

**International Education Council
Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2019
Blair Hall Third Floor Conference 3108**

Members present: Dr. Rick Anderson, Dr. Kristin Brown, Ms. Sarah Dodoo, Dr. Nichole Hugo, Dr. Vanesa Landrus, Dr. Mei-Ling Li, Ms. Bailey Mitchell, Dr. Tina Wang

Members absent: Dr. Julie Dietz, Dr. Jinhee Lee, Dr. Catherine Polydore

Ex-officio present: Dr. Ryan Hendrickson, Mr. Mutombo Andy Kabasele, Dr. Tanya Willard

Ex-officio absent: Dr. Barry Kronenfeld, Ms. Sara Schmidt, Ms. Stephanie Woodley

Visitors present: Ms. Bethanny Cougill, Ms. Lauren Schuberth

I. Approval of Minutes

At 9:00 am Dr. Nichole Hugo called the meeting to order.

Dr. Hugo presented the minutes of the previous meeting. Dr. Mei-Ling Li moved to approve the minutes and Dr. Kristen Brown seconded the motion. The Council unanimously approved the minutes with no abstentions.

II. Agenda Items: IEC Chair & Vice Chair

1. Dr. Hugo reminded the council about the discussion from the previous meeting regarding the LCBT Dean's request to have two representatives on the IEC instead of just one. Dr. Tina Wang has also met with Dean Minnis and she again explained his concerns that since the Lumpkin College of Business and Technology has over half of all the international students, they request to have two representatives from the LCBT. Andy Kabasele confirmed that LCBT again has the highest percentage of international students at EIU in the spring semester 2019. After discussion, Dr. Wang moved that the by-laws regarding LCBT representatives be increased to two. Dr. Vanessa Landrus seconded the motion. The Council unanimously approved the change.

III. International Student and Scholars & Study Abroad: Mr. Mutombo Andy Kabasele

1. Mr. Kabasele gave the number of current international students by college and the number of applications for Fall 2019. He also provided the number of I-20 and visa applications. He noted that the numbers would be much higher if not for the large number of visa denials.
2. Mr. Kabasele shared with the council that EIU has signed an agreement with the Organization of American States (OAS). This will allow international students from 35 independent states of the Americas to be eligible for scholarships to attend EIU. He is hoping for 3-10 students to take advantage of this agreement.
3. He also let the council know that he plans to take a trip to Washington DC soon to follow up from his trip to Saudi Arabia last year. He will visit the Saudi Arabian embassy as well as other

embassies while there.

He will also be visiting community colleges in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana this year to recruit international students who might be interested in attending EIU.

4. Mr. Kabasele presented the number of students who have applied for upcoming study abroad programs. The deadline is February 1st. He also gave the total numbers by each program. Dean Hendrickson thanked the Study Abroad office for their work. He was glad to see the large number of students interested and that most of the programs will be able to go forward since they meet their minimum numbers.
5. Mr. Kabasele updated the council on various recent student activities. OISS and AIS held their first bus trip to Champaign for students to purchase international foods. The feedback was very good from the students. OISS will also be offering students tax guidance now that it's tax season. He continues to train the office staff on immigration and admission questions. He will also continue to hold CPT and OPT workshops for students.
6. He provided details on the various scholarship opportunities for students interested in studying abroad. Specifically Dean Shelton from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is providing support for students within her college. These and other funding opportunities will help increase the number of students who are able to study abroad.

Dr. Hugo welcomed Baily Mitchell to the meeting. She will be the student representative from Study Abroad for this semester.

Mr. Kabasele also mentioned that Emily Tooy is holding pre-departure presentations for all students prior to their time abroad. Dr. Landrus complimented the Study Abroad office on the online application process, and feels it is more user friendly.

7. AIS Update: Ms. Sarah Dodoo thanked Mr. Kabesele and the OISS staff for the enthusiasm they have brought to the office.

Ms. Dodoo gave the council a review of the activities AIS had participated in recently. The first bus trip to Champaign to three international stores was successful. She hopes to advertise more in the future so more students will be aware of it. They will hold a workshop with Career Services on February 20th. Also the Chinese New Year festival is coming up and she will send an invitation to the council members soon. There is still a need for people to participate in the family and friends program. If anyone is interested they can contact Bethanny. The AIS had a meeting with Dan Crews regarding participating in Celebration in April. Finally she asked if anyone was interested in hosting international students for a Super Bowl party to contact her.

8. TLC Update: Ms. Schuberth let the council know that sixteen students started this Spring. Also this year, they are doing themed sessions. With this year's theme being government. They have included field trips to various places including the courthouse and Springfield and also community volunteering as part of the curriculum. TLC is also working with Mr. Kabasele to set up a summer camp for students from Saudi Arabia. With this camp, she will need help from various departments to provide tours and give information to interested students. She is also interviewing EIU students to start an internship at TLC, so she's looking forward to having another EIU intern.

IV. Dean's Report: Dr. Ryan Hendrickson

1. Dean Hendrickson provided details about a new Award program for Parkland Community College international students who will be attending EIU. If students have received an associate's degree or taken 60 credit hours and have a GPA of 3.25 or higher, they will receive an automatic \$1,000 tuition waiver to attend EIU. The flyer with more details was shared with the council in a previous email. He asked that they share this information with anyone who might be interested.
2. He also updated the council on the status of the Indian Student Association. In the past they had been very active, but recently their activities had tapered off. With the help of Ms. Doodoo, they have found some people who can help organize the group again. He has met with five students and they have held elections and hope to register again as an official Registered Student Organization. The Chinese Student Organization is doing well, and since the largest group of international students are from India, he hopes they will also be successful.

At 9:40 am, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be March 1st, 2019.

Minutes submitted by Mary Mattingly