA) – Mr. Farhan Aziz**

- Mr. Aziz reported that there are 148 students signed up for faculty-led Study Abroad programs for Summer 2009 plus 30 more signed up for partner-programs. Twenty-two students have been selected for Fall 2009 and he is expecting many more.
- Ms. Williamson is presenting “Study Abroad 101” at the IEI conference as well as at the upcoming NAFSA conference.
- The Study Abroad (SA) Scholarship Subcommittee will be selecting recipients for Summer and Fall 2009 scholarships; award amounts will range between \$1,500 and \$2,500 per student.
- Dr. Irwin mentioned that of the 81 Presidential Scholar students, 33 students (41%) had completed some study abroad experience.
- Dr. Sylvia mentioned that he had encouraged a colleague from outside the College of Arts and Humanities to participate in the Harlaxton SA program, in an attempt to increase the curricular diversity represented by current Harlaxton participants. Questions were raised and some discussion ensued as to why this faculty member might not have been allowed to join the Harlaxton Program. Dean Augustine said he would check into the issue and report back to the Committee. Dr. Coles asked if he would work with the Department of Music, as well. Dr. Canfield stated that various issues might pertain in a given circumstance and that allowing participation would mean

that Deans and Chairs would have to plan ahead for instructional coverage of SA program participants.

### **3. Dean's Report – Dean Robert Augustine – covered in Reports and in following Old Business.**

#### **IV. Old Business**

##### **a. IPAC / College information exchange.**

- IPAC needs to increase the information it receives from its member Colleges and increase discussion. Discussion followed as to how to achieve this with some options proposed: have each member go back to their unit to discuss IPAC proceedings and report back to IPAC; have faculty members report to us at the beginning of each semester; have IPAC members make a presentation to their College's Administrative Council meeting; have a member College report at each of the monthly IPAC meetings.
- The question was raised as to what IPAC would like to know from the Colleges: about new programs such as those currently being proposed by the School of Technology and the School of Business, possibly being presented by the faculty leading them; obstacles or issues that are inhibiting creation or implementation of new or existing programs; how are Departments promoting their Global Ambassador programs; what events or program are Departments pursuing that IPAC could support or amplify; how can IPAC learn from what Departments are doing.
- The information gleaned from the Colleges could be collected and used by the IP Office to market EIU's International Programs and improve both recruitment and retention efforts and successes. It was also suggested to bring in the Office of Development to find out how they are promoting International Programs.
- Ms. Songer suggested that if Colleges briefed IPAC on their programs, it would serve to educate new IPAC members about existing programs in other Colleges and how to connect those concepts or ideas to existing programs in their own College or towards creating new programs.
- In response to Dr. Sylvia's question about the surveying of faculty on their interest or dedication to IP/SA, Dr. Canfield stated that Ms. Williamson had completed a survey; Ms. Songer stated that that had been sometime during the tenure of Ms. Allison Witt. Dean Augustine stated that it would be a great idea to conduct another survey but that it should come from the faculty, not from the administration.
- It was important that the IP and SA programs were what the faculty wanted due to the level of time and energy it took to lead or participate. It was noted that the International Forums had been discontinued due to a lack of participation, illustrating the importance that IP learn what the Colleges want out of the Office. The forums, if reinstated, could be made more College-specific in an effort to bring their faculty and domestic and international students together.

**b. Current and future IPAC members:**

- Dr. Kopel mentioned that Drs. Grunhagen and Box were interested in taking over her seat on IPAC.
- Dr. Sylvia stated that he would be glad to continue his tenure on IPAC.
- Dean Augustine stated that nomination memos had been emailed to the Deans who needed to replace members on IPAC and responses were due back by 6/1/2009.

**c. IP insurance policy: covered earlier under IP Report.**

**d. IP student tuition update:**

- Dean Augustine reported that the best potential option that may become available is a “tuition freeze” but that no decision had been made yet. He was working to reduce the tuition rate to make it more competitive with those of other institutions.
- He would be meeting with Provost Lord today to discuss the issue. He saw that EIU would either lose enrollments or lose money per student but, if the rate was reduced to those levels recommended by Mr. Elliott’s research, it would only take an additional five or six more students to make up the lost revenue. Dr. Canfield mentioned that we also bring students in to begin their programs in the United States due to the efficiency of our admissions staff but then lose them to other institutions with lower tuition rates, so that it was an important retention issue, as well.
- A recommendation would be going to the Board of Trustees at the end of April to increase the undergraduate and graduate student tuition fee waivers to meet the likely tuition rate increase.

**V. New Business**

- Dr. Woodley suggested that Drs. Liu and Izadi be asked to come to the next IPAC meeting to update the Committee on their Program to China which brings both EIU students to China as well as Chinese students to EIU. This met with unanimous assent.

Dr. Coles adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

**Friday, May 1, 2009**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Blair Hall Conference Room 3108**