

MINUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 11, 2002

The International Programs Advisory Committee met at 9:35 a.m. on Friday, October 11, 2002, in the Graduate School Conference Room, Blair Hall 1103.

Voting Members present: Dr. Alan Baharlou, Dr. Mahmood Butt, Dr. Roann Kopel, Dr. Frances Murphy, Dr. Mahyar Izadi, Ms. Elyse Lyons, Ms. Janice Yap

Voting Members absent: Dr. Rose Zhang Gong, Dr. Luis Clay Mendez, Dr. Anita Shelton, Dr. William Kirk

Ex-Officio and Staff present: Dr. Robert Augustine, Dr. Herbert Lasky, Ms. Sue Songer, Ms. Adrienne Paladino

Ex-Officio and Staff absent: Ms. Pam Collins, Ms. Allison Witt

I. Minutes

The Minutes of September 20, 2002, were approved.

II. Items to be added to the Agenda.

No items were added to the Agenda

III. Agenda Items to be acted on.

02-07 IPAC By-Laws Revision

A. Dr. Butt made a motion to adopt the Revised By-Laws and the motion was seconded by Dr. Kopel.

B. Dr. Baharlou suggested that the following changes be made to Article II Membership, Section A: The Committee shall consist of 11 voting members *experienced or interested in education abroad* selected or appointed for three-year overlapping terms” Also, under Article II Membership, Section C , Dr. Baharlou suggested that administrative council of each college establish selection. Council members suggested that this was reflected in the existing wording.

C. Dr. Baharlou reported that Bill Kirk had emailed him with a suggestion to change the word “urging” in Article IV, Functions, Section D. IPAC members supported retaining the current wording.

IV. Communication

None at this time

V. Reports

A. Sue Songer reported that INS has implemented SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) and explained how I-20s will be issued by U.S. Government using this procedure. She emphasized that one of the goals of the program was to insure that only serious applicants for study in the United States will be considered. Sue also discussed ISEAS (Interim Student and Exchange Authentication System) which the State Department had developed in conjunction with SEVIS. Sue expressed frustration that ISEAS was operational on September 11, 2002, but institutions did not receive the information until September 18, 2002. Sue also reported that the FBI had inquired about numbers and countries of origin of our international students, but because of Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Eastern Illinois University is not allowed to divulge any personal information on any international student. Dr. Butt emphasized the importance of following the FERPA guidelines

B. Sue Songer reported that she has begun a pilot program of "Family Friends". Fifteen students and 14 families are involved in having these students in an American home once a month for dinner.

C. Dr. Augustine reported that three international students have left this semester and explained the circumstances that required them to leave.

D. Sue Songer reported on the upcoming Homecoming events. One event is the AIS parade entry "Home Away From Home". International students will be carrying the 48 international flags representing the countries our students are from. The second event is the International Programs and the Graduate School tent at Tent City. Everyone is invited to come and visit and get some free food.

E. Sue Songer reported that the NAFSA Regional Conference is November 10-12, 2002 and she and the Graduate Assistants will be attending the meetings.

F. Sue Songer reported that Bill Kirk, Mike Havey and Angie Krischon (Graduate Assistant for Allison Witt) are in Maastricht for the Board meeting for all the members of the Exchange Program.

G. Sue Songer reported that the next International Forum will be on October 23, 2002 with speakers Umme Al Wazedi and Saifur Bhuiyan speaking on Bangladesh.

H. Sue Songer reported about updating the International Programs database which will allow for growth of students. She noted that the project should be completed by the end of Fall 2002 semester.

I. Sue Songer commented that Dr. Butt and Dr. Lasky gave wonderful presentations at the September 11, 2002 service.

J. Sue Songer inquired as to who is going to replace Dr. Luis Clay Mendez in the interim for the Scholarship committee and Dr. Baharlou responded that he

was going to check with Dean Johnson about having Dagni Bredesen as a representative on the Scholarship committee.

K. Dr. Butt reported that about 10 Muslim students are here on campus this Fall. He noted that he is providing dinner for them from time to time. He also noted the positive impact that the larger number is having on Friday night services.

VI. Dean's Report

A. Dr. Augustine reported that a new poster is being created for the 2003 Summer Study Abroad programs. Dr. Augustine showed everyone last years' poster and explained how the new poster is going to look.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEXT MEETING
Friday, November 8, 2002
9:30 a.m.
Graduate School Conference Room, 1103 Blair Hall

Agenda Items:

02-07 IPAC Bylaws Revision Approved (Vote on Nov. 8, 2002)