International Education Council
Meeting Minutes
October 04, 2024
Conference Room 3108 Blair Hall

Members present: Dr. Jessica Tindira, Dr. Kristin Brown, Dr. David Viertel, Dr. Catherine Polydore, Dr. Nichole Hugo, Dr. David Melton

Members absent, Ms. Sara Schmidt, Dr. Michael Beck, Dr. Michael Gillespie, Dr. Gopal Periyannan,

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

Ex-officio absent: Dr. Tanya Willard

Visitors present: Melanee Bates, Krishna Daravath

I. Welcome and Approval of Minutes

Jessica Tindira called the 9:00. Minutes were approved by a voice vote, 1st and 2nd by Dr. Viertel and Dr. Brown.

II. Reports

1. OISS, Mr. Mutombo "Andy" Kabasele

Mr. Kabasele reported to council regarding his recruiting trip to Washington D.C. to discuss recruiting opportunities. Many are looking for 2+2 degrees or 1+1. They would like to know about ESL resources on campus. Some only work with top 120 schools. Visited Indonesia, Japan, Vietnam, will have online with Brazil and China. Opportunities will need to be approved by EIU board.

Scholarship committees decided – Fall/Spring OISS – Jessica Tindira, David Viertel, Nicole Hugo and Jessica Tindira with Catherine Polydore for Study abroad (Spring/Summer).
Current OISS closes November 15 hopes to be decided by Nov. 25 (before Thanksgiving holiday break).

2. Programming Update: Ben Reinbolt

Rotary club collaborations to Champaign for grocery trips, one more Oct. 19. OPT sessions have begun with 2 sessions, 2 workshops completed so far. OISS in parade, international cookout on the 11th of Oct. (depending on weather), game night and karaoke, on campus employment workshop to highlight process of hiring and how to get a job on campus, there is an H1-B status discussion with legal and HR. Oct. 23, permanent residential needs.

AIS Update – Krishna Daravath, organized 3 day festival, Nigerian independence day celebration, presenting OISS students in parade, plans for another festival.

3. Study Abroad: Heather Crank

Ms Crank reported Finalized Faculty Led Programs: 3 for summer: Exploration of Italy, Art in Florence, CDS Therapy in Jamaica. All term scholarships are open, Deadlines for J-Term, Spring Break, Spring Semester: 10/28/24, Summer 2/11/2025, Faculty leds 2/11/25, Fall and AY 25-26 – 3/4/25. Enrollment has 6 going to Japan, Spain, United Kingdom, Germany, Costa Rica, and France. AY 2024-2025

Enrollment, one student in Japan at Kansai Gaidai University, additional student from Fall extending to Apring 2025. Spring 2025 7 applicants started, 3 students accepted into program, 3 committed to program for 13 applicants., 1 application for J-term enroll.

Activities, - kickoff was successful, approx. 100 students attended, ran out of items to give out. Oct. 15, possible Study Abroad Explained, 9th of Sept, Costa Rica represented. Fall fair had 30 students, Latin American heritage kick off, , 1st SA meeting with possible cooking night. Chip tasting coming up.

Policy changed for cost to travel, possible application workshops. Scholarship committee will be Kristin Brown, Jessica Tindira, David Melton.

III. Dean's Report: Dr. Robert Chesnut

Dr. Chesnut stated excess folders for IEC located, Melanee to be merging to single location. Nomination letters to be established, Bylaws need to be reviewed (these will be distributed prior to next IEC, for review to discuss). Updated list of members on or off needs to be updated, D. Viertel to provide Melanee email of letter for reference. Discussion of committees.

Gender terminology discussed – Justin Tearny enrollment emailed, updated terminology this year to effect 202530 applicants (US Dept. of Education changes so we changed to report accurately to US D of Ed.). Question brought to table to discuss if this should carry over to OISS/International, discussion of legal I-20 issues as US government (SEVIS) currently sees as biological terminology and only M/F options. To have several options could affect SEVIS I-20 approval. Decided terminology stays the same until changed on visa level.

IV. Adjournment

Motion to dismiss by Jessica Tindira, seconded by Cathrine Polydore.
The meeting was adjourned at 9: 45 A.M..

Minutes submitted by Melanee Bates