International Education Council
Meeting Minutes
September 06, 2024
Conference Room 3108 Blair Hall

Members present: Dr, Jessica Tindira, Dr. Kristin Brown, Dr. David Viertel, Dr. Catherine Polydore, Dr. Tanya Willard

Members absent: Dr. Nichole Hugo, Ms. Sara Schmidt, Dr. Michael Beck, Dr. Michael Gillespie, Dr. Gopal Periyannan, Dr. David Melton

Ex-officio present: Dr. Robert Chesnut, Mr. Mutombo Andy Kabasele, Mr. Ben Reinbolt, Heather Crank

Ex-officio absent:

Visitors present: Melanee Bates, Krishna Daravath

I. Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Jessica Tindira called the 9:00. Welcome to new semester, meeting member introductions. Minutes were approved by a voice vote

II. Reports

1. OISS, Mr. Mutombo "Andy" Kabasele

Mr. Kabasele updated the council with a report on Visa denial, country wide, is higher. Out of 1000 I-20's issued, 600 unable to get visa appointments. Some countries are waiting 6-9 months for appointments, GA positions awarded denied, India students with full study loan, denied. Unsure of reasons for high rates.

Update on application incompletion reasons, #1 people looking for funding and scholarships. Overall students on campus is down from last year, 668 down from 800. No noticeable trend regarding dept., grad vs under grad, mostly they want day one CPT and online classes (both illegal). Currently working on recruiting, looking at full sponsorship opportunities.
Spring scholarships open October 1st and close Nov. 15th

Laos, full ride by US Dept of State

2. Programming Update: Ben Reinbolt

Four days of orientation, 3 initial and 1 late arrival. Activities to date: ice-cream social, bowling night 25 pizza boxes, Lantz volleyball game 60-70 people 19 pizza boxes, store trip to Champaign, Officers for Indian Association voting taking place, campus pond activity/dance, OPT discussions planned (13 total to take place for OPT, CPT, exit/re-entry status maintenance, Rotary club taking students to Champaign, Collab with student legal service to help prevent legal issues 23rd, EIU October movie night, Oct 1 Nigerian Independence day soccer with possible potluck, home coming parade, and November is global culture night (15th), international education week, Asian, Azerbaijan, Pakistan, Kazakhstan.

AIS Update – Krishna Daravath, helping pick up students from Chicago, helping with accommodations, working with communications through Whatsapp

3. Study Abroad: Heather Crank

Ms Crank reported Finalized Faculty Led Programs: 1- Exploration of Italian Business, Technology, Histery, and Culture (Dr. Melton), 2- Art in Florence and Rome, 3- CDS Therapy Abroad in Jamaica.

Study Abroad Programs, Applications open (deadline 10/28/24) for J-Term, Spring Break, Spring Semester, and (deadline 02/11/25) Summer (Independent students). Faculty led program open on 9/11, due by 02/11/25.

Fall 2024 enrollment, 6 students going abroad to Japan, Spain, United Kingdom, Germany, Costa Rica, and France. AY2024-2025 Enrollment is one student at Kansai Gaidai University, Japan. Enrollment for 202530 to date, 7 apps started, 1 complete waiting review, 2 accepted into program, 3 committed to program, 13 total.

Calendar events reported, for full list of events see documents attached to outlook group report.

III. Dean's Report: Dr. Robert Chesnut

Dr. Chesnut reported updated Transfer Process, Step 1- evaluation, 2- articulation. Student needs to submit evaluation of transcripts to his/her academic advisor, advisor then forwards transcript evaluations to the college certification officer. Completed forms approved by the Dean responsible for OISS. The college certification officer then forwards approval to Registrar for credit entry to transcript.
Dr. David Viertel moved to vote, Dr. Kristine Brown 2nd, group vote passed.

IEC membership discussed, group discussed need to review bi-laws and needs for any changes. To be added to October meeting.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 A.M..

Minutes submitted by Melanee Bates