**International Education Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

**January 31st, 2020**

**Blair Hall Third Hall 3108 Floor Conference 3108**

**Members present:** Dr. Ahmed Abou-Zaid, Dr. Rick Anderson, Dr. Kristin Brown, Mr. Godwin Gyimah, Dr. Vanesa Landrus, Dr. Mei-Ling Li, Dr. Catherine Polydore, Dr. Tina Wang

**Members absent:** Ms. Mary Fleming, Dr. Nichole Hugo, Dr. Jeanne Okrasinski

**Ex-officio present:** Dr. Ryan Hendrickson, Dr. Claudia Janssen Danyi, Mr. Mutombo Andy Kabasele,

Dr. Tanya Willard

**Ex-officio absent:** Ms. Sara Schmidt

**Visitors present:** Ms. Bethanny Cougill, Ms. Emily Tooy, Ms. Lauren Schuberth

1. **Welcome**At 9:04 Dr. Rick Anderson opened the meeting.   
     
   1. Approval of minutes: Dr. Tina Wang moved to approve the November minutes that were presented at the previous meeting, but lacked a quorum of members. The minutes were unanimously approved with no abstentions. Dr. Wang then presented the minutes from the December meeting. After review, the minutes were also approved with Dr. Abou-Zaid and Dr. Polydore abstaining.
2. **Reports**  
   1. **Study Abroad: Mr. Mutombo Andy Kabasele** 
      1. Mr. Kabasele presented the number of students enrolled in the Spring 2020 Study Abroad programs. There are currently twenty four students signed up for the Mexico Spring Break program.
      2. He also provided the current Summer 2020 enrollment numbers. The deadline for Summer is February 7th, 2020. They have quite a few that are already admitted, and many applications that are still incomplete, so the numbers should increase. Also they are working on Fall 2020 programs. The deadline is March 6th, 2020.
      3. Mr. Kabasele said the Study Abroad fair had sixty attendees and many again took advantage of the photo booth for their passport photos. The next fair will be this fall.
      4. He let the council know that the Study Abroad Child Waiver policy has been updated. Dean Hendrickson passed out a copy of the new policy and explained that they discouraged faculty from including their children on Study Abroad trips since the programs are classes and shouldn’t be seen as vacations, but if faculty do want their children to attend, they have to sign a waiver verifying the child will be cared for and remind faculty of best practices while participating in the program. The policy had been updated with advice from the general council.
      5. Mr. Kabasele provided the scholarship deadlines. The summer deadline is February 7th and the Fall deadline is March 6th.
      6. Ms. Tooy also provided an update on Study Abroad Programs. She said that of the nine summer faculty led programs, four need more students to allow them to go forward. Students have one more week to sign up, so there’s still time. She said that her office was able to reach over three hundred students through the Fall and Spring Study Abroad Fairs. She felt that the new digital sign-in process was successful and will help them streamline data collection in the future.
   2. **International Student and Scholars: Mr. Mutombo Andy Kabasele**
      1. Mr. Kabasele shared the international enrollment and I-20 numbers for Spring 2020. He also gave a breakdown of the number of students from each country. India currently has the most at 101 students. There are currently fifty nine countries represented at EIU.
      2. OISS is continuing to have problems with visa denials. They will continue to work with prospective students, but he is afraid this trend will continue into the future.
      3. Mr. Kabasele showed a list of high schools and community colleges he plans to visit this Spring. He has also been in contact with Education USA, a Department of State Network, and AMIDEAST to provide prospective students information about EIU.
      4. He provided the dates for OISS scholarship applications. February 15th is the deadline for Fall scholarships and October 1st is the deadline for Spring 2021 scholarships.
      5. Mr. Kabasele shared with the Council all the activities planned for the Spring semester. He will again hold CPT and OPT informational sessions. He said he is recommending to students to not lose their status because the process has recently changed and it can sometimes take a lot longer to get their status reinstated. Also, the International Education Awards will be coming up later in the Spring.   
           
         Ms. Bethanny Cougill also provided an update on Spring activities. They will again have “Glimpses of…” sessions spotlighting four countries with students from each country. She will send out more information to the Council about the times and places.
      6. AIS Update: Mr. Godwin Gyimah updated the Council on all the AIS activities planned for the Spring. He said in February, they plan to hold AIS Olympic Games with mostly indoor activities (like soccer and badminton) in case the weather is bad. In March they plan to explore areas outside of Charleston. In particular they plan to visit Casey and see all their world’s largest displays. In April they hope to have a Culture Festival along with the Indian Holi Festival. Also on February 29th AIS will partner with the World Languages and Cultures department for GlobalFest Illinois. Various high school and middle school students will participate and will hear from students and faculty discussing diverse languages and culture. Also on March 6th, AIS will attend the Graduate Student Advisory Council meeting to discuss international graduate students and make connections with other graduate students. He also let the council know that there are four new AIS executive members this year.
      7. TLC Update: Ms. Lauren Schuberth let the Council know that TLC has been working hard to stay open and active. They recently received corporate survey results and 100% of their past students would recommend them to new students. She shared the number of TLC students who have gone on to EIU and also those who have graduated. Currently they have seven students enrolled but they need ten to continue. She has been brainstorming ideas for more students to hear about TLC. Most find them online, so she has been working to boost their results with google and increasing their posts on social media. They plan to have a “Faculty Friday” and will be contacting faculty to see if they are interested. Mr. Kabasele will be first to present today. She is also looking at other outlets to boost TLC as a language program. They may try and provide foreign language lessons for home school groups or younger children. Also, they could provide support for EIU students who need help with English language skills, or students who want to go to EIU who don’t meet the requirements could potentially spend some time at TLC before being admitted to EIU. If anyone has any other ideas, she asked for them to contact her. Also, they are looking for instructors and volunteers for the summer Japanese camp.
3. **Dean’s report: Dr. Ryan Hendrickson**
   1. Dean Hendrickson let the Council know that Dr. Julie Park will be joining the IEC this semester. Dr. Bailey Young was filling in for Dr. Jinhee Lee who is on sabbatical, but his schedule conflicted this semester, so Dr. Park will fill in this Spring.
   2. He also let the Council know that he hopes to hire a 900-hour part time person for the Study Abroad office. They have begun interviewing candidates and hope to fill the position soon.
   3. Dean Hendrickson also let the Council know that the Mr. Andy Kabasele and Ms. Shirley Mensah presented to the Board of Trustees at their last meeting. He said both did a fantastic job discussing the OISS and international student issues.
   4. He reminded the Council that next Tuesday, February 4th, at 4:30 the Graduate School will celebrate the naming of Study Abroad to the William V. Weber Program in Study Abroad and everyone is welcome. He also briefly explain the naming process. IGP #148 explains that the request starts with a University Naming Committee who reviews the request and if they approve, forward it to the President. The President then has the President’s Council review the request and then presents it to the Board of Trustees. This will be a great opportunity for the Study Abroad office a great way to thank Dr. Weber for his generous donation. Also he let the Council know that students searching for Study Abroad opportunities will still be able to search under Study Abroad without any trouble.

Dr. Wang moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 am. The next meeting will be February 28th, 2020.

Minutes submitted by Mary Mattingly