International Education Council
Meeting Minutes
Feb. 2, 2024
Conference Room 3108 Blair Hall

Members present: Dr. Kristin Brown, Dr. Nichole Hugo, Dr. David Melton, Mr. Dr. David Viertel, Dr. Kiran Padmaraju, Dr. Catherine Polydore

Members absent:

Ex-officio present: Mr. Mutombo Andy Kabasele, Dr. Robert Chesnut

Ex-officio absent:

Visitors present: Ms. Heather Crank, Mr. Ben Rienbolt

I. Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Dr. Viertel called the meeting to order at 9:02. Minutes were approved by a voice vote (Brown/Padmaraju)

II. Reports

1. Study Abroad: Heather Crank

Ms. Crank reported progress. Currently 113 students are signed up for future courses led by EIU faculty, and ten of our students are abroad. Study Abroad has done multiple promotions since November; a January 16 Study Abroad fair and Pantherpalooza were both well attended.

2. Programming Update: Ben Reinbolt

Ben detailed accomplishments for this semester so far: three orientation sessions, a bowling event attended by more than 100 students, a grocery trip to Champaign on January 24, and an OPT orientation session on January 24. Future events will include two more OPT sessions, a "First Glimpses of Asia" program which will be joint with Rotary for the first time, an International Services fair, a CPT session, International Day, two more grocery trips, a party on April 6, an award ceremony on April 10, and an International Food week.

3. International Students and Scholars and Study Abroad: Mr. Mutombo Andy Kabasele

Mr. Kabasele updated the council with a report that concentrated on deportations. The number has not been large, but justification by Homeland Security is not clear to us. Andy will seek a meeting with HS for clarification. Andy also reviewed the difficulty of transfers out by students who have never attended. We intend to address this problem with a transfer fee beginning this Fall semester.

III. Dean's Report: Dr. Robert Chesnut

Dr. Chesnut reported that evaluation of transcripts for international students will be done at the level of the college and/or department rather than in OISS. OISS will sign approval before forwarding a form to the Registrar. Thanks to Angie Cawthon in CLAS for piloting this process. The next item to address is possibly streamlining the evaluation of international students' fulfillment of foreign language requirements.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 A.M..

Minutes submitted by Bob Chesnut